



Fathers & Families Center

BUILDING A NOBLE LEGACY

PROUDLY PRESENTS THE

FACES OF FATHERHOOD LUNCHEON

FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 2018





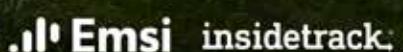
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Program

Welcome

Julian Grace, Master of Ceremonies
WISH-TV 8

Greetings

Kip Tew, Board Chair
Fathers and Families Center

Beau Boice
Project Director, Office of the President
Strada Education Network

Video

Wallace McLaughlin, PhD, President/CEO
Fathers and Families Center

Lunch

Introduction of Speaker

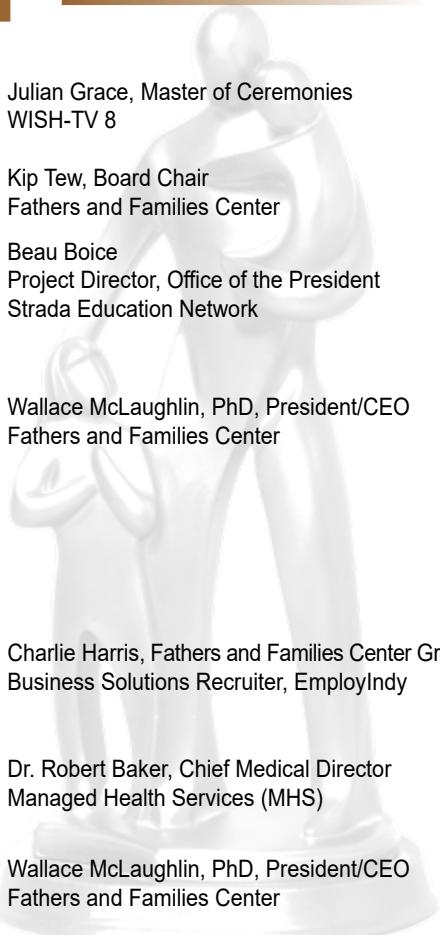
Charlie Harris, Fathers and Families Center Graduate
Business Solutions Recruiter, EmployIndy

Award Presentation

Dr. Robert Baker, Chief Medical Director
Managed Health Services (MHS)

Closing Remarks

Wallace McLaughlin, PhD, President/CEO
Fathers and Families Center



JOHN A. SMITH

JANUARY 23, 1943 - DECEMBER 15, 2017



IN LOVING
MEMORY OF JOHN
SMITH, LOVING
FATHER, INSPIRING
LEADER, AND
DEDICATED
MEMBER OF
FATHERS AND
FAMILIES CENTER'S
BOARD OF
DIRECTORS.

JOHN SERVED AS THE CHAIR OF THE FACES
OF FATHERHOOD LUNCHEON PLANNING
COMMITTEE SINCE ITS INCEPTION.

Dear Friends,



Welcome to the 14th annual Faces of Fatherhood Luncheon. This is a special year for Fathers and Families Center as we also celebrate 25 years of service to our community. For 25 years, we have strived to help over 15,000 men build noble legacies of fatherhood. We have worked diligently to remind community leaders and stakeholders about the importance of responsible fatherhood for families and communities. We have been committed to providing our participants a way out of poverty by providing the skills, tools, confidence and hope for the future.

As we look towards the next 25 years, we see many of the same challenges facing our most at-risk fathers and their families. Although we are boasting an all-time low unemployment rate for city and state, many of our targeted communities remain stubbornly in the double digits. For many who have a job (or two or three), employment may not be the solution to poverty. In fact, 40.2% of residents living below the poverty level are employed. As I often say, "Our participants are not deadbeat, but dead broke." Yet somehow they find the strength and grit to make their way to us; some coming off of third shift to make class at 9:00 am, a sleepless night from being homeless, or stressed from pure survival instinct. You may find them hunched over, asleep on one of our couches, or drinking coffee with their sugar. We can't jump to judgement too quickly; for each of them has a story—regardless of race and ethnicity—of trials, trauma, stumbles and falls. We also want to recognize them this day, for they have made critical steps on the road to redemption and transformation.

Finally, I challenge all of us—business, community, political, social service and other leaders-- to think creatively and collaboratively on how to develop new opportunities for those that are being economically left behind in Indianapolis; so that their children can have a better and brighter future.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wallace McLaughlin".

Wallace McLaughlin, PhD
President / CEO
Fathers and Families Center

Master of Ceremonies - Julian Grace



We are once again honored to welcome Julian Grace as our Master of Ceremonies for the 2018 Faces of Fatherhood Luncheon, a role he has played since 2015. As you may know, Julian has been an anchor and reporter for WISH TV since 2011, joining the station after a successful stint at KMOV (the CBS affiliate in St. Louis). During his time in St. Louis, Julian won an Emmy and an Edward R. Murrow Award for his reporting. In addition, he has been honored by the Radio Television Digital News Association (the world's largest professional organization devoted exclusively to broadcast and digital journalism) with a prestigious Beinstock Fellowship in recognition of his work.

Julian has been a great advocate for the work of Fathers and Families Center; and for the fathers and families that we serve. He consistently uses his platform as a reporter to elevate critical issues facing Hoosiers throughout Central Indiana. For example, in April 2015, his blog featured a post from Indiana Kids Count report noting that one in eight low-income Hoosiers with children younger than six were forced to quit a job, not take a job or greatly change their job due to the cost of childcare.

Julian is an active member of Berean Bible Church. In his rare free time, Julian spends time with his wife and four children - Christian, Justus, Jacob and Garrison - and enjoys reading a good book.



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Faces of Fatherhood Luncheon



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Keynote Speaker - Charlie Harris



Persistent, adaptable, responsible: three words that define Charlie Harris' fatherhood journey. Born and raised in Indianapolis, Indiana, Charlie knew his biological father but did not have a close relationship with him. Instead, Charlie was raised by his mother in a single parent home. His mother raised him the best she knew, but struggled with severe mental health issues; compounded by alcoholism and a disability stemming from a car accident which rendered her unable to work. As a result, Charlie's childhood consisted of housing instability, poverty and hunger. Despite his childhood hardships, he graduated from Arlington High School.

When Charlie turned 21, he already had one child and another one was due. Although he wanted to build a solid foundation for his children, Charlie realized that he did not have the right tools or support. In 2001, Charlie enrolled in what was then called the Fathers and Families Resource/Research Center when it was still located on the second floor at Wishard Hospital. There he was given the proper tools, mentoring and guidance to build a "noble legacy of fatherhood" for his children so that they would experience the power of an engaged, loving father and provider. Through his persistence, adaptability and responsibility, he has maintained steady employment for 17 years in Workforce Development and Human Resources; and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Organizational Leadership and Supervision from the Purdue School of Engineering and Technology at IUPUI. Charlie and his wife – Sylvia - have been married for 8 years and share a loving, blended family of four children: Briona (17), Jacob (16), Isaiah (5), and Bailey (2). Both Charlie and Sylvia strive to be strong role models for their children; demonstrating the importance of hard work, faith and commitment.

William Turner



According to daughter Ashley, William Turner instilled in all of his children his passion and will to help others; and in particular the notion that every child should have the opportunity for a great education and access to resources. This passion is reflected in the breadth and depth of his service to community; which he has effectively modeled for his children. He has been actively involved in Washington Township schools, ranging from serving on the Washington Township School Board to co-chairing the 8th grade trip for Westlane Middle School. For the broader community, Bill tirelessly served a nine-year term as President of the Wheeler-Dowe Boys and Girls Club. He has also volunteered for the Indiana Black Expo Boxing Tournament, United Way Steering Committee and served two terms as Treasurer of the Greater Indianapolis NAACP. He currently serves as Vice Chair for EmployIndy's Board of Directors and as Chairperson for the Region 5 Works Council. As his two daughters attended Hanover College, both he and his wife Laurie served on its Parent Advisory board as members and past presidents to ensure that students of color were represented. Bill's honors include the Indiana Black Expo Boxing Tournament's "Bob Chambers Service Award," Boys and Girls Club of Indianapolis' "Volunteer of the Year" and Wheeler-Dowe Boys and Girls Club's "15 Year Service Award."

Bill currently serves as the Director of Education and Development for Allison Transmission. Bill and his wife Laurie, a Washington Township elementary teacher, have three daughters, Lauren, Ashley and Chandler.

Steve Smitherman



While being an actively engaged, single dad --coaching, transporting and supporting five children - Steve Smitherman was committed to building CareSource's Indiana Plan. Starting with four employees in an empty office, he has grown the organization to over 225 employees across Indiana; being named by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce as one of the "2018 Best places to Work." As Executive Director, Steve wants to ensure that its CareSource "members" are treated holistically and with respect; recognizing that healthcare requires an investment in the whole person. This includes helping them with life services such as High school equivalency diploma attainment, employment preparation and placement, or offender re-entry assistance. CareSource is also actively engaged in the communities it serves; with Steve leading his team to help thousands of families with food, backpacks and school supplies.

His father played a critical role in shaping Steve's commitment to service. Although he worked multiple jobs to take care of the family, his father made sure that they still were "close knit." He also taught Steve to "be grateful and always give back, for there are others that are worse off." After his dad was diagnosed with cancer, Steve became his caregiver after college – staying with him through hospice.

Now with his wife and blended family of seven, Steve requires that their children "give back" to the community. In addition to Steve serving on Covering Kids and Families of Indiana's Board of Directors, their volunteer activities include working with Wheeler Mission, Gleaners Food Bank and local food pantries, delivering food to the homeless and opening up their home to children in need. His children have followed in his footsteps with his daughter selected in 2017 as the President of Best Buddies program for her school system.

James Litten



H. James “Jim” Litten is the President of the F.C. Tucker Company; and the first chief executive in the company’s 97-year history to not be in the Tucker family. Regardless, Jim maintained the Tucker family values by placing his staff and agents’ families always at “top of mind;” earning him the F.C. Tucker Senior Award recognizing his attributes of judgement, courage, patience and vision. While growing the company to over 1,500 agents, Jim has served in multiple state and national leadership roles with Metropolitan Indianapolis Board of Realtors (MIBOR) and the MIBOR Foundation, Indiana Real Estate Commission, Indiana Low Income Housing Trust Fund and the National Association of Realtors.

However, Jim’s commitment to community extends well beyond real estate. He has been active in such organizations as the Stanley K. Lacy Executive Leadership Series, The Lawrence Township Foundation, and the Arthritis Foundation. He has also created a climate of philanthropy at Tucker by supporting many local organizations that support children, especially St. Mary’s Child Center. As part of Tucker’s 100th anniversary, he established the Tucker Foundation with the first \$100,000 donation presented to the Peyton Manning Children’s Hospital. He has also given back in a range of other ways: coaching, mentoring, and volunteering for the Carmel UMC Food Pantry, Roberts Park Soup Kitchen and the Interfaith Hospitality Network while still finding time to teach Sunday School with his wife, Tami. In 1997, he was recognized by the Governor with the Sagamore of the Wabash award for all of his efforts. Throughout it all, they continue to be involved in the lives of their four children and their eight grandchildren; encouraging them to lead and live their best lives. According to daughter Penny, “As teenagers he insisted we had jobs, not for money, but the pride of accomplishing something daily.”

Rick Diaz



Originally from Chile, Rick Diaz's parents lost everything when communism invaded the country. They immigrated to the US with only \$15 to their name when he was one year old. Although his parents struggled, nevertheless he remembers a home filled with love, encouragement and support, and with his dad being his tireless "champion." This background gave Rick a heart and passion for serving the underserved; not only shaping his career path but also how he parents his children to have compassion for those in need. His passion has led him to serve many roles: veteran, nurse, hospital administrator, ordained pastor, community leader, husband to wife, Anna, and father to his four children (Sophia, Noah, Zoie and Jeremy) three of whom are domestic and international adoptees.

As the President/CEO of HealthNet, he ensures that the organization remains committed to providing primary care health services to Indianapolis' underserved neighborhoods; serving over 60,000 clients each year. Working for over 20 years in health care management, he is also very involved in health care advocacy. He serves on numerous regional and national committees concerning patients' rights and community boards to promote quality health care access for all; including Indiana Primary Health Care Association, Indianapolis Urban League and the Financial Center Credit Union. In 2014, he partnered with Fathers and Families Center to provide a Best Father workshop for young, at-risk fathers at HealthNet. Yet, he is always finding ways to stay engaged with his children: serving as the Board Chair of the Classical Studies of Indianapolis home school program that his children are enrolled in; teaching debate and speech classes; coaching soccer; and serving as Minister of Music at Christ Church in Plainfield.

Shane Shepherd



Shane Shepherd, founder of B4Ufall, is passionate about catching our urban youth “before they fall” into the vicious cycle of crime and violence through advocacy, education and mentoring. His passion stems from his own upbringing and lure of the streets, which resulted in serving 12 years in federal prison. While in prison, he met many young men who had thrown their lives away before they even began. However, during this time he met a mentor – H. Rap Brown - who told Shane that he had leadership qualities; pouring everything he could into him. Those insights led Shane to start teaching while in prison. He also developed an after-school curriculum, Truth & Change; providing strategies for African American youth to make positive life choices and reduce the odds of getting caught up in the judicial system. When he was finally released, his son saw him free for the first time. Two months later, he married his beautiful wife, Latoya, and rededicated himself to supporting his family and serving his community. Working together, they started a publishing company and authored several urban novels which help fund B4UFall.

Shane also takes great pride in working for the Indianapolis Department of Public Works as a member of the union. He often wears his DPW vest when “off duty” to show the youth in his community that there is hope and opportunity - inspiring them to “get off the bench and into the game.” While working full-time, he still finds time to take his message to youth throughout Central Indiana; mentoring up to 30 youth at a time. Most recently, he was honored with the United Way 100 Heroes Award. He and his wife have three children and one on the way.

Citizens Energy Group is a proud sponsor of the Fathers and Families Center's Faces of Fatherhood Luncheon.

We salute your commitment to enhancing the capacity of young fathers to become responsible and involved parents who provide support to their families.



CitizensEnergyGroup.com



Proud to follow in your footsteps.

Great change starts with small steps. And we're happy to support the Fathers and Families Center with the strides they're making to change the world for the better. We appreciate all the Fathers and Families Center has done for their community and ours.





build *dreams*

The graphic features the word "build" in large, white, blocky letters. To its right, the word "dreams" is written in a smaller, elegant, cursive script. The background is a grayscale photograph of a city skyline at sunset or sunrise, with a prominent skyscraper on the left and other buildings silhouetted against a bright sky. A large, semi-transparent orange triangle is positioned in the bottom-left corner of the graphic area.

Supporting Communities

Ice Miller is proud to support the Faces of Fatherhood Luncheon. Our law firm supports more than 100 nonprofit organizations throughout our region. We are proud to work together with Fathers & Families Center to build dreams in our community.

Eskenazi Health is
proud to support
Fathers and Families
Center in celebrating
the role of fathers in
our community.



Visit us on-line at
pnc.com

Thank you for continuing to build a noble legacy
of fatherhood in the Indianapolis community.



What We Do.

Fathers and Families Center offers a holistic and comprehensive continuum of programs and services to help fathers and expectant fathers—of all ages—move towards a better and brighter future for their families. It starts with helping them develop a plan to meet family, employment, education and health goals. As they enroll in the intensive, three-week Strong Fathers class, they hone their fatherhood, life skills and job readiness preparation with a cohort of like-minded men: men who want to be more engaged and productive fathers for their children. They also have an opportunity to earn a small stipend and transportation assistance to assist with expenses. As they progress, they can access our high school equivalency class; engage with our workforce development team to find a job; and/or enroll in advanced training certification programs.

However, life can be complicated; a diploma or a job is just not enough. That is why we offer a full array of support services such as mental health and relationship counseling, court advocacy, barrier removal assistance, referral services, “interview clothes” closet and more. To strengthen families and relationships, we work closely with spouses or girlfriends to create strong co-parents and partnerships as they look towards the future. Finally, the “doors” never close on our alumni. As circumstances change, they can return to get assistance with up-skilling, other employment opportunities or just a safe place to fall and be reaffirmed and reminded that they are a person of worth.

Why We Do It.

The answer is simple. Kids need their dads. Need we say more?

2017 Impact

Over 1,100
fathers and families served.

310 Participants placed in jobs.

131 Participants received training certifications.

28 Participants received their high school equivalency diploma.

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How You Can Help.

Fathers and Families Center relies on the generous support of our corporate, foundation and individual donors and supporters to provide programs and services to approximately 1,000 fathers and their families each year. There are several ways you can give:

Donate online: Go to www.FatherResource.org and click our donate button. It will take you directly to our secure donation page where you can pay with your credit card.

Mobile Giving: Text the word “Father” to 41444.

Want to send a check? It's easy, mail a check to:

Fathers and Families Center
2835 North Illinois Street
Indianapolis, IN 46208

Contributions are tax-deductible. In addition, ask us about our Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) Tax Credits.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can support Fathers and Families Center or are interested in becoming a 2019 Faces of Fatherhood Luncheon sponsor, please contact Wallace McLaughlin, PhD at (317) 921-5950 or wallace.mclaughlin@eskenazihealth.edu.

Special Thanks

to our

2018

Faces of Fatherhood Luncheon Planning Committee

Ian Albright

Kathy Barnett

Casey Cawthon

Todd Harper

Leroy Lewis, III

Wallace McLaughlin

Karla McLaughlin

Anna Melodia

David Plasterer

Kristi Steppe

A Noble Legacy: **Brian Robinson and Daughter Arriel**



Brian was a 1997 graduate of the Strong Fathers program. He joined the class so that he could continue to be actively engaged and involved in his daughter Arriel's life. After graduating from the program, he served on the Center's Board of Directors as a participant representative to ensure their perspective was represented at the strategic level. He also attended Ivy Tech Community and completed an Associate's Degree in Machine Technology. Instilling the love and importance of education in his daughter, she received her Bachelor's degree from the IU School of Journalism in 2017 and is now pursuing her Master's Degree at Sarah Lawrence College in New York. Although separated by distance, father and daughter still maintain a strong bond.

Education is Key: **Corey and Ericha Campbell**

Corey Campbell came to Fathers and Families Center in 2014. He was 16 and had one child – a son. At the time, Corey was living with his parents; while his son who has special needs lived with his girlfriend Ericha and her parents. Their plans were to move in together after Corey earned his HSE and turned 18 years old. However, their plans slightly shifted when Corey and Ericha both decided to set a goal to earn their HSE diploma at Fathers and Families Center. They worked and studied hard and before they knew it, they both were wearing cap and gowns! To make this a total family affair, Ericha's sister, Elizabeth, also recently earned her HSE! Corey continues to be recognized for maintaining steady employment. He and Ericha are now married and they often stop by the Center to check in.



Proud Homeowners: **JaMichael and Jamila Fann**



JaMichael graduated from the Strong Fathers program in 2011 and continued to work on his HSE at Fathers and Families Center. He worked closely with Sarah Meadows both during the class and after hours; constantly studying. Yet, he struggled and failed at several attempts to pass the test. Sarah never gave up on him; continuing to encourage him until he was finally successful. With his confidence buoyed by this victory, he enrolled at Ivy Tech and thrived. He applied and received a Bowen Scholarship and soon graduated with an Associate's Degree in Human Services. He and his sweetheart, Jamila, soon got married and recently purchased their first home with the help of INHP.

Empowered Entrepreneur: **Keith Shovan**

Keith Shovan's first child was born in 2007. Working at Church's Chicken, he realized that he needed to do something different to be a better father and provider. That is when he started at Fathers and Families Center. He stayed focused and soon received his HSE diploma. Then he set his sight towards a CNA certification. Yet, he still hungered for more. As he explored career options, staff continued to provide support and encouragement. Then in 2015 he became a dad again; nudging him to dream even bigger and start his own business: SFI Risk Services which provides security and asset protection. He has started a second business focused on landscaping with several other business ideas in the planning stages. He is getting ready to marry his fiancé Alisha Orr and they are expecting their next child this October.



1993

Fathers and Families Center was “birthed” at Wishard Hospital. Sarah Meadows, then head of the Social Work Department, founded the Father Resource Program to address a myriad of issues; in particular the escalating rate of teen pregnancy and infant mortality in the African American community. As she explored further, she found that young fathers faced personal and systematic barriers that oftentimes prevented them from being actively involved in their child’s life. She then hired Wallace McLaughlin PhD to serve as the first Program Director to help improve the life chances of their children through responsible fatherhood.

2001

With support from Mayor Peterson and Deputy Mayor Shrewsberry, the agency secured a Community Development Block Grant award to purchase the old Butler radio station, located at 2835 North Illinois Street and strategically located on a bus line.

2003

A grand opening and 10th anniversary celebration was held for the newly renovated building; featuring Congresswoman Julia Carson, State Representative Gregory Porter and other local and state dignitaries. We then started doing business as Fathers and Families Center. The board also changed the title of the Program Director to President/CEO. A few months later, we became a United Way of Central Indiana agency.

1999

A Board of Directors was formed to transition the Father Resource program to a 501(c)3 agency affiliated with Wishard Hospital. With the incorporation, the name was changed to Fathers and Families Resource/Research Center.



Fathers & Families Center

BUILDING A NOBLE LEGACY



2005

Our inaugural Faces of Fatherhood luncheon was held at NCAA which started the time-honored tradition of featuring a past participant as the keynote speaker.

2006

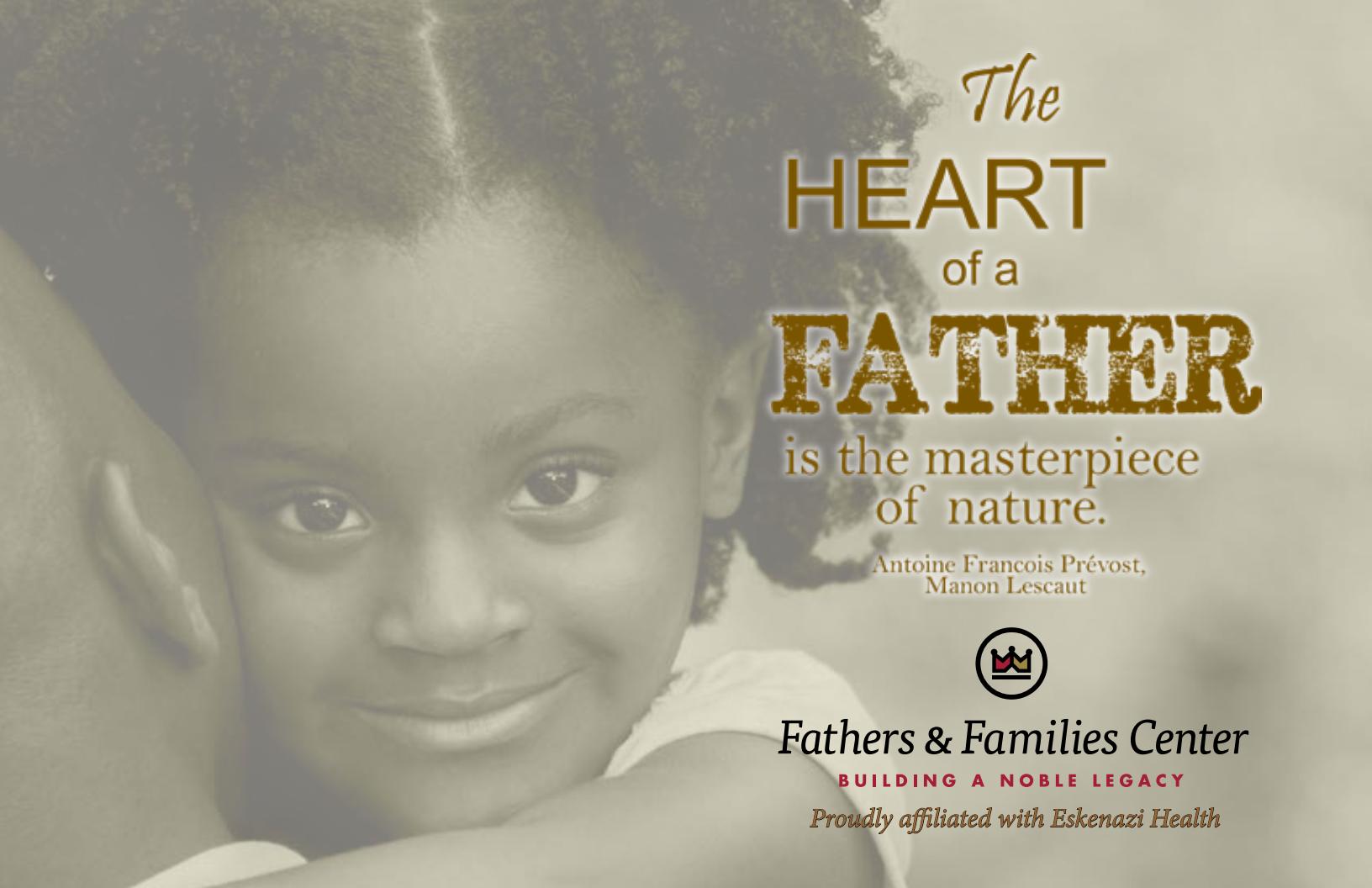
Major federal and foundation funding outside of the Indianapolis community began to be secured— totaling over \$10,000,000 – including the U.S. Department of Labor, Health and Human Services and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

2014 & 2015

Hosted two Fatherhood Conversation Series for the Indianapolis community focused on fathering children with special needs. The series featured national speakers on autism and supporting children and youth with disabilities.

2018

Celebrating the 14th annual Faces of Fatherhood Luncheon as part of our 25th anniversary celebration. Over 25 years, we have served over 15,000 fathers and their families. By the end of the year we will be recognizing class # 176.



The
HEART
of a
FATHER
is the masterpiece
of nature.

Antoine Francois Prévost,
Manon Lescaut



Fathers & Families Center

BUILDING A NOBLE LEGACY

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