

THE CLFC FAMILY REUNION NEWS

THE CREATING LASTING FAMILY CONNECTIONS QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Fall Edition

October, 2010

Breaking News! Funding for CLFC Training Available!

COPES has recently forged an exciting and innovative new relationship with a silent partner willing to fund training to implement the Creating Lasting Family Connections program. This source has preference for national organizations with national reach, especially those based near the West Coast (including Alaska and Hawaii). Any organization (local or national) interested in receiving training to implement CLFC in the fatherhood, healthy marriage, HIV prevention, substance abuse prevention, prison re-entry, or recovery fields, may want to call Ted Strader right away (502-583-6820). Only limited funding is available, so call or email now.

CLFC Program Unprecedented 4-time Winner of the Exemplary Program Award



We are proud to announce that COPES' Connect-Immunity project, which uses a highly innovative, culturally adapted version of the *Creating Lasting Family Connection's* (CLFC) curriculum, and includes a thoroughly integrated HIV/Hepatitis preventive intervention component, recently received the prestigious 2010 Exemplary Program Award at the 2010 National Prevention Network (NPN) National Prevention Conference in Denver, Colorado. The Connect-Immunity project specifically focuses on minority adults (and their families) reentering the Louisville Metro Area from incarceration facilities, with particular preference for those who have also participated in substance abuse programs while incarcerated.

COPES, Inc. is now an unprecedented four-time winner of the Exemplary Program Award (1989, 1995, 1999, and 2010). These awards support the good work that you and other professionals are accomplishing with the CLFC program across the county and around the world. We hope this news encourages and motivates you to continue doing good work by serving those in your community with passion and purpose. The CLFC personal and family strengthening program is demonstrating tremendous range in its ability to reach culturally diverse at-risk populations and in both eliminating and preventing a variety of risky behaviors while enhancing natural resilience through encouraging healthy attitudes and behaviors!



COPES Receives New Grant Award(s)

More good news! We are thrilled to announce that COPES has received one of the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention's Ready to Respond (RTR) grants. As you might know, COPES, and our partners from Volunteers of America of Kentucky, the University of Louisville WINGS Clinic, the Louisville Metro Public Health and Wellness STD Specialty Clinic, the Kentucky Department of Corrections, and the Kentucky Department for Veterans Affairs are continuing our successful collaboration to enhance prevention services in order to reduce minority HIV and substance abuse rates in the Louisville metropolitan area. However, the Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Area continues to experience an increase in HIV case rates within the minority community, especially among Black/African-Americans. COPES and our partners who have demonstrated success in developing and embedding a substance abuse/HIV prevention system for the minority re-entry parolee subpopulation (predominantly male) through the original Connect-Immunity Project are ready to respond. The partnership will expand their system of services to the Black/African-American women ages 18 and older in the Louisville Metro community. The term "connect-immunity" is derived from the theory that increasing positive connections to self, family and community increase resiliency and resistance or "immunity" to risk factors. A major focus in addressing the minority and reentry population needs is to enhance

substance abuse prevention services, and to integrate and increase access to HIV prevention services. As with the original project, the Connect-Immunity II Project will utilize SAMHSA's Strategic Planning Framework (SPF).

CLFC implementation will be combined with proposed policy change and other environmental strategies in partner organizations and the greater community that will enhance and improve access to prevention services for Black/African-American women.

The Connect-Immunity II Project evaluation will provide information on the effectiveness of coordinated planning and integration of substance abuse and HIV and prevention programs and services to Black/African-American women, and measure outcomes for positive changes in substance abuse, risky sexual behavior, HIV testing rates, and knowledge and attitudes regarding substance abuse and HIV.

As you might remember, COPES applied for funding from multiple funding sources in the summer, including both the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) and SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP), the Bureau of Justice Administration (BJA), and others. We expect to hear feedback on more potential new grants in the near future!

Remember, COPES also provides free grant writing consultation and support for other agencies wishing to use CLFC to address similar populations. Call us now to discuss some of the upcoming opportunities for federal grants!

COPES Presented at Multiple National Conferences across Multiple Disciplines

Ted N. Strader, Chris West, Christopher Kokoski and Brooke Arnold have traversed the county this year with the honor of being selected to present program accomplishments, evaluation research, and special topical presentations at multiple national conferences across a wide range of fields, including substance abuse prevention, healthy marriage, fatherhood, reentry, corrections and HIV prevention conferences. These presentations provide us with the privilege and opportunity to disperse knowledge, experience and positive results with the *Creating Lasting Family Connections* (CLFC) curriculum, and to share our experience and insight into effective programming with at-risk reentry and recovery populations. These presentations have also allowed us to form new connections and solidify existing ones at both the state and national level. So far we have received positive feedback from the many presentations we have already delivered this year. We continue to explore the possibility of several more presentations to come! The following is a list of presentations that the COPES staff has already completed or has been selected to present in 2010:

- March, 2010 – Presenter, “Building Healthy Individuals, Healthy Families, and Healthy Communities by Bridging the Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood Fields”, Fatherhood and Healthy Marriage Roundtable series “Building and Sustaining Continuums of Care for Families”, Jacksonville, FL

- May, 2010 – Presenter, “Family Enhancement Skills that Support HIV Prevention with Reentry Families”, Boston College AIDS Conference, 22nd Annual National Conference on Social Work and HIV/AIDS, Denver, CO
- June, 2010 – Presenter, “Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood: A Sound Government Investment”, Administration for Children and Families, African-American Healthy Marriage Research to Practice Conference, Hampton University, VA
- June, 2010 – Presenter, “Using Data Evaluation to Improve Program Performance and Outcomes”, Webinar, National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse
- June, 2010 – Presenter, “A Fatherhood Promising Practice That Lowers Recidivism Rates By Enhancing Fatherhood”, National Partnership for Community Leadership, 12th Annual International Fatherhood Conference, New Orleans, LA
- July, 2010 – Panel Presentation, “Real Grantee Experience in Securing Multiple Sources of Funding”, Cohort 6 Grantee Closeout Technical Assistance Meeting, CSAP, SAMHSA, Atlanta, Georgia
- July, 2010 – Presenter, “Get Tested: Bridging the Gap between Knowledge and Action”, 2010 Kentucky Conference on HIV/AIDS and Viral Hepatitis, Lexington, KY
- August, 2010 – Presenter, “Sharing Outcomes & Strategies for Improving Results in Year 5”, 4th Annual Healthy Marriage & Promoting Responsible Fatherhood Grantee Conference, OFA, Washington D. C.
- August, 2010 – Presenter, “CLFC: A Family Strengthening Program for Reentry Fathers that also Reduces Recidivism”, 4th Annual Healthy Marriage and Promoting Responsible Fatherhood Grantee Conference, OFA, Washington D. C.
- September, 2010 – Presenter, “How Expanding Our Understanding of Culture Leads to More Effective Approaches to Prevention”, 23rd Annual National Prevention Network (NPN) Prevention Research Conference, Denver, CO
- September, 2010 – Panel Presenter, SAMHSA, CSAP Cohort 6 Minority HIV/Hepatitis and Substance Abuse Prevention, 23rd Annual National Prevention Network (NPN) Prevention Research Conference, Denver, CO
- **2010 – Unprecedented, 4-time winner, CSAP, NPN, NASADAD Exemplary Program Award for Creating Lasting Family Connections**, 23rd Annual National Prevention Network (NPN) Prevention Research Conference, Denver, CO
- October, 2010 – Presenter, “Family Enhancement Skills that Reduce Recidivism”, Christian Association for Prison Aftercare, 9th Annual National Prisoner Reentry Conference, Milwaukee, WI
- November, 2010 – Presenter, “Fatherhood and Family Programming for Special Populations”, 72nd National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference, Minneapolis, MN

We are thrilled to share our successes in so many different venues across the country. We hope to continue to learn and share exciting developments in our efforts across the many fields of professional work we touch serving families and children. We hope you and other professionals trained in CLFC are also expanding your array of service delivery with CLFC in order to ensure your agency’s ongoing ability to serve your community in exciting new ways.

Employment Opportunities at COPES

COPES continues to seek qualified candidates for positions in our current initiatives and for possible new positions with newly funded programs. COPES is looking for individuals who can provide leadership in multiple areas. We are looking for potential CLFC trainers, case managers and program administrators. Many successful COPES employees combine several of these areas under a single job description. Most employees are expected to deliver the *Creating Lasting Family Connections* curriculum with proficiency, with cultural sensitivity and connectedness to the receiving audience. New COPES employees will join a team of professionals who work together in a variety of COPES' projects and undertakings. Trainers and case managers are often involved in more than one program or project at a time.

COPES is looking for candidates who possess or can develop the following important characteristics:

- Outgoing and caring personality
- Non-judgmental/tolerant of different opinions
- Able to handle and accept ambiguity (can see both sides of an issue)
- Natural helping attitude
- Able to recognize, name and express feelings as they occur
- Has experienced and led successful group oriented personal growth opportunities including interpersonal skill building, counseling, spiritual development, self-help, or related personal growth activities

We are looking for professionals who can build meaningful relationships with other members of the COPES team, in the training room with participants, and in one-to-one case management sessions. We are seeking individuals who can foster responsibility personally, with team members and with clients. We ask potential employees to answer two key questions before seeking a position with COPES:

- Do I have the time, energy and emotional sense of calmness to commit to others?
- Do I have or can I develop the personal resources, skills, and attitudes outlined above?

If you know any individuals wishing to be considered for any positions open at COPES, please ask them to submit a cover letter and a resume to Human Resources, COPES Inc. 845 Barret Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky 40204 or by email to tstrader@sprynet.com (please include the words Employment Letter and Resume in the subject space of the email).

CLFC Implementation Trainings

We continue to receive several calls from individuals who want to attend a CLFC Implementation Training. We need a few more slots filled before we can plan a date. If you are interested in participating in a CLFC Implementation Training or if you are interested in hosting a training at your site for your staff, please call the COPES office at 502-583-6820.

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