



Baltimore Responsible Fatherhood Project:

A Snapshot of common fatherhood practice



Bright Sarfo LMSW, PhD MEF Associates

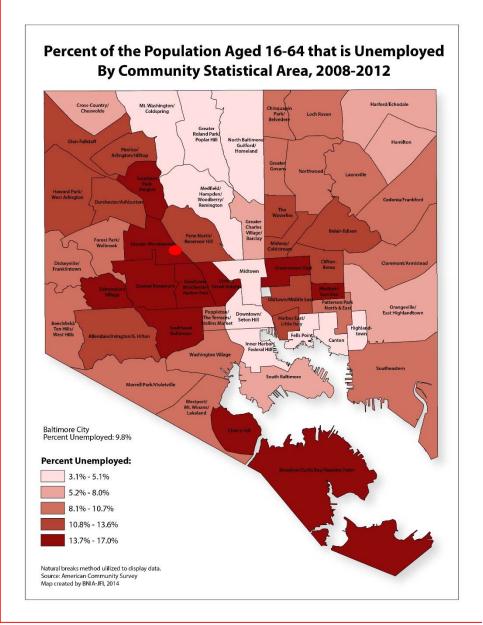
Overview





- Background
- Center for Urban Families
- Baltimore Responsible Fatherhood Program Model Description
- Remaining Questions











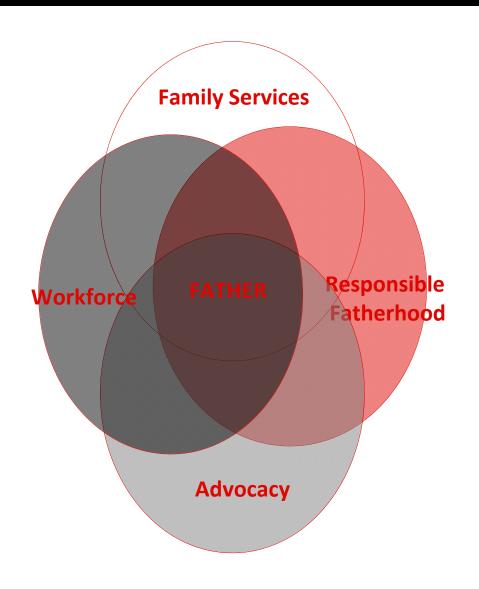
Since 1999 has served over 27,000 vulnerable residents of Baltimore Currently serves 1500 adults a year.

Comprehensive programs focusing on:

- Employment
- Family Stability

Service Delivery Model





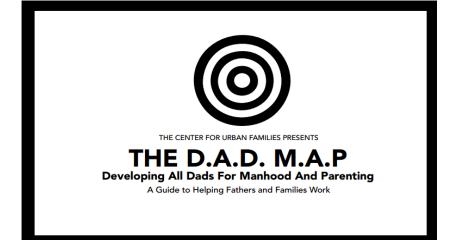
BRFP GOALS

- † Fathers' knowledge base of the Child Support system.
- ↑ Demonstration of parenting skills and parent involvement.
- ↑ Co-parenting Cooperation and communication skills
- Client job readiness and employability.

Responsible Fatherhood Intervention

Baltimore Responsible Fatherhood Project

- 1. The Curriculum Sessions (D.A.D M.A.P.)
- 2. The Skills Workshops
- 3. The Case Management

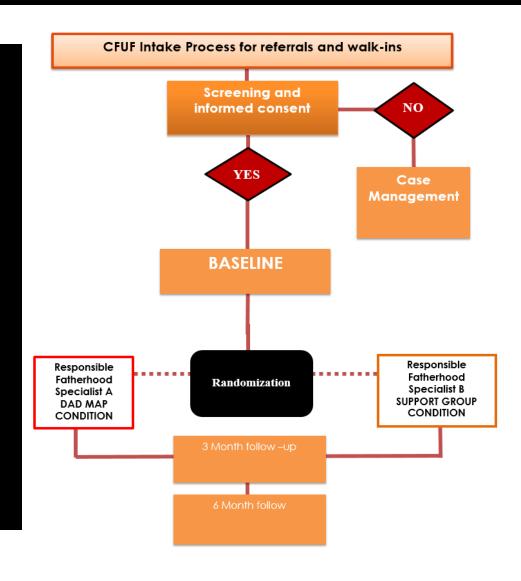


- Open group format
- Ease of adaptation
- Culturally tailored to unique realities of low income fathers.

Current Evaluation

RCT of the DAD MAP Impact on:

- Fatherhood Involvement
- Child Well being
- Co-Parenting Relationships
- Employment Readiness



Competing Practitioner/Researcher interests



RESEARCHERS

Aim for high internal validity

To discover new implications for populations

To Inform the Field

PRACTITIONERS

Prioritize effective strategies to counter client challenges

To act in the best interests of the client

Improve efforts to engage and educate the community

Collaborative Strengths



PRACTITIONERS RESEARCHERS Trained in research Trained/experienced in the implementation challenges/realities of their client population Can access and interpret Have direct knowledge on how empirical/conceptual policy impacts their client population literature Can explain complex Understands the political institutional environment and how concepts to various

Work Remains

- Co-Parenting among non-intact couples
- Fatherhood Programs that Engage Children
 & Families
- Expansion in Child Support Debt Forgiveness Programs

Recipe for Collaborative Success in Fatherhood Research

- Discuss until mutually satisfactory solutions are met.
- Identify the shared vision
- Clarify goals
- Involve staff in planning
- Provide tools/material to make collaboration simple and meaningful







Questions?