

Connecticut Fatherhood Initiative (CFI) Council Meeting



**June 24, 2024
Meeting Summary**

Members in Attendance:

Commissioner Andrea Barton Reeves, Chair, Department of Social Services (DSS)
Commissioner Nancy Navarretta, Co-Chair, Dept. of Mental Health & Addiction Services
Tanya Barrett, United Way of CT
Hon. Michael Ferguson, Judicial Branch Family Support Magistrate Division
Gerald Gore, Department of Developmental Services
Steven Hernandez, Esq., ConnCAN (CT Coalition for Achievement Now)
Melvette Hill, Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity & Opportunity
Anthony (Tony) Judkins, DSS Office of Child Support Services (D5 Committee Co-Chair)
Aileen Keays, UConn Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy (D4 Committee Co-Chair)
Nicole Kilduff, Family Strides Inc. (Provider Representative, Executive Level)
Kevin Krusz, Department of Public Health
Jackson Pierre-Louis, Department of Developmental Services
Robert Pinnock, Career Resources (Provider Representative, Direct Service Level)
Ariana Trotman, GBAPP (Provider Representative, Program Manager Level)
Chairperson Jennifer Zaccagnini, Board of Pardons and Parole

Member Regrets:

Kelly Anelli, CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Michael Bartley, Department of Labor
Paul Bourdoulous, Judicial Branch Support Enforcement Services
Heriberto (Eddie) Cajigas, Department of Labor (D1 Committee Chair)
Diana DiTunno, DSS Office of Organizational & Skill Development
Joseph DiTunno, Judicial Court Support Services Division (D4 Committee Co-Chair)
Deputy Commissioner Michael Williams, Dept. of Children and Families (D3 Committee Chair)
Lesley Mara, Connecticut State Colleges and Universities
Lynn Reeves, DSS Office of Child Support Services

Guests in attendance:

Christine Stuart, DSS Communications
Frank Borres, American View Productions
Vince Russo, Department of Children & Families
Sarju Shah, Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services

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Welcome/Attendance

Commissioner Barton Reeves opened the meeting, welcomed, and thanked members for their continued partnership. She acknowledged recent changes to Council membership with the DDS and thanked Gerald Gore for his services as DDS representative. She then introduced Jackson Pierre-Louis as the new DDS representative and asked him to introduce himself. Commissioner Barton Reeves also acknowledged a change at the CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence as Dan Cargill retired in May, as has been a true asset to the CFI network for several years, through his service on this Council as well as a member of the Strategic Plan Domain 4 Committee. She welcomed Kelli Anelli, who is joining the Council as the CCADV representative and asked her to introduce herself. Finally, Commissioner Barton Reeves recognized that Steve Hernandez left his position as Executive Director of the Commission of Women, Children, Seniors Equity and Opportunity (CWCSEO) to accept position of Executive Director of ConnCan; Steve was asked to remain as a Council member as CONNCan's mission aligns closely with the work of our collaborative, and thankfully he accepted! She asked Steve to share the work of CONNCan and opportunities to connect it to the CFI and vice versa. Melvette Hill has been named as the new Executive Director of the CWCSEO and asked Melvette to introduce herself. Commissioner Barton Reeves then asked Members to go around the room and introduce themselves.

Review/Acceptance of December Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Navarretta asked members to review minutes from the December 18 meeting. Members reviewed, a motion to accept the minutes was made by Chief Magistrate Micheal Ferguson and seconded by Aileen Keays. Minutes were accepted by the full Council as written.

CFI Annual Dear Dad Tour/ 2024 Tour Report & Insights for the Future

Tony reminded Members that they approved American View Productions' (AVP) revised proposal for the CFI Dear Dad Tour (DDT) campaign, agreeing to a two-year contract with AVP. He reported that DSS had contributions from state agency partners through the Interagency Fatherhood Memorandum of Understanding which covered the cost of this year's campaign. The 2024 DDT commenced on May 18 in New Haven and concluded with an event on June 8 in Hartford. Tony stated that this year's campaign was a success in that the 2024 DDT received a fair amount media coverage, including an appearance by himself and Diana DiTunno on WFSB's Good Day Connecticut show, helping to spread awareness about the importance of fathers and their involvement in the lives of their children, while also highlighting the work of the CFI and its partners over the last 25 years in support of fathers and their families. Further, he and Diana were able to coordinate their schedules to attend 3 of the 4 tours stops this year.

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CFI Annual Dear Dad Tour/ 2024 Tour Report & Insights for the Future, CONTINUED

Tony then introduced Frank Borres, American View Productions to provide a presentation on 2024 DDT outcomes, show a few clips and share some insights about future campaigns.

Frank Borres shared the 2024 DDT recap video with the Council and provided the Council with a summary of the 2024 Dear Dad Tour. Frank highlighted the goals and activities of the campaign – including campaign creation, project coordination, video production, video booth management, media & press relations, identification of tour cities, identifying appropriate venues/events, creation of release forms for all DDT participants, updating the DDT website, posting videos for each event on social media (Facebook & Instagram) and the DDT website etc. Frank discussed the importance of the work his staff did with the press, as they sent out press alerts to local media for each tour event and provided follow up and the outcomes were very good as the 2024 DDT was featured on the WFSB's Great Day Connecticut TV Show and in the following newspapers and online publications: the New Haven Register Connecticut Post, Journal Inquirer, and CT Insider. The presentation can be found at the end of these minutes.

Frank recommended three areas of consideration for the Council as we move forward with future DDTs:

- AVP absorbed some extra costs associated with the execution of the campaign which were unforeseen and would like for the Council to take into consideration an approval of a small increase to the budget for the 2025 DDT campaign to account for those costs which is currently set at \$27,500.
- that we work to engage a partnership with Connecticut Public Television (CPTV) for the 2025 DDT, to help spread the word by providing airtime on their network to highlight the DDT and the work of the CFI. He asked if anyone from leadership and/or the Governor's office had a connection to CPTV to possibly set up a meeting or open the door for a possible discussion.
- think about staffing coverage for future events with assistance from council membership and/or their staff to attend the events to meet and greet with residents, answer any questions...i.e. serve as CFI ambassadors as his staff is not equipped to answer any in-depth questions about the CFI and its work outside of the DDT intricacies.

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Strategic Plan: Implementation Update

Domain Committee Chair Reports

DOMAIN 1: Fathers economically stable

This committee is on hiatus, no report this quarter.

DOMAIN 2:

Fathers in healthy relationships with their children, co-parents, significant others

Anthony Gay, Chair updated the council on the work of the Domain 2 Committee. He reported the Committee followed up on a request by the Council to begin development of a how-to guide regarding how state agency RFP templates can be drafted to be more inclusive of fathers in their parenting role. He shared a draft of the how-to-guide as an update/preview to let the Council know where they are in the process, as the document is a work in progress. The goal is to create a complete guide, which can then be presented to the Council for approval, as the original RFP was not inclusive of fathers, and did not present a clear definition of the term “parent”.

D2 is working on identifying ways to recruit more young men into the field of social work, aiming to increase the number of male social workers. They conducted a survey of adolescent social workers and are exploring innovative ways to boost recruitment. They’re also considering touring state universities and talking to students and asking the question whether they’ve considered working in the human services, social work, criminal justice and those fields that are lacking males.

DOMAIN 3: Young people prepared to be responsible parents

Anthony Gay provided an update on the Domain Committee 3 work on behalf of Deputy Commissioner Michael Williams (regrets). Anthony reported that the committee was wrapping up their analysis and recommendations from the asset mapping process targeting the three priority areas, to ensure access to developmentally and culturally appropriate services to promote healthy masculinity, healthy relationships, and intimate partner violence prevention. The draft synopsis document was shared with Council members. It can be found at the end of these minutes.

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DOMAIN 4:

Men involved in the criminal justice system supported in being responsible fathers

Aileen Keays, Co-Chair reported that as a follow up from the CFI Domain 4 event at Central CT State University last September, where the Domain aimed to increase awareness and benefits of the impact of supporting men and their role in fathers and children throughout their involvement in the system, the Committee has been working on developing training for criminal justice system agency staff on the impacts of supporting fathers and their children throughout the system. The training will consist of three parts: an opening message from the leadership of the CJS agency as well as the CFI, the impact on parenting and involvement of fathers, the efforts of D4, including the findings from the focus groups conducted with fathers in the CT CJS system, and how staff can incorporate fatherhood into their work. The training will also include information on available agencies, programs, and support for fathers, as well as industry-specific information. The first three parts may include pre-recorded videos, covering the problem, issues, and available supports. The last section will include a facilitated dialogue or their own component of what they do currently containing policies and practices. The group has a PowerPoint deck that they're currently working on from those first three sections that can be shared, and they are open to any feedback or suggestions.

DOMAIN 5: Public Policy and Awareness

Tony Judkins, Chair, reported that D5 Committee met on May 9 to discuss the rollout of the 2024 Dear Dad Tour and other facets of the public awareness campaign, specifically the newsletter. He stated that the Communications subcommittee, in our most recent meeting regarding the development and completion of the 2024 Spring/Summer edition has identified areas of assistance/support from Diana and himself as they move forward with future editions. Tony said that he and Diana will follow up with the subcommittee to assist and help iron out any potential problem areas so that we are better aligned regarding content development, timelines and providing an introduction of the subcommittee to the contact(s) of the agency to be featured in future newsletter editions.

He also reported that the 2024 Spring/Summer issue was released on May 18 and the newsletter continues to receive positive feedback from staff and the public. Tony also reminded the Council that the newsletter should be disseminated internally at each of their respective agencies once it has been received to ensure staff are aware of the work of the CFI and your agency's involvement in the collaborative effort. Tony mentioned the current issue highlights Employment/Training and longstanding CFI partner agency, the CT Department of Labor.

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211 Workgroup Chair Report

Tanya Barrett, Chair, reported that the DSS Certified fatherhood programs are piloting the 211 electronic referral process, allowing individuals to make referrals directly from their website to other programs. The 211 Workgroup has been working with subject matter experts to update their E-Library papers content, particularly on custody and child support.

She updated the council that the United Way Worldwide Initiative (RUA) which provides Lyft rides to specific categories of people, and as a follow up the last time this was discussed at the council it was suggested that ride categories include legal as an approved reason to request a ride and the suggestion was taken back to United Way Worldwide. She was happy to report the recommendation was approved to add legal as one of the reasons that could be used to request a ride.

Tanya stated the following:

- 562 rides were used in this reporting period.
- people are eligible for either 2 roundtrip rides or 4 one-way rides per week.
- Average cost of a ride is \$18.30
- most of the 562 rides were used for employment and food.
- In the new category of Legal there were a total of 7 rides.

Anthony Gay asked the question as to whether therapy can be an approved ride request?

Tonya stated that the ride request categories does include medical, however, they want to be very careful in utilizing the DSS benefit for Medicaid eligible folks as they can avail themselves to emergency transportation services. However, for those people who don't have Medicaid or to folks going to out of network type of appointments then this can be a considered option. The ride request categories include medical, but DSS is cautious about using the benefit for Medicaid-eligible individuals. Telehealth appointments can be considered for those without Medicaid or going out of network. Economic stability, education, food, health, housing, and legal are approved ride request categories.

Kevin Krusz also suggested to maximize the usage of ride requests, folks could consider requesting telehealth appointments as an option with their healthcare providers in certain instances instead of an in-office visit, where applicable.

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Tonya reiterated the following to the Council ride request/categories:

- economic stability (employment/ job search, interviews) education (including nursing school), food, health, housing and legal are approved ride request categories.
- at least 24 hours' notice is needed to request a ride

Finally, Tonya shared an informational video highlighting their programs and services and it featured a vignette showcasing DSS Certified Fatherhood Program, Madonna Place, Norwich.

She also shared (provided a handout of presentation) the top 3 most pressing issues for CT residents in 2023 were:

1. Housing & Shelter
2. Mental health & Addiction
3. Food

Other Business

Commissioner Navarretta asked members to share news/updates regarding fatherhood efforts.

Tonya provided the Council with a reminder that Connecticut will be hosting the 2025 New England Fathering Conference at the Mystic Marriott in Groton, March 19-21 and to be on the lookout for conference information in the very near future. Also, to make sure they register and reserve a room as soon as possible when registration opens to insure, they have a confirmed spot as the conference has sold out early over the last two years.

Anthony Gay reported that DCF will be hosting a free Fatherhood conference at Central CT State University August 8 & 9. He also stated that they have designated a few slots for all CFI partners so that every agency has representation at the conference. He stated he will work Diana and Tony to send out an email communication to each CFI partner to identify and submit the names of staff who will be attending the conference.

Commissioner Nancy Navarretta informed the council the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 30, 2024, here at DSS Central Office.

Meeting Adjourned.



Connecticut Fatherhood Initiative Dear Dad Tour 2024

Dear Dad Tour Summary



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Goals

- 1) Increase Public Awareness
- 2) Exposure of Connecticut Fatherhood Initiative
- 3) Video Production Technical Assistance
- 4) Event Services
- 5) Public Relations Consultation





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Come tell your story!

Saturday, June 8

Hartford Taste Festival
Pratt & Trumbull St, Downtown
Hartford, CT 06810
Noon - 9pm



AVP Activities

- 1) Campaign creation (Concept and Scheduling)
- 2) Project coordination (Working with crews and site hosts)
- 3) Video production (Proper recordings of subjects)
- 4) Video booth management (Installation and transport)
- 5) Social media (Pre and post event posts and SM management)
- 6) Website maintenance (Content and design updating)
- 7) Graphic design (As needed related to event promotions)





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AVP Activities

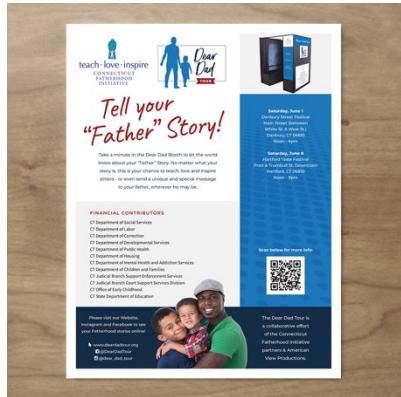
- 8) Content creation (as needed related to event promotions)
- 9) Media / Press Relations - journalists will be encouraged to participate and interview
- 10) Identification of Tour Cities / Towns / Events
- 11) Create and provide release forms to all DDT participants.
- 12) Distribute the CFI Overview one-pager at every stop on the annual tour / where the booth is set up.





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AVP Activities

- 13) Enhance promotions to make a stronger connection of the DDT to the CFI by revising the marketing materials to read Connecticut Fatherhood Initiative's Dear Dad Tour.
- 14) Create a short survey / sign-up sheet to participants; Ask participants have they heard of the CT Fatherhood Initiative? (Yes or No) and ask for their name and email address to be added to the CFI listserv
- 15) Provide participants with referral resource information on the CFI by distributing the United Way 211 contact card.





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Come tell your story!

Saturday, June 8

Hartford Taste Festival
Pratt & Trumbull St, Downtown
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Noon - 9pm



Highlights

- 1) Reporting daily on weekly updates on tour
- 2) Produced booth videos for each event and posted on social media and website
- 3) Posted daily with videos, testimonials, etc.
- 4) Consistent updates to the website
- 5) Changed all the graphics to include CFI and new partners (includes printing)





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Press

Sent out press alerts to local media for each tour event & followed up

1. WFSB Great Day CT Studio show
2. New Haven Register
3. CT Post
4. Journal Inquirer
5. CT Insider (Statewide distribution)





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Identifying Sites

Identifying Tour sites between Mother's Day and Father's Day during time constrained period.

1. Taking Back the Hill, New Haven – May 18
2. Cape Verdean Festival, Norwich – May 26
3. Danbury Street Festival - June 1
4. Hartford Taste Festival – June 8





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By the Numbers

TAKING BACK THE HILL, NEW HAVEN

Produced **18** videos.

Distributed **58** flyers and **223** information cards from initial stocks.

Completed **11** surveys (including 2 online).

Handed out **94** copies of 'The Father Factor' and **34** 'Tell Your Father Story' flyers.





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By the Numbers

CAPE VERDEAN FESTIVAL, NORWICH

Conducted **12** video interviews.

Distributed **25** flyers and **30** information cards.

Completed **4** surveys.

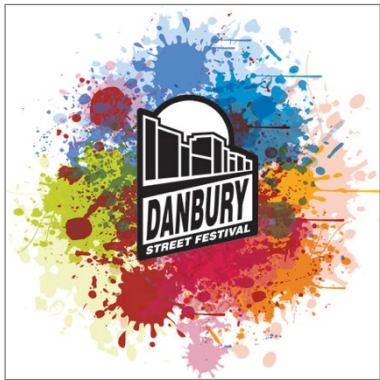
Handed out **15** copies of 'The Father Factor' and **45** 'Tell Your Father Story' flyers.





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By the Numbers

DANBURY STREET FESTIVAL

Conducted a record **23** video interviews.

Distributed **104** flyers and **145** information cards.

Handed out **185** copies of 'The Father Factor'.

Completed **3** surveys for valuable feedback.





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By the Numbers

HARTFORD TASTE FESTIVAL, HARTFORD

Conducted **20** video interviews.

Distributed all 211 CT information flyers (**100**) and cards (**250**).

Handed out all copies of 'The Father Factor' (**100**).





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05-18-24 New Haven 04



05-18-24 New Haven 05



05-18-24 New Haven 07



05-18-24 New Haven 08



05-18-24 New Haven 10



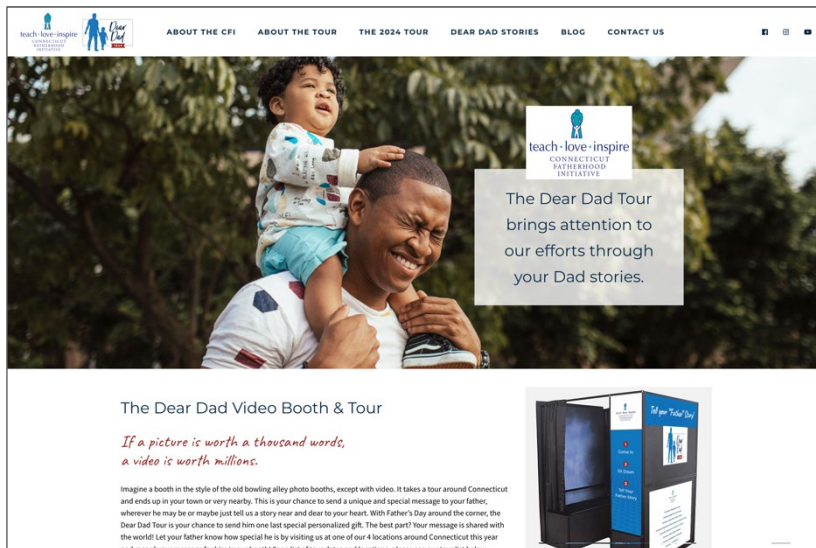
05-18-24 New Haven 11

To Summarize

We have produced a total of 73 videos to date!

This not only surpasses our goal of 10 videos per event but nearly doubles it, which is fantastic news. The more videos we create, the more people learn about the CFI Dear Dad Tour 2024, and the more they talk about it with their family and friends.





deardadtour.org



Recap video

**CT FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE (CFI) STRATEGIC PLAN:
DOMAIN COMMITTEE 3: YOUTH PREPARED TO BE RESPONSIBLE PARENTS
ASSET MAP ANALYSIS SYNOPSIS: SUPPORTS FOR YOUNG FATHERS/FATHERS TO BE IN CT**

CHAIR

Deputy Commissioner Michael Williams, Department of Children and Families

MEMBERS

Kari Adamsons, UConn Department of Human Development and Family Sciences

Greg Bendolph, GBAPP, Inc.

Amy Botello, Department of Public Health

Diana DiTunno, Department of Social Services

Kathryn Dube, CT Youth Services Association

Anthony Gay, Department of Children and Families

Lesley Mara, CT State Colleges and Universities (CSCU)

Shelby Pons, State Department of Education

Miguel Rios, CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Steven Smith Department of Children and Families

Ariana Trotman, GBAPP, Inc.

Jennifer Wilder, Office of Early Childhood

The Domain 3 Committee work focuses on three results statements. These statements align with the overarching results statements of the CFI Strategic Plan, namely “Connecticut children grow up in a stable environment, safe, healthy and ready to lead successful lives” and “All Connecticut fathers are engaged in the lives of their children.” The Domain 3 Committee Results Statements are:

- *For fathers and fathers-to-be ages 14-21, Connecticut will ensure access to developmentally and culturally appropriate services to promote healthy masculinity, healthy relationships and intimate partner violence prevention. (Focus Area 1)*
- *For fathers and fathers-to-be ages 14-21, Connecticut will identify gaps in identification of, and services for, male youth who may be fathers or expectant fathers. (Focus Area 2)*
- *Connecticut will ensure access to developmentally and culturally appropriate quality parenting education and parenting support for teen males. This encompasses the examination of young parents’ program models to ensure the inclusivity of young fathers. (Focus Area 3)*

The D3 Committee developed an asset map to identify potential supports across the state available to young fathers/fathers-to-be in the target age range for which the group is focused (14-21) and related to three CFI Council-approved areas of focus for the D3 Committee’s work. Once the asset map was finalized, the Committee moved to its analysis. The group recognizes there is an absence of services for young male parents, and for young males in general. Further, those few programs/services that are being offered to male youth, young fathers and fathers-to-be within the target age range of this group’s efforts, are only available in certain geographic areas and not currently accessible statewide.

**CT FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE (CFI) STRATEGIC PLAN:
 DOMAIN COMMITTEE 3: YOUTH PREPARED TO BE RESPONSIBLE PARENTS
 ASSET MAP ANALYSIS SYNOPSIS: SUPPORTS FOR YOUNG FATHERS/FATHERS TO BE IN CT**

Focus Area	Why It Matters	Available Services Identified by D3 Committee (Lead Agency)	D3 Recommendations for Increased Inclusiveness of Young Fathers/Fathers-To-Be
HEALTHY MASCULINITY/ HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS/ VIOLENCE PREVENTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the rise in intimate partner violence and teen dating violence • the increased challenges young fathers and fathers-to-be may face with co-parenting since most do not reside in the same household with the child • the identified cultural concept of toxic masculinity creating a need for young males to understand what it means to be a healthy male partner/co-parent and father figure for their family, to positively impact generations to come 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parenting Support Services (DCF) 2. Community Support for Families (DCF) 3. TeamUp CT (CCADV) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Statewide; priority is given to families involved with DCF, with community referrals accepted if there is availability; recommendations include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate a number of slots for young fathers • DCF Program Development Oversight Coordinator (PDOC) can assist with identifying curricula being used/capacity of service providers with regard to clients served and convening a PSS providers meeting for presentation on this goal • Modify contracts to include targeted language and/or curricula inclusive of young fathers • CT State staff could identify and refer young fathers/families to Beacon (Care Management Entity) for services, which focus on prevention of reports of neglect/abuse 2. Engages families who have received a Family Assessment Response through DCF (parents agree to receive services); recommendations include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review contracts/reports/data to identify who they have been serving • Look at contract scope of services to see if inclusive of fathers and age ranges • If not inclusive of young fathers, modify and have conversation with contractors • IPV cases – incorporate violence prevention, healthy relationships information into service provision/case plans Only offered in Hartford; uses sports as a platform, “Coaching Boys into Men” curriculum teaches personal responsibility, respect, integrity, and non-violence. TeamUp CT is the primary focus of CCADV’s prevention work that combines the nationally recognized Coaching Boys Into Men program created by Futures Without Violence with the CCADV-compiled Coaching Girls To Leaders curriculum.

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 ASSET MAP ANALYSIS SYNOPSIS: SUPPORTS FOR YOUNG FATHERS/FATHERS TO BE IN CT**

Focus Area	Why It Matters	Available Services Identified by D3 Committee (Lead Agency)	D3 Recommendations for Increased Inclusiveness of Young Fathers/Fathers-To-Be
IDENTIFICATION OF/SERVICES FOR MALE YOUTH WHO MAY BE FATHERS/EXPECTANT FATHERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to ensure they are acknowledged in their parenting role and offered the same access to parenting skills education, co-parenting strategies and other services that may assist them to succeed in their fathering role • Young fathers/fathers-to-be may face increased challenges with co-parenting, since most do not reside in the same household with the child 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Connection’s Former Foster Care Youth Services program (DCF) 2. The Parent Trust Fund (SDE) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provides time-limited case management services and financial assistance to young adults aged 18-24 who were in CT DCF care on their 18th birthday but who are no longer in care – not targeted to fathers/fathers-to-be. Recommendation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure males participating in the program who are fathers/fathers-to-be are identified/counted (data collection) and services inclusive of parental supports 2. supports community programs aimed at improving the health, safety and education of children by training parents in civic leadership skills and supporting increased, sustained, and quality parental engagement in community affairs. Recommendation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • grantees should be expected to be inclusive of teen parents, both mothers and fathers
IDENTIFICATION OF/SERVICES FOR MALE YOUTH WHO MAY BE FATHERS/EXPECTANT FATHERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to ensure they are acknowledged in their parenting role and offered the same access to parenting skills education, co-parenting strategies and other services that may assist them to succeed in their fathering role 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Fostering Father Involvement in WIC Program (DPH) 4. Birth to Three Support (OEC) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Training WIC Local Agency Staff focused on effectively engaging with dads/family men in all aspects of WIC Services. Recommendation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adapt training to be inclusive of needs of teen fathers/fathers-to-be, successful outreach strategies, increasing awareness of resources etc. 4. supports to families with children under age 3 with developmental delays – not targeted to fathers/young fathers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • review program design/components for inclusivity of fathers/young fathers

**CT FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE (CFI) STRATEGIC PLAN:
 DOMAIN COMMITTEE 3: YOUTH PREPARED TO BE RESPONSIBLE PARENTS
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Focus Area	Why It Matters	Available Services Identified by D3 Committee (Lead Agency)	D3 Recommendations for Increased Inclusiveness of Young Fathers/Fathers-To-Be
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young fathers/fathers-to-be may face increased challenges with co-parenting, since most do not reside in the same household with the child 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Website for expecting and parenting students (UConn) https://studentparents.uconn.edu/ The Brotherhood (CT State-CCSU) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> lists available UConn support offices and groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> many descriptions speak to student supports, so available to students who are parents because they are students "Moms4Moms"; "Peer Support Group for Expecting and Parenting Students" – fathers? men’s wellness/retention initiative to improve health, retention and graduation of CCSU men. Fatherhood component started in 2015 – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> need specifics as to how it supports young fathers/fathers-to-be
<p>QUALITY EDUCATION AND SUPPORT FOR TEEN MALE PARENTING (INCLUDES EXAMINATION OF YOUNG PARENTS’ PROGRAM MODELS)</p> <p>QUALITY EDUCATION AND SUPPORT FOR TEEN MALE PARENTING (INCLUDES EXAMINATION OF YOUNG PARENTS’ PROGRAM MODELS)</p>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Teen Fathers Program (GBAPP) DSS-certified Fatherhood Programs 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> DSS-certified fatherhood program; provides intensive case management and curriculum-based instruction provided to young fathers up to age 24 – Bridgeport, CT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replicate this model across Connecticut Agencies who have successfully been awarded DSS certification of their fatherhood program service community fathers through case management and curriculum-based instruction; fathers do not have to have involvement with a particular system; not targeted to young fathers/fathers-to-be, though providers report they do serve some young fathers Recommendations include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey DSS-certified providers regarding number of young fathers served that are between the ages of 14-21 and what adjustments, if any, they made to service delivery for young fathers they have served Ensure providers have established relationships with local resources to support the special needs of young fathers Explicitly require contracts to include language about young fathers/fathers-to-be (include in RFPs); ensure that curricula are appropriate or specifically targeted to young fathers/fathers-to-be

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		<p>4. Support for Pregnant & Parenting Teens (SPPT) (SDE), <i>continued</i></p>	<p>c. school scheduling and attendance policies do not consider or support pregnant and parenting students, especially fathers; d. parenting students do not qualify for Care for Kids/Child Care Subsidies – if they are under the age of 18, their parents’ income is used to determine eligibility and those aged 18 and older can only use childcare subsidy for employment, not education; e. there is a lack of infant childcare statewide</p> <p>Recommendations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify State funding for SPPT and offer statewide • order to access the number of parenting students - inclusive of fathers - who need supports, it is essential to include an indicator for parenting students linked to their SASID • change Care for Kids/Child Care Subsidies criteria to allow access to parenting students • create policies to support flexible scheduling and education options for pregnant and parenting students, inclusive of fathers (Title IX) • increase access to infant childcare