

# THE CLFC FAMILY REUNION NEWS

THE *CREATING LASTING FAMILY CONNECTIONS*®  
 QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER  
 Fall Edition | October, 2016

## Statewide Rollout of CLFC Going Well in Ohio

Akron Training Participants Receive CLFC Certification! See Below



Names from left to right: Darlene Beecher, David A. Smith, Kim Conner, Georgia Stephens, Celeste Rodgers, James Brown, Jennifer Moree-Brown, Shawn Bonner, LaShana Bolden, Teresa Boyd-Strader, Sherman Moore Sr., Chandra Bryant, Ted N. Strader, Phyllis Price, Eddie Beasley and LaShonda Allen

As shared in earlier newsletters, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS), has initiated a statewide rollout of the *Creating Lasting Family Connections*® (CLFC) *Curriculum Series* as the focal point of their Children of Incarcerated Parents (COIP) project. The overarching goal of COIP is to mobilize service systems throughout the state to build resiliency, develop resistance skills for substance use and address trauma in children of incarcerated parents and their families using the CLFC Curriculum Series.

Since the last newsletter, we have initiated the first several phases of the statewide rollout. We have conducted 5 regional Overviews in the following Ohio cities:

- Mansfield
- Akron
- Athens
- Cincinnati
- Toledo

These Overviews were designed to inform and recruit potential new partners for participation in the project. The Overviews included a review and discussion of the Children of Incarcerated Parents (COIP) project, a brief history of CLFC, COPEs and the Resilient Futures Network (RFN), the *Creating Lasting Family Connections® (CLFC) Curriculum Series* Philosophy and Approach and the CLFC National Training System. In the Overviews, staff also discussed programmatic expectations of COIP partner agencies, outlined the COIP Project Evaluation plan developed by Ohio University/PIRE Evaluation Team and answered general questions about the project.

During the summer we began the second phase of the COIP Project, by initiating CLFC Implementation Trainings in cities across Ohio to train and certify individuals to be able to provide the *CLFC Curriculum Series* with groups of participants in their own communities. The three separate CLFC Implementation Trainings (Original CLFC Program, CLFC Fatherhood Program: Family Reintegration and the Marriage Enhancement Program) are designed to be conducted in 3-Day segments:

- A Combined CLFC Fatherhood and Original CLFC Program = 9-Day CLFC Fatherhood Program training (three, 3-day segments)
- The *CLFC Marriage Enhancement* = 3 full days of training

### Several Cleveland Participants Gather for Picture at CLFC Certification Ceremony



Names from left to right: Wayne “Seti” Richardson, Carol Jean Gates, Carl Motley, Mary K. Williams, Ted N. Strader, Roberto Colon, Fred B. Ward, Sheila Calloway, Syn Dlyt, Teresa Boyd-Strader, Owen Taylor, Anthony Hubbard, Rev. Jerome Rivers and Daisetta Harris and Deacon Mike Davis

We have completed CLFC Implementation Trainings in both Akron and in Mansfield, Ohio. Both CLFC Implementation Trainings trained and certified local professionals to provide both the *Original CLFC Program* and the *CLFC Fatherhood Program* with groups of participants in their home communities.

**Evaluations from these first two CLFC Implementation Trainings have been quite positive:**

- 100% of trainees reported that the information they received was Very Useful (92.9%) or Useful (7.1%)
- 100% of trainees reported that they agreed with the CLFC philosophy
- 92.3% of trainees reported that they were Very Satisfied (84.6%) or Satisfied (7.7%) with the quality of the training materials
- 88.9% of trainees said they were Very Satisfied (66.7%) or Satisfied (22.2%) overall with the training

Further, we have completed the first 3 days of a CLFC Implementation Training in Toledo. Additional CLFC Implementation Trainings are now scheduled in Cincinnati and Columbus through the end of the year. Booster (refresher) trainings will also be provided, as needed, to agencies and individuals across Ohio to ensure curriculum comprehension, implementation fidelity and continuous quality improvement.

In the coming months, some of those individuals who have received training and certification to implement CLFC will be expected to implement CLFC with groups in their own communities and, if interested, to apply for CLFC Master Trainer Training. The statewide coordinating team will then select eligible candidates for CLFC Master Trainer Training from the pool of applicants. CLFC Master Trainer Trainings will be conducted in the spring or summer of 2017. These CLFC Master Trainers will assume long-term training of trainer responsibilities in order to sustain the effort for years to come.

All agencies involved with this statewide rollout share a common passion to build resiliency in Ohio families, to promote the well-being of children of incarcerated parents and their families to stem the tide of intergenerational trauma, substance use disorders, criminal justice involvement, incarceration and prison recidivism. OhioMHAS, UMADAOP, SheRay's, Ohio University, PIRE, COPES and RFN stand ready and are deeply engaged and committed to translating this nationwide call for criminal justice reform into statewide action across Ohio. This statewide partnership is focused on "Creating Lasting Family Connections" in order to accomplish smooth and successful reentry for parents and intergenerational prevention for their children.

## **Breaking News: Funding Opportunity**

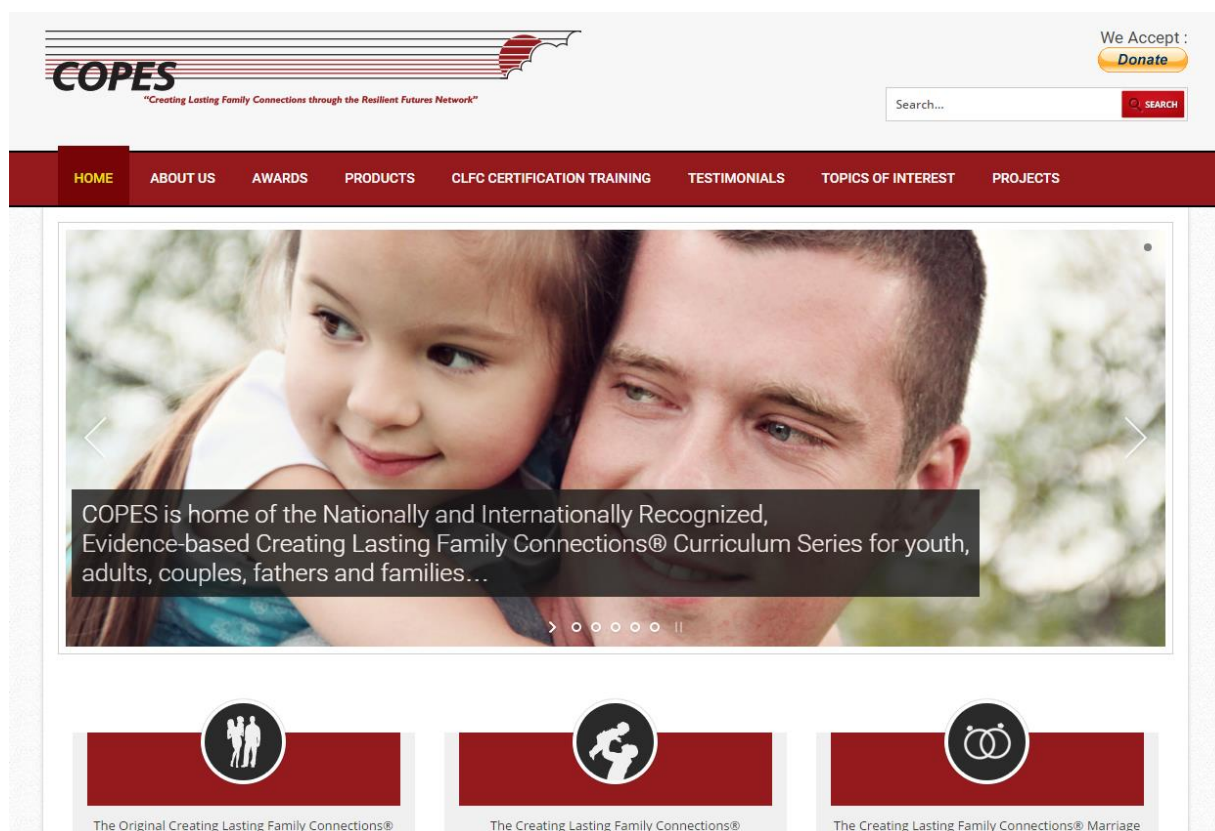
We want to let our national CLFC Family know about a new funding opportunity from the Corporation for National & Community Service's (CNCS) Social Innovation Fund (SIF) through the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC). This funding opportunity is designed to fund activities for low-income populations that align with the SIF Priority Focus Areas while advancing the field of PFS financing. The SIF Priority Focus Areas are:

- **Youth Development:** Preparing America’s youth for success in school, active citizenship, productive work, and healthy and safe lives, including crime reduction initiatives focused on juvenile delinquency and victimization prevention and response.
- **Economic Opportunity:** Increasing economic opportunities for economically disadvantaged individuals.
- **Healthy Futures:** Promoting healthy lifestyles and reducing the risk factors that can lead to illness.

The *Creating Lasting Family Connections (CLFC) Curriculum Series* meets several of the requirements in the request for proposal, including published results in reducing prison recidivism and substance abuse. If you apply for this funding, you may want to consider including CLFC in your application.

For more details on this funding opportunity, please visit the following link: <http://www.lisc.org/our-model/financing/lending/pay-success/request-proposals/?edit&language=en-us>

## New COPES Website Now Live!



The COPES website recently completed a massive makeover. We have been working with a team of website developers led by Don Weobong of Telenia, Inc. over the past year on this “secret” project and the new COPES site is now live. To visit the new website now, please click on the following link: [www.copes.org](http://www.copes.org).

First, we moved the website to the WordPress platform, which provides a much easier administrative interface that allows us to make up-to-the-minute changes, as needed. Next, we designed the new website with a streamlined layout for smoother navigation. For example, website visitors are now able to access information about each of the three CLFC Programs (the *Original CLFC Program*, the *CLFC Fatherhood Program: Family Reintegration* and the *CLFC Marriage Enhancement*) by clicking on three “tiles” on the homepage. Please see the screenshot below for a visual example of these three *CLFC Program* “tiles”.

## New COPEs Homepage with three CLFC Program “Tiles”

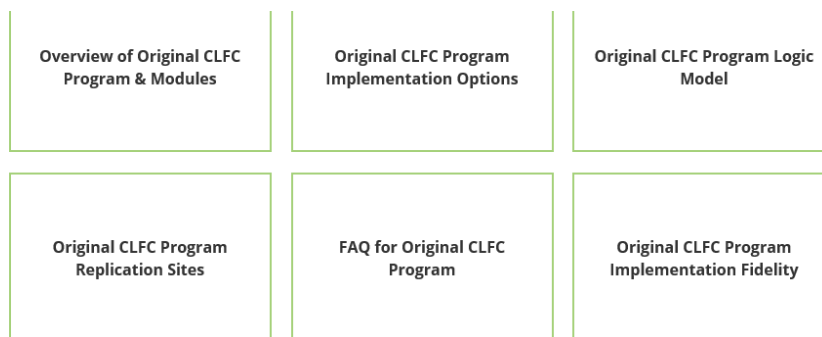


By clicking on one of the tiles (for example, the *Original CLFC Program*), you are then transferred to a page specifically about that particular *CLFC Program*. From a specific *CLFC Program* page, you can then easily find additional information about that particular program, including an overview of the program, implementation options and descriptions of the program-specific CLFC modules.

Please see the screenshot below which shows the bottom half of the *Original CLFC Program* page with six tiles of information, followed by a series of links (underlined and highlighted in blue) for even more in-depth information related directly to the *Original CLFC Program*.

Each *CLFC Program* page features a unique set of tiles and program-specific links so that website visitors can find exactly what they are looking for, including a recommended process for reviewing and possibly selecting a particular CLFC program for implementation.

## Original CLFC Program Page (Bottom Half)



The Original CLFC Program contains the following three adult modules

- [Raising Resilient Youth \(RRY\)](#)
- [Getting Real \(GR\)](#)
- [Developing Positive Parental Influences \(DPPi\)](#)

The Original CLFC Program also contains the following three youth modules:

- [Developing Independence and Responsibility \(DIR\)](#)
- [Getting Real \(GR\)](#)
- [Developing a Positive Response \(DPR\)](#)

The following list of links will take you to other related articles on the Original CLFC Program

- [CLFC Creates a Platform for Environmental Strategies](#)
- [Original CLFC Program Video Series](#)
- [Overview of Case Management Services \(JIM\)](#)
- [Publications](#)
- [Free Downloadable Brochure – CLFC Curriculum Series](#)
- [CLFC and the 40 DEVELOPMENTAL ASSETS](#)

Website visitors can also access information about all three *CLFC Programs* via the new search bar located at the top right hand corner of each page, and through the updated navigation bar.

The new navigation bar includes the following tabs:

- “Home” tab that redirects back to the homepage from any other webpage on the site.
- “About Us” tab that describes the Board of Directors, COPEs staff and COPEs history.
- “Awards” tab that lists our major awards and recognitions.
- “Products” tab that lists and describes all of our CLFC products (materials and training) with the option to purchase. The “Products” tab also offers a dropdown link to a page where you can access, read and download three separate, printable colored brochures: one brochure for the entire *CLFC Curriculum Series*, one specific to the *CLFC Fatherhood Program* and one specific to the *CLFC Marriage Program*.
- “CLFC Certification Training” tab that explains the different levels of CLFC certification and training for each of the three programs in the *CLFC Curriculum Series*.
- “Testimonials” tab that lists testimonials from CLFC program participants and from professionals across the country who have worked with COPEs, Inc. and Resilient Futures Network (RFN).
- “Topics of Interest” tab with a dropdown list of links for information regarding: **(Please also see the screenshot below of the Topics of Interest dropdown list of links)**

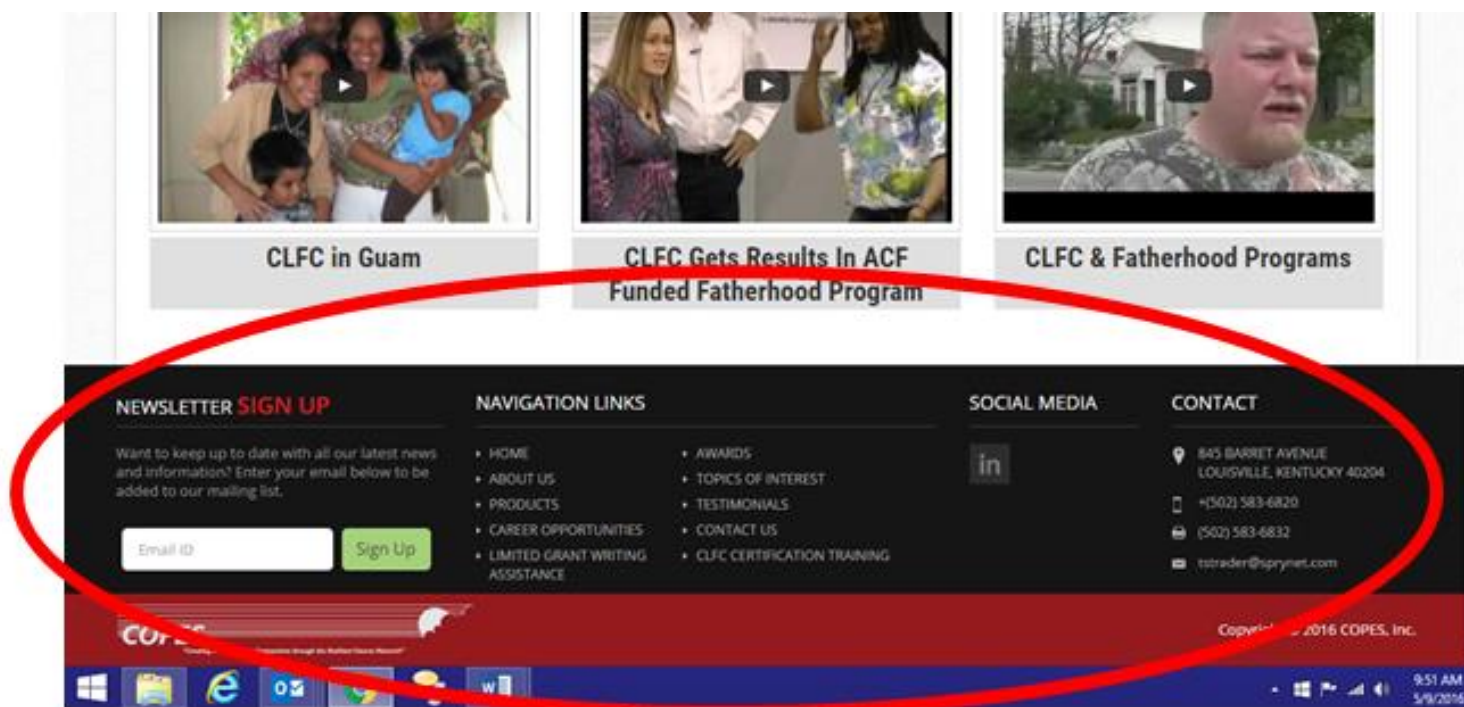
- All three *CLFC Programs* (the *Original CLFC Program*, the *CLFC Fatherhood Program: Family Reintegration* and the *CLFC Marriage Enhancement Program*)
- All Adult CLFC Modules (*Raising Resilient Youth*, *Getting Real*, *Developing Positive Parental Influences* and the *ABC 3(D) Approach to HIV/Hepatitis and Other Sexually Transmitted Diseases Prevention*)
- All Youth CLFC Modules (*Developing Independence and Responsibility*, *Getting Real* and *Developing a Positive Response*)
- CLFC Environmental Strategies
- Overview of Case Management Services (Including information about the innovative Joint Intervention Meeting, or J.I.M.)
- CLFC & HIV Prevention
- CLFC & Recovery
- CLFC & Reentry (Prison Recidivism Reduction)
- CLFC Video Series
- Links to Other Resources
- News (which includes select articles written by COPES staff, special news alerts and access to a list of past CLFC Family Reunion Newsletters)
- “Projects” tab with dropdown links for learning about current and recent COPES projects.

## Topics of Interest in Navigation Bar



Further, we have added links to the navigation bar information (Home, About Us, Products, etc) and other key information, including our contact information, social media icons and a new CLFC Newsletter Signup, in the footer (or bottom) of the website. Please see a screenshot of the footer section below:

### Screenshot of Footer Section



We believe this new version of the COPES, Inc. website provides a much smoother and intuitive experience for individuals who visit our new website. We are thrilled to share the “live” website with you.

Visit the new website here: [www.copes.org](http://www.copes.org).

As we deeply appreciate and value your insight and feedback, please let us know if you have any questions, suggestions or comments for further improving our website. Meeting the needs of our national CLFC “family” and anyone interested in our agency, projects or the *CLFC Curriculum Series*, is of utmost importance to us. We will read and thoughtfully consider all suggestions.

Please email any questions, suggestions and other related feedback on the new COPES website you may have to Ted N. Strader at [tstrader@sprynet.com](mailto:tstrader@sprynet.com).



**Ted N. Strader****COPES**

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