

THE CLFC FAMILY REUNION NEWS

THE CREATING LASTING FAMILY CONNECTIONS

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Spring Edition

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Now Announcing New Trainings Available!

COPEs is excited to announce a series of innovative, highly-interactive and powerful new trainings for professionals serving (or seeking to serve) married couples and/or adult re-entry populations. In response to the unpredictable economy and uncertain forecast of future funding opportunities, we felt obligated to share our knowledge and expertise with you on how to diversify your funding base for sustaining services through the next few years.

Therefore, COPEs is offering a 3-Day “Train the trainer” Refresher course for professionals serving married couples. Not only will this training provide the most updated insights COPEs staff have gained in recruiting, retaining and adapting the CLFC curriculum to serve this often challenging population, it will also teach you everything we know about how to write healthy marriage grants to get funding.

In addition, COPEs is also offering a 3-Day “train the trainer” course for adapting the CLFC curriculum for recruiting, retaining and serving adult reentry males and females. Our Fatherhood project has achieved significant results in multiple areas, including substance abuse prevention (88% of the participants in CLFC reported that their personal use of alcohol and/or drugs has gone down since they started the program. Retrospective survey, McGuire & Associates, 2011).

Similarly to the healthy marriage training mentioned above, this “reentry” course also reveals the grant-writing strategies COPES has used to successfully secure over a million dollars of funding to serve this population.

We strongly encourage you to schedule one of the 3-Day trainings above between now and Christmas, and another between Christmas and July 2012. Doing so will position you and your agency to have the best chance of obtaining funding, and sustaining your much needed services in your local community.

We are also considering a separate training for professionals to personally experience the transformative process of a healthy marriage program with their own spouses. More details to come!

The new 3-Day trainings are available for Certified CLFC trainers only. If you are interested in participating in a 3-Day CLFC Healthy Marriage or 3-Day Adult Prison Re-entry Training, or if you are interested in participating in a healthy marriage enrichment experience with your spouse, please call the COPES office at 502-583-6820. Call today to ensure a spot in one of our upcoming trainings!

Summary Review of CLFC Findings from 3 Grant Projects

Connect-Immunity Project Final Report

Please see an overview of the exciting outcomes from the Connect-Immunity project as presented in **The Connect-Immunity Project Executive Evaluation Summary** below:

Results: Considering changes in antisocial and criminal outcomes as a result of the intervention (inferential data presented in Phase 2), participants:

- became more knowledgeable about Sexually Transmitted Diseases (i.e. HIV, Hepatitis),
- became less likely to intend to binge drink,
- became more spiritual, and
- **became almost four times less likely to recidivate than comparison group participants.**

Fatherhood Project

The evaluators from the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (PIRE) also conducted a rigorous and scientific analysis of research data for the COPEs, Inc. Fatherhood project. The following is the “Executive Summary” of the **Quasi-Experimental Design Evaluation Report** for Fatherhood:

Results: The data analyzed suggested that the intervention: (1) improved the relationship skills of clients; (2) created improvements in relationship skills that persisted at follow-up; and (3) made clients less likely to recidivate, as clients were almost three times (2.94) less likely to recidivate.

Healthy Marriage

The evaluators from the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (PIRE) also conducted a meticulous analysis of research data for the COPEs, Inc. Healthy Marriage Initiative. The following is from the “Executive Summary” of the **Final Evaluation Report** for Healthy Marriage:

The present study used correlational designs to examine whether an implementation of CLFC promoting healthy marriages (1) produced better outcomes in men exposed to the program relative to those not so exposed, and (2) produced positive changes in both husbands and wives exposed to the program. The data analyzed suggested that the intervention, based on statistically significant findings:

- Improved the relationship skills of husbands exposed relative to a sample of men not so exposed;
- Improved the relationship skills of both husbands and wives; and
- Created improvements in relationship skills that persisted at follow-up.

Collectively, these significant results from three separate grant projects demonstrate that CLFC is having a deep and long-lasting positive effect on program participants in the fundamental areas of substance abuse, communication, relationships, prison recidivism, HIV and Hepatitis transmission, and more! These results mean participants are on a positive path to closer, more connected families and stronger, healthier communities. We hope that these positive results motivate and inspire you to continue your important work in your local communities, and possibly even expand into new areas of impact and influence.

COPES, Inc

845 Barret Avenue

Louisville, Kentucky 40204

502-583-6820

Website: www.copes.org

