

THE CLFC FAMILY REUNION NEWS

THE *CREATING LASTING FAMILY CONNECTIONS*®
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Summer Edition

June, 2013

Breaking News: Social Media Accounts Now Open!



Ted N. Strader, Executive Director and *CLFC* developer, and COPEs, Inc. went social (social media that is!) in the second quarter of 2013. Ted opened accounts on Facebook, Twitter and Linked In. COPEs, Inc. opened accounts on Facebook and Twitter. Connect with Ted and COPEs on social media at the following links:

Ted N. Strader

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/tnstrader>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/TedStrader>

Linked In: <http://www.linkedin.com/pub/ted-n-strader/70/856/22a>

COPEs

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/COPEs-Council-on-Prevention-Education-Substances-Inc/246829665457253>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/COPEsInc>

These new social media accounts allow Ted and COPEs to share ideas, news and milestones, to promote *CLFC* and to connect with peers in multiple fields of study, potential funding sources, potential customers and possibly even past and current program participants. We look forward to connecting with you and your agency soon!

Do you have a social media site that you would like to let us know about? Contact Teresa Boyd-Strader at teresastraderrfn@gmail.com.

Success Stories from the Field

In an effort to highlight the ongoing impact of the *CLFC* curriculum series, we want to share the following success story of one of our past *CLFC* participants. While this is only one story of many, we hope this story inspires hope, motivation and passion for what we all do everyday.

After participating in the Jefferson County Reentry Fatherhood Initiative's (JCRFI's) *Creating Lasting Family Connections (CLFC) Fatherhood Program* and substance abuse aftercare programming at Dismas-St. Ann's, Daryl Mason* overcame educational and legal history obstacles to start his own subcontracting business laying carpet in the Louisville Metro, Kentucky community.

The Jefferson County Reentry Fatherhood Initiative (Grant #90FK0009) is a collaborative, community-based effort in Louisville, Kentucky funded by the Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of Family Assistance (OFA), to enhance the skills of up to 275 (over 3 years) low-income adult returning offenders who are parents or potential caregivers of minor children to: 1) Increase healthy marriage skills, 2) Increase responsible parenting skills, and 3) Increase resiliency and level of economic stability. As reported in the April 2013 Performance Program Report (PPR), **100%** of participants in need were linked to social, psychological and health services. **100%** of participants in need were linked to employment and job training services. **100%** of participants received substance abuse (SA) treatment from project partner agencies. Further, based on the most current data from three module-specific retrospective surveys, **100%** of program completers increased communication skills. **100%** of program completers increased effective parenting skills. Please also see the following links for personal testimonials from former participants on the impact of the programming:

Video and written testimonials at COPES website: <http://www.copes.org/testimonials.php>

YouTube video of Fatherhood programming information and participant testimonials: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NE7IDVW2DoY&feature=player_embedded

Daryl participated in the *CLFC Fatherhood Program* in May, 2012 at Dismas Charities-St. Ann's. During his participation with both agencies, Daryl learned to read. After completing programming at both agencies, Daryl demonstrated an entrepreneurial spirit by launching a subcontracting business laying carpet in the local Louisville Metro area. He not only started his own business, but also hired other reentry men with similar backgrounds and challenges to work with him. Therefore, Daryl is not only having an impact on his own economic stability, but also on those around him.

JCRFI staff members continue to encourage and support reentry fathers transitioning back into the community to consider how they can leverage their specific skills and strengths to enhance their own economic stability, and if possible, offer support to other fathers in the local community to create a network of opportunity, wellness and hope.

**Daryl Mason is a fictitious name used to protect the identity of COPES programming participants.*

Please let us know if you have a success story to share about your agency or one of your participants who has achieved some measure of success in one or more life areas (i.e. family, recovery, employment, reentry, child support, etc). We might include your story in a future *CLFC* newsletter. Please submit stories for consideration to Teresa Boyd-Strader at teresastraderrfn@gmail.com. Thank you for your help and support in raising awareness of the positive strides CLFC is making for individuals, families and communities.

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