

STAYING CONNECTED

2020 IMPACT REPORT



SOUTH CAROLINA CENTER
FOR FATHERS AND FAMILIES

A Ministry of the Sisters of Charity Health System



2020 THE YEAR OF OBSTACLES AND OPPORTUNITIES



RESILIENCY

"I am so proud of how the South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families team stepped up during 2020. During the worst environment in decades, the team came together, created plans to continue serving fathers and families across the state, and changed many lives for the better. Despite the pandemic, the resilience of this team was extraordinary and made a huge difference to so many in our state!"

Tim Arnold, Outgoing Board Chair
President & CEO, Colonial Life



RECOVERY

"As difficult and challenging as the past year was, it also was a year of learning and accomplishment that the Center team can be proud of and build upon in 2021 and beyond. Sometimes, severe challenges lead to innovation and new ideas that can serve an organization well in its ongoing work. The Center staff is smart and nimble, and dedicated to serving South Carolina's fathers and families in this present age. The pandemic continues to present a challenge, but the Center is well-positioned and well able to meet that challenge as it carries on its mission of helping fathers become great dads."

Warren Bolton, Incoming Board Chair
Public Outreach Strategist, SC Department of Health and Environmental Control



RESOLUTION

"For fragile families, the pandemic exacerbated their existing and relentless stress and fathers needed the Center and our local organizations more now than ever. We resolved early on that we would not shrink back in the face of this challenge but rather be more tenacious, adaptable and relevant in our work. The commitment paid off as the challenges brought out the best in us, reinforced our much-needed mission in good times and bad, and reignited our creativity and innovation. We are grateful to our local organizations, partners and donors who doubled down with us to ensure that the voices of fathers would continue to be heard and services to support them would continue."

Pat Littlejohn, *President, SC Center for Fathers and Families*

SINCE 2002, we have helped more than 20,000 fathers prepare to meet the material, emotional and spiritual needs of their children.

POWERING THROUGH THE PANDEMIC

The worldwide onset of the COVID-19 pandemic has changed our way of life — the way we work, the way we socialize, the way we live.

The success of our fatherhood initiative is largely based on building relationships of trust with the men we serve. For many, we are a vital link to managing their daily lives. As calls for shutdowns and social distancing were administered, we quickly adapted our approach to service delivery to maintain that vital link. Here are some of the ways we have managed to stay connected:

■ Prior to stay-at-home orders being necessary, peer group sessions continued while practicing social distancing but as health guidelines tightened, we transitioned to virtual group sessions. Technology provided a relatively easy transition to keep group discussions engaging and productive.

■ Participation remained steady and even increased in some locations. This was partly due to participants who struggle with transportation issues being able to join discussions via cell phone.

■ With curriculum workbooks and PowerPoints already in place, participants had the means to follow virtual presentations and stay current with assigned exercises.

■ Our intervention specialists maintained contact with enrollees through phone calls, emails, and social media, helping them stay focused on personal goals and providing emotional support during these stressful times.

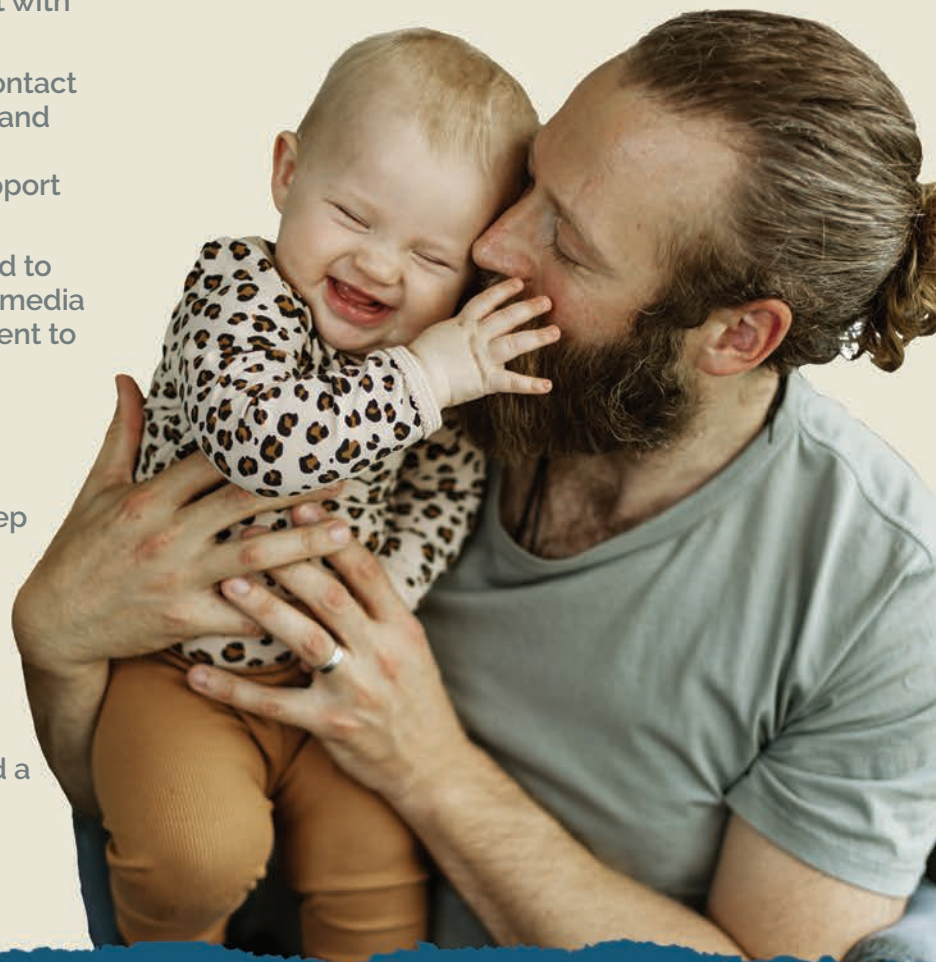
■ With many of our referring agencies forced to suspend services, we ramped up our social media presence and virtual outreach and recruitment to keep enrollment of new participants active throughout the year.

■ Program participants received encouragement and education through online videos, e-news, text messaging to keep them informed and focused on their goals.

■ To emphasize our Parenting and Co-Parenting curriculum, the Center coordinated a statewide effort to assemble and distribute nearly 300 father/child activity bags to enrolled fathers who have access to their children. Each bag contained a variety of items including card games, jump ropes and mini-garden seed pods. Fathers who drove by for curbside pickup across the state also received parenting tips and a note of support.

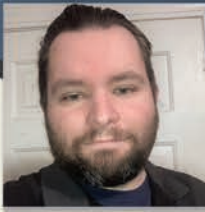
■ For fathers who lost jobs, our job coaches provided support to get them re-employed with companies hiring, such as Amazon. Online job skills training was encouraged to help fathers be better positioned for new employment in a post COVID-19 environment.

■ Some of our fatherhood organizations had their WIFI signal boosted so that program participants could join in group sessions from the safety of their cars in the parking lot. Meals, which are usually a part of each session, were bagged and delivered curbside for fathers and their families.



WE ARE GRATEFUL for the dedication of our employees, the strength of our partnerships, and the generosity of our donors who keep our mission purposeful and strong in bettering the lives of the fathers, children, and families we serve.

OUR WORK, IN THEIR OWN WORDS



A Father's Place
LEWIS RANDOLPH ELLIOTT

"A Father's Place has been a constant stream of support and encouragement, from help with marital problems, job advice and personal advice. I have nothing but positive things to say about the program and the people who run it. I recommend the program to all of the fathers I know."



Father to Father
MICHAEL SMALLS

"This program has helped me a lot. If anything, I would say to anyone thinking of joining the program, trust the process here at Father to Father. They really do help out parents."



Man 2 Man
RONALD DEWITT BRODY

"This is a wonderful program that I would suggest to any father who is having problems. Man 2 Man is a great place to be a part of."



Midlands Fatherhood Coalition
JOSEPH STOKES

"This program teaches you how to be a better father and it gives you more confidence. The program teaches you the steps you need to take towards becoming a better parent and shows you how to understand your children better."



Upstate Fatherhood Coalition
EMILIO EVAN CRUZ

"This is a very good program, and it is great being around positive people."



A Father's Way
TIM NELSON

"I love this program. It helped me out in ways words cannot say. I am very thankful for the people that work here at A Father's Way. They have done an awesome job and helped by just being there and talking to me. I thank them and I am very happy that I came here. #GODBLESS everyone here."

MICHAEL LEACH

State Director, SC Department of Social Services

"Through our agency's partnership with SCCFF, we are able to offer services to our customers that go beyond simply those authorized by statute and regulations. The program is able to 'pay it forward' by making available job readiness, job search, financial literacy, and relationship skills education — hopefully making for happier, healthier children and families."

TIGERRON WELLS

*State Government Affairs Director
(SC) Duke Energy Corporation*

"Frederick Douglass once said, 'It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men.' For years, the South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families has done the critical work of effectively pouring into fathers so that they are more likely to find themselves possessing the skills to contribute to the building of strong families and stronger children. This is valuable work that must continue and therefore must continue to be supported."

SUE WILLIAMS

Chief Executive Officer, Children's Trust of South Carolina

"We highly value the South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families and their focus on teaching men to be good dads. With compassion and time-tested programs that develop multiple skills, they are helping fathers be strong and resilient for their families which, in turn, is building a better South Carolina for generations to come."

ALEX RUDER

Principal Adviser, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta

"We are proud to partner with the South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families to promote economic mobility and resilience. In 2020, the Center provided us with valuable data, research, and stakeholder feedback that laid the foundation to pilot a career coaching platform in 2021. We look forward to the exciting work ahead."

SERVING FATHERS AND FAMILIES ACROSS SOUTH CAROLINA

A FATHER'S PLACE

*Serving Georgetown, Horry, Marion
and Williamsburg counties*
afathersplace.org

A FATHER'S WAY

*Formerly Lancaster Fatherhood Project
Serving Chester, Lancaster, York
and Union counties*
afatherswaysc.org

FATHER TO FATHER

*Serving Allendale, Beaufort,
Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton,
Dorchester, Hampton and
Jasper counties*
fathertofatherinc.org

MAN 2 MAN

*Serving Chesterfield, Darlington,
Dillon, Florence and Marlboro
counties*
man2manfathers.com

MIDLANDS FATHERHOOD COALITION

*Serving Aiken, Bamberg, Barnwell,
Calhoun, Clarendon, Edgefield,
Fairfield, Kershaw, Lee, Lexington,
McCormick, Newberry,
Orangeburg, Richland, Saluda
and Sumter counties*
midlandsfathers.com

UPSTATE FATHERHOOD COALITION

*Serving Abbeville, Anderson,
Cherokee, Greenwood, Greenville,
Laurens, Oconee, Pickens and
Spartanburg counties*
upstatefathers.org

Visit our website to find
the fatherhood program
nearest you.

scfathersandfamilies.com

2020 IMPACTS AND OUTCOMES



SOUTH CAROLINA CENTER
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Total participants served (full enrollees)	2,204
Children positively impacted	4,677
Child support paid by participants	\$787,738
Participated in parent-child activities	1,142
Saved in incarceration costs through "Jobs not Jail"	\$2,772,000
Unemployed who gained employment	592
Unemployed who enrolled in Job Boot Camp (JBC)	322
Unemployed who completed JBC	286
Unemployed completing JBC and gaining employment	194
Average increase in monthly income for participants unemployed at enrollment	\$231
Health services provided by nurse practitioners	935

FATHERS MATTER

We help men become the responsible, engaged and empowered fathers they want to be. With your support, we can make a difference in the lives of fathers and families.

Donate online today.

scfathersandfamilies.com

