



# Fathers & Families Center

**BUILDING NOBLE LEGACIES**

PROUDLY PRESENTS THE

## FACES OF FATHERHOOD LUNCHEON

FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2019





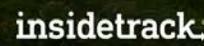
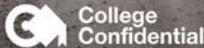
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# Program

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## Welcome

Angela Cain, Mistress of Ceremonies

## Greetings

Kip Tew, Esq., Board Chair  
Fathers and Families Center

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

## Video

## Appeal

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

## Lunch

## Introduction of Speaker

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

## Keynote Speaker

Eric Dycus, Fathers and Families Center Graduate  
Owner, Dycus Vision LLC

## Award Presentation

Kevin O'Toole, President/CEO  
MHS

## Closing Remarks

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

# HAPPY FATHERS DAY

Today...

we are saluting those men  
*-fathers, grandfathers, uncles,  
stepdads, caregivers-*  
who nurture, provide, protect,  
love and encourage their  
children each and every day.



*"It is easier for a father to have  
children than for children to  
have a real father."*

*--Pope John XXIII*

## Dear Friends,



On behalf of our Board of Directors, Staff and participants we serve, I want to welcome you to the 14th annual Faces of Fatherhood Luncheon. I also want to wish everyone a “Happy Father’s Day!” It is a time to celebrate the men placed in our lives that have stood by our sides, loved us completely, and supported us through whatever challenges we have faced. While this day can be difficult for those that may have lost a father or father-figure, Father’s Day is still a day to celebrate those men and to honor their memories.

This is also why we recognize outstanding fathers throughout our community through the “Heart of a Father” award sponsored by MHS. These men represent the highest standards of “Involvement, Consistency, Awareness and Nurturance” in their children’s lives; while also making a positive impact in their community. Even more importantly, they are role models for the next generation - not just for their children but for all of our children - that positive father engagement makes a difference. So this Father’s Day we not only want to recognize these men, but to take some time to remind ourselves that dads truly matter by instilling in their children the gifts of confidence, self-esteem, courage, sensible risk-taking, service, and so much more.

Happy Father’s Day to those men who have embarked on what is one of life’s great joys and journeys.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wallace McLaughlin". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Wallace McLaughlin, PhD  
President/CEO  
Fathers and Families Center

## *Mistress of Ceremonies - Angela Cain*



Angela Cain is a multiple Emmy award-winning former television news anchor/reporter and, today, an entrepreneur and communications consultant. In 2016, she launched Angela Cain Communications, a PR/Media Relations, communications, and brand storytelling agency. It specializes in creating compelling videos, blogs, podcasts, copywriting, and other content marketing material to build a business's brand, customers, and revenue. The Agency also offers Media Training and Storytelling Workshops.

Prior to becoming an entrepreneur, Angela served as the Director of Public Affairs for the Indianapolis Airport Authority (IAA) in charge of all communications and marketing. But for 30-plus years, Angela was a broadcast news anchor/journalist who wrote and produced thousands of stories, with stints that included work as a Top-Ten Television Market News Anchor and Health Reporter in Dallas, and Community Affairs Director at WTHR-TV in Indianapolis.

At WTHR, Angela won several state and national awards for creating the “Shattering the Silence” campaign of news series and television specials to bring awareness to the problem of domestic abuse and child abuse. Angela also led the station's community service campaigns such as “Coats for Kids”, the “Race for the Cure,” and “United Christmas Service.”

Angela is married and helped raise five girls full-time in a blended family.

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## *Keynote Speaker - Eric Dycus*



A crossroad. That is where Eric Dycus stopped running from a series of bad decisions to frantically ask “Father God” to help him make crucial changes in his life for himself and his sons. He knew their future was fragile. Although he had already enrolled in college, he needed guidance, direction and a plan. In 2009, he walked into Fathers and Families Center and took an important turn at this “crossroad” by enrolling in the Strong Fathers Program.

At the Center, he met men on staff that challenged him to see his life from a different perspective. They pushed him to go further, stay focused and not just dream – but plan for the future.

As he continued the program, his grandmother told him she was proud of him for the first time. In fact, it was the first time he had ever heard those words...from anyone. He started collecting the skills he honed at the Center like “tools in a tool box” to be used to become a better father and provider. He got used to the funny looks and taunts when he wore a tie on the bus in preparation for Career Club. He was elected a class officer, honing his leadership skills. He started working and although his world was shook when his grandmother died and his auntie was brutally murdered, he knew he had to stay focused. After completing the Center’s Strong Fathers program, he started a mobile carwash business launching his new life as an entrepreneur while finishing his college degree in cinematography. With his degree in hand, he put all of his skills to work to pursue his passion and soon Dycus Vision - a multimedia company - was born.

Almost 2 years ago he married his beautiful wife – Deandra – whose own son, Deandre, was a victim of gun violence, leaving him a quadriplegic. His dream is to start a nonprofit – “Shooting With Cameras Instead of Guns” - to help and mentor other “young brothers” to not be the victims or the perpetrators of violence while providing an outlet through cinematography. Eric stays active in all of his sons’ and stepsons’ lives - Daion (19), Dalyn (11), Dejuane (8), Deandre (18), and Darias (15) – always reminding them of the importance of giving back.

## *Lars E. Rascoe III, EdD*



In 1992, Dr. Lars Rascoe III, embraced fatherhood when his wife, Valencia, gave birth to their twins: Lars IV and Lauren. From that moment, he wanted to model the highest principles of being an engaged father, husband and servant leader. As his children grew, his goal was to show every young person he encountered what love, care, compassion, hard work and dedication looked like – as a leader, provider, husband, father and strong black man – particularly for young men of color. He and his wife often opened up their home as a “safe sanctuary” for children in their neighborhood. They broadened their family even further by fostering a child and ultimately helping him to transition to Ball State.

In 1995, with a background in education, he translated his passion into a new program at Guion Creek Middle School - Boys II Men - recognizing how many of his former eighth grade students found the transition to high school challenging. Today, Boys II Men has evolved into its own organization with three education/mentoring programs for boys in middle school, elementary school, and for teens who are Wards of the State or have experience with child services or foster care. His students have been on college tours and have taken part in over 240 hours of community service. For the past two years, they have traveled to Nicaragua for service projects; exposing them to a different world view while developing their sense of purpose, worth and servant leadership.

Dr. Rascoe is also an active member of Eastern Star Church and serves on the School Board of Traders Point Christian Academy; while never shying away from opportunities to serve and help others throughout his community. Even when sidelined by prostate cancer, he used this time to study to provide insight and inspiration to better help his community. Beating the cancer, he became even more committed to the youth who are “lost” as well as being more present with his wife and their twins (now age 27). By the way, Lars V has just arrived – and we know he is destined to make a difference – just like his grandfather.

## *Rev. Charles R. Harrison*



A native of Jeffersonville (IN), Rev. Charles R. Harrison says, “Pastoring is who I am. I try to live out my faith daily.” However, his journey towards ministry was not an easy one. At 14, his brother was killed and the men responsible actually showed up at the funeral. He recalls feeling a sense of rage and revenge. Without the intervention of a few good men from his community he, too, could have been another tragic statistic.

After graduating from Methodist Theological School (Ohio), he felt called to urban ministry. Serving in churches in both Ohio and Indiana he came to Indianapolis to become the Pastor of Barnes United Methodist Church, and is currently serving as Senior Pastor.

Rev. Harrison has been actively involved in community affairs. In 1986, he played an integral role in the hiring of the first African American police officer and two firemen in New Castle. He is the Founder and Board President of Indianapolis Ten Point Coalition which has a “boots-on-the-ground” approach to reducing violence, increasing employment and enhancing educational achievement in some of our most challenged neighborhoods. He has worked across the state and country to help other communities establish similar programs; while also serving as a Chaplain for the Indiana State Police as well as on several boards. He has received numerous awards that include: Sagamore of the Wabash, The Distinguished Hoosier Award, Howard Thurman Preaching Award and the Circle City Frontier Drum Major Award in Religion.

His greatest joy is his family. Growing up with a step-father who truly loved him, he knew that one day he wanted a family. Over 13 years ago he married the love of his life, Fawn, and embraced her two children (Terrell and Shayla) as his own. Yet, knowing they had more love to give, they became foster parents to an 18 month old (Jeremy'on) and a 3 year old (Jaylyn). To prevent them from going back into the “system,” they made them part of their forever family by adopting them. Now that they are 13 and 12, Rev. Harrison's only regret is that he did not have children earlier so he could keep up with them! His advice to new fathers: “Family first. It is the foundation of your life.”

## *Craig Johnson, PhD*



Born and raised in Albany, New York, Craig Johnson grew up in the 60's and 70's during the peak of the civil rights movement; shaping his social consciousness. He started his college life in California but returned to New York to earn his PhD in Public Administration at the University at Albany, SUNY. One day when he was watching a news show, he was captivated by a woman doing a report on fatherhood. He knew at that moment he was going to marry her even though he did not know who she was, where she lived – you get the idea. He and Pat have now been happily married for over 32 years and have two adult children: Aliyah (27) and Naim (20). But we have jumped ahead in the story.

From New York, the couple moved to Indianapolis where Dr. Johnson started as a Lecturer at IU Bloomington (SPEA) in 1993 and was promoted to tenured Associate Professor in 1999. Dr. Johnson has built a national reputation as an expert on public finance. As a black male in a nontraditional field, he felt an obligation to help students of color be successful; mentoring numerous students - formally and informally. Additionally, Dr. Johnson is actively immersed in public service on both local and national levels including: Governmental Accounting Standards Board Advisory Committee (GASB), State of Indiana Board of Tax Commissioners and Pike Township MSD advisory committees as well as assisting the Pike Township Trustees Office with economic development strategies. He is actively engaged in a homelessness initiative; assisting a new organization develop its infrastructure and programming while financially supporting its efforts to provide safe and stable homes for families in crisis.

He taught his children that they have a responsibility to care for others – starting with family and then community. Early on, his children saw this in action, financially helping families who could not afford school expenses. Over the past 5 years, Dr. Johnson has had to face an additional challenge of battling multiple myeloma. However, it has not stopped him from being engaged and supportive of his children as they make their life decisions; be a loving husband; caring professor and mentor to students who have launched successful careers; and a committed community leader.

# Adam Hayden



Adam Hayden is a 36 year old husband to wife Whitney, father to three young boys (Isaac, Noah and Gideon), philosopher of science, champion of the humanities in medical education, an advocate for palliative care, a man of faith and a person living with an aggressive and incurable brain cancer (glioblastoma). All of this was not part of the plan for this young couple and their family. With Mr. Hayden's diagnosis, they had to balance battling the cancer against enduring dreams that might go unrealized, the daily costs of living with cancer and preserving their family life. He started chronicling his experience which grew into a blog — “Glioblastology.” The intent was to leave a record for his sons to “see Dad was fighting like hell and working hard to beat his brain boo boo.”

But his posts became much more – as his words gave meaning to his life, they resonated with others facing cancer. Mr. Hayden was thrilled to discover that what he was doing had a name - narrative medicine - to enhance the healing process. He realized he could reshape his own narrative by helping others tell their story. He soon became actively involved in brain tumor and narrative medicine communities, including the National Brain Tumor Society, and has shared his perspective in many local and national presentations and publications. He has met with congressional representatives and researchers to advocate for more research funding. Last year, he wrote an open letter to Senator John McCain after news broke of McCain's own glioblastoma diagnosis. He has also provided and found valuable support through online support groups such as Brain Tumor Social Media Group.

Yet, his most important role is being with his sons and being a stay-at-home dad who cooks breakfast and lunch and plays with them as much as he can - even when feeling under the weather. He and Whitney work with the children to understand the cancer and the importance of living a life of love and worth. They know that there is no happy ending and that is OK. Mr. Hayden's only regret is not being able to spend more time with his family and to watch his boys grow up. In his image for the future, Isaac will be a boss somewhere, Noah will be caring for people or his community and Gideon will still be the risk taker. His family will be OK and that is enough.



*Inspired  
by Fathers*

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.



We're all citizens.

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# A JOB WELL DONE.

Congratulations, Fathers & Families. Your accomplishments inspire us and show what can happen when people work hard and stay true to their goals.





# build *dreams*

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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.

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ENDOWMENT

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*Dad. His title may be short, but his  
influence is long and powerful.*

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**Community**  
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Patricia Gamble-Moore  
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## *Our Mission.*

To build a **noble legacy of fatherhood** – assisting fathers in achieving self-sufficiency and in strengthening families to **improve the life chances of children.**

## *Our Vision.*

Each father we serve **loves, supports, encourages** and **actively participates** in his family. Furthermore, each individual and family we serve has a **stable and healthy home** environment and a **productive and fulfilling livelihood.**

## *What We Do.*

We provide a **comprehensive continuum of programs** and **supports** that includes:

- Strong Fathers classes to increase life skills, financial literacy and job readiness
- High school equivalency classes and onsite testing
- Assistance with employment and job retention
- Access to advanced training certifications
- Behavioral health and wellness counseling and services
- Advocacy
- Transportation and barrier assistance, and
- Family strengthening activities.

## *Why We Do It.*

It's simple. Kids need their dads. Need we say more?

## 2018 Impact

Thanks to the generous support of our donors, we continue to make a difference in the lives of our fathers and their families.

**Over 1,200** fathers and families served with...

- **255** placed in jobs
- **92** receiving training certifications
- **13** high school equivalency diploma awarded
- **500+** counseling sessions provided
- **560+** receiving housing and job stability assistance

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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*Donate online:* Go to [www.FathersandFamiliesCenter.org](http://www.FathersandFamiliesCenter.org) and click our donate button. It will take you directly to our secure donation page where you can pay with your credit card.

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If you are interested in learning more about how you can support Fathers and Families Center or are interested in becoming a 2020 Faces of Fatherhood Luncheon sponsor, please contact Wallace McLaughlin, PhD at (317) 921-5950 or [wallace.mclaughlin@eskenazihealth.edu](mailto:wallace.mclaughlin@eskenazihealth.edu).

## *Special Thanks*

*to our*

**2019**

### **Faces of Fatherhood Luncheon Planning Committee**

Kathy Barnett  
Leroy Lewis, III  
Karla McLaughlin  
Wallace McLaughlin, PhD  
Anna Melodia  
David Plasterer  
Kristi Steppe

&

### **Eagle Creek Elementary School Girls Club**

for the Father's Day Cards!



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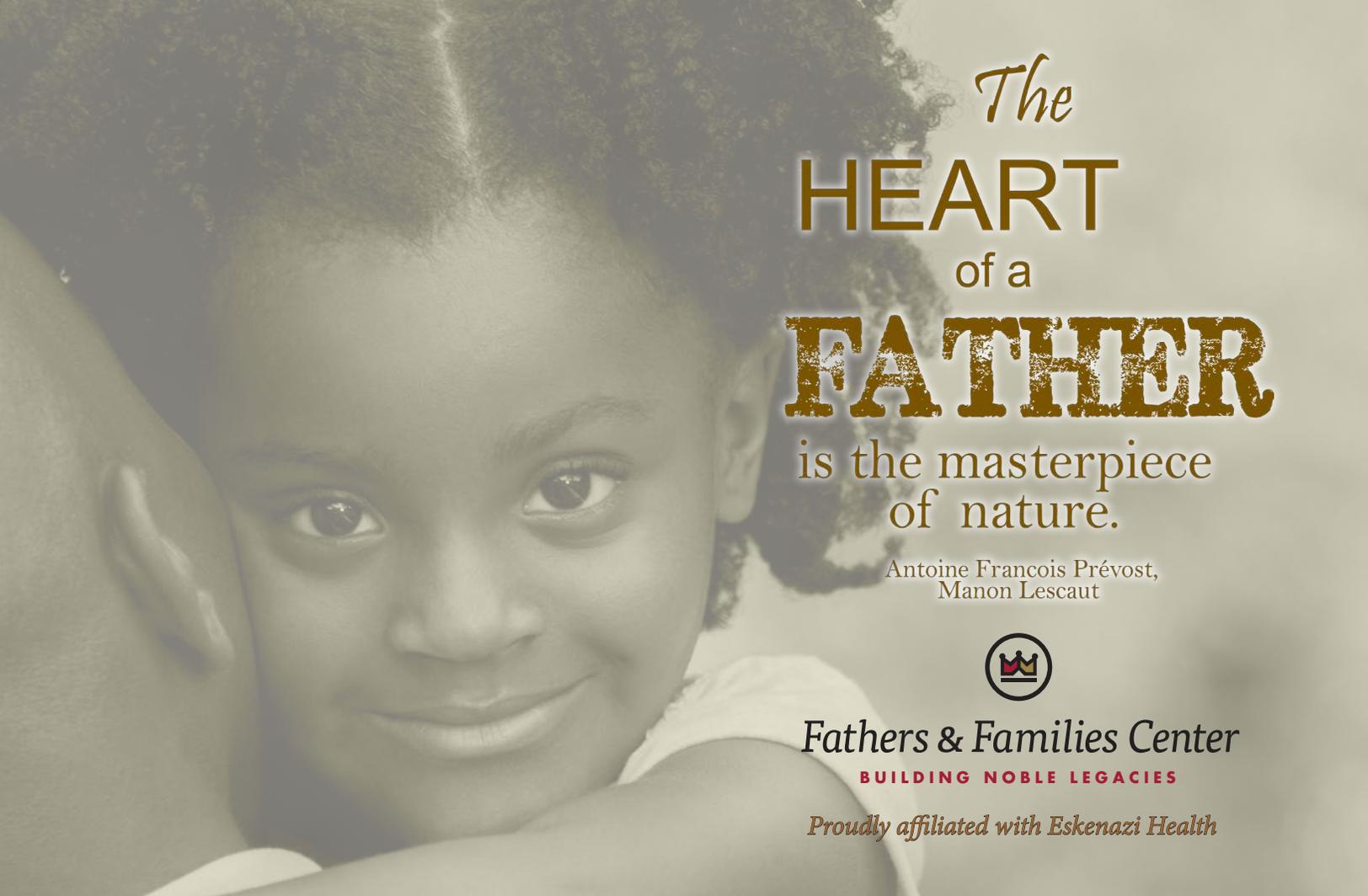
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INSPIRING  
EXPERIENCES**

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Let's connect and inspire people – together.

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*The*  
**HEART**  
of a  
**FATHER**

is the masterpiece  
of nature.

Antoine Francois Prévost,  
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