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OHI O DEPARTMENT OF JOB & FAMILY SERVICES
STATE OF OHI O

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I N RE:

Bi dders Conference

Ohi o Commi ssi on on Fatherhood

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The above bi dders conference was hel d
on August 10, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon, at
4020 E. Fi fth Avenue, Rooms A-118 and A-119.

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HOLMES REPORTING & VIDEO
982 Havensport Drive
Ci nci nnati , Ohi o 45240
(513) 342-2088
(513) 342-1820
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P R O C E E D I N G S

MR. ROBINSON: Good morni ng, I adi es

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and gentlemen. We want to welcome you to this bidders conference. And if you're standing in line and you're just waiting to sign the sign-in sheet, you can take a seat, we've gone pass it to you. We're gonna pass it to you. We had intended to get started at 10:00, it's 10 after 10:00 and we're gonna pass that to you. We have a very simple agenda, and if you don't have an agenda, we'll make sure to pass that to you, also. So for the sake of time, let's get started.

My name is Tracy Robinson, I have the honor and the privilege to serve as the Executive Director for the Ohio Commission on Fatherhood, and I want to bring up my partner, my colleague, Mr. Greg Landsman, who is the Executive Director at the Governor's office on Faith Based and Community Initiatives. Greg. You can give him a hand.

GREG LANDSMAN

GREG LANDSMAN: I know many of you, My name is Greg Landsman, and I'm from the Governor's office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives and I have the distinct pleasure of working with Tracy. Most of you know Tracy by now, but if you haven't

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gotten to know 'em, it's something to do, whether it's -- as relates to this particular grant program or not, he's an amazing guy and someone who -- We really couldn't have found a better person to lead this state-wide effort around, strengthening the role of fatherhood -- their children.

Just some very quick background before I hand it back to him, the Governor was elected in 2006 and took office in 2007, and one of the things he wanted to do, among other things, was to resurrect the Ohio Fatherhood Commission. This was, in his mind, a very important piece of state leadership in terms of what Ohio is doing in this area of fatherhood. And so he tasked our office with helping to re-establish the Ohio Fatherhood Commission. It was already in statute, it just had been defunded several years earlier, and as such the Commission sort of went away, so we did.

And Peter Lawson Jones, who is the County Commissioner in Cuyahoga County, many of you know him, he was the original Chair of the Ohio Fatherhood Commission and incidentally became the current Chair. He was re-elected, essentially, once the Commission had been re-established and started to convene. And so he is the current Chair. And then

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the next order of business was to hire an Executive Director and that's when Tracy came on to do that job, and he's done a phenomenal job in taking the Ohio Fatherhood Commission to another level, really elevating this work to a very prominent place in the Governor's office in state government. So he is an exceptional person, and if you haven't got to know him, please do.

I just want to say one other thing.

We also set aside -- the Governor wanted to set aside a portion of our budget to fund these competitive grants that would allow non-profit and faith based community groups to work together around this issue of strengthening fatherhood in Ohio. So this is where the partnership really lies today and it's been a great partnership and these are extraordinarily important grants. I don't know the number in Ohio and you all, you probably do, but nationally we have now 24,000,000 children who are growing up without a father, and it's not the end of the world.

My wife who's in my mind the most remarkable person I've ever met, grew up without a father and she turned out to be, like I said, the most incredible person I met. It's not a deal breaker but it makes it very difficult as you know.

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And so the work that you all are doing -- 'cause you're all are doing this work already, that's why you're here, is in deed God's work, it's so important, and so we really appreciate all you're doing. We hope you apply ultimately for this grant.

I'm gonna say one thing before I turn it over back to Tracy. Often times having sort of managed our own competitive grant programs, the thing that I have noticed, and I'm not sure it'll be said, so I want to make sure I say it, whether you all have a great idea or a program or not, often times it's your application and what's in it or what's not in it that will get in the way of whether or not it's

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successful in the end. And by that I mean, if the application and the RFP is -- and they're going to walk through it says that it needs to be in this format and it needs to have this tabs and it needs to have these resumes and it needs to have this signed document and this kind of IRS form, then that's what it needs to have. And so there's a checklist and there's a score sheet in the back and that's the most important piece in many ways.

You all have great ideas and you all have great programs, but often times what separates a successful application from a non-successful

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application is whether or not it was exactly the way it was supposed to be, entirely buttoned up with everything that was supposed to be in there in the right order.

And so I just encourage you to sort of keep that as a forefront as you're putting together these applications. Many of you have done this for many, many years, longer, longer than I have, so you know, but in the event that this is your first time applying for a grant, particularly through the Department of Job & Family Services, this is a very important piece of that process. So thank you and I'm gonna turn it back to Tracy.

MR. ROBINSON: Okay. We got to do a little housekeeping, a little housekeeping. You know in my personal life I serve as a deacon in the New

Salem Missionary Baptist Church and some times things get crowded, and so this is what I want you do, if you have an empty seat next to you, raise your hand. If you have an empty seat -- there's one, there's two. Purses, coats, hats on the floor. Can't -- seat for your coat, hat and your purse. We have one up here. You can come right up here, right up here. We want to make sure that anybody who is here can get a seat. Do I see anymore empty seats, anymore empty

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seats?

Well, I'm gonna talk just about three minutes and then I'm gonna turn the mic over to Anthony Norwood from Office of Contracts and Acquisitions, and then I'm gonna go get some more chairs. I'm gonna go get some more chairs for the overflow.

So Greg did a wonderful job talking about the intentions and the purpose behind the Ohio Commission on Fatherhood. I just want to drill down a little bit further.

You know, we have exceptional leadership in our Chairman, Commissioner Peter Lawson Jones, who've been with the Commission since its establishment and since he offered the legislation to create the fatherhood commission.

Our vision is to enable every child in Ohio to succeed. And the way that we plan to accomplish that vision is to improve the quality of fathers in local Ohio communities. That's where you

come in. We're looking for some organizations, some local counties, some other political sub-divisions, non-profit faith based entities that want to partner with the State of Ohio to improve the quality of fathering in your local communities.

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We did look at the Ohio Revised Code. Here is some things I want to emphasize for you. It says that the purpose of the Commission is to increase public awareness on the critical role that fathers play in children's lives. Unfortunately some people debate that, but we need you to think about that as you develop your program -- build the parental skills of fathers. That's where training comes in and nurturing and coaching and partnering, and one of my favorites, prevent pre-mature fatherhood. Prevent pre-mature fatherhood. We could avoid a lot of these problems if we just get some men to just pump they feet on the brakes until they're able financially, emotionally to take care of a child.

I have two sons, Jacob is 17 and Jonathan is 14, and if I would have knew, on the front end, the magnitude and the responsibility, I would have pumped my brakes, too.

Providing services to fathers who are inmates are re-entry individuals, and reconciling fathers with families where possible.

Here are some of the things that are

gonna be important to me, is you have an experience in serving fathers, not just men. As I've traveled

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throughout the state I've talked to programs and in the programs, some I fund, some I don't, and some times people think we have men, they come to our program, they have children, ah-huh, we serve fathers, not quite, not quite. You must take a look at that.

If you don't have experience in providing fatherhood programming, that leads to my next one and that collaborating, collaborating with someone that does. Also looking for creativity and efficiency. We must be good stewards of public dollars.

And there are some in this room that are a little disappointed. Wanted to have higher funding for fatherhood, I did, too, but one thing I can say about this budget, if we survive this budget, the only place to go is up and we can survive it, so.

Lastly, we're looking for good outcomes. In this grant we will have an evaluation component, and we're gonna look at some, you know, some outcomes, you know. Do the fathers in your program spend more time with their children, can you measure that. My own personal theme is that, you know, "love equals time spent." Is there an attitudinal change with the fathers in your program.

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Can you measure that? And then process evaluation, how well did you do and can we measure that. So those are some of my opening thoughts.

I'm gonna bring up Anthony Norwood, who is from the Office of Contracts and Acquisitions who's gonna walk you through how to apply for this RFGA. Anthony.

ANTHONY NORWOOD

ANTHONY NORWOOD: Good morning, everyone. We're gone talk about how to apply for this grant and who's able to apply for this grant. Any political subdivision, county government, non-profit, or community based organization is able to apply for this grant.

Talking about the non-profit piece. You must submit your 501-C-3 when you submit your application. If there is no 501-C-3, in Section 1 of the score sheet, we'll disqualify you. So that is an important component in applying for this grant.

And where to apply. All submissions should be sent to the Office of Contracts & Acquisitions, 30 East Broad Street, 31st Floor, Columbus, Ohio. Make it to the attention of the RFGA RFP Unit. There will be someone there at the desk when you come in to give you a receipt for your

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submission. We will time and date stamp every piece to make sure that you are in on time. Any proposals

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received after the deadline of 3:00 o'clock, will be disqualified.

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Could you repeat that? Could you say that one more time, please, the address?

ANTHONY NORWOOD: The address. 30 East Broad Street. And this is in your, in your RFGA. 30 East Broad Street, 31st Floor, Columbus, Ohio, 43215. Please make sure that you have enough time to park, 'cause we're, we will not be held responsible for any submissions after 3:00 o'clock. So make sure you have enough time to park, to walk in the building and so forth.

In the RFGA at the very end, there is a list of forms, attachments and appendices. Attachments A, B, C are required when you submit your RFGA application. Attachment A is required application or applicant -- required applicant information and certification form. Attachment B is the W-9 request for taxpayer identification form. And Attachment C is the DMA, Declaration Material Assistance form. This is are terrorist -- to say that you are not supplying or assisting any

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terrorist's organization. So those three have to be submitted when you send in your application.

Also, you'll find a ODJFS model grant. This is not the final grant you will receive from our office if you are selected, but we would like you to sign the signature page and send that in, as well,

with your application.

Attachment E is the technical score sheet. I know Mr. Landsman had discussed this in his opening. This is to help you organize your proposal. This is what we will use to evaluate your application.

We like to give this to all of the potential applicants so you know exactly what it is our review team will look at when we go through to score each of the proposals.

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: I'm sorry.

ANTHONY NORWOOD: Yes, ma'am.

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Could you say Attachment E again?

ANTHONY NORWOOD: Attachment E is the technical score sheet. There's no need to submit that, that's just for your evaluation when you're preparing your actual application.

I won't touch on the budget forms. My

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colleague, Matt Cunningham, will talk about those, as well as the appendix, so we'll get to those later in this conference.

The next component I want to discuss with you is the timeline. This RFGA was released on July 31st. The next important date to remember is August 17th. This will be when all -- it will end the Q & A process. No additional questions will be answered after that period.

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If you go out to the JFS website to look at the actual index page for this grant, you will see a link for questions and answers. You can send those in via email, and on the 28th we will post the transcription of this meeting, as well as all, and questions and answers that we receive during the Q & A period.

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Nothing will be provided prior to the 28th?

ANTHONY NORWOOD: No. If you have any questions, just send them through the email link. Do not contact individuals who have in the Office of Families and Childrens, they won't answer your questions. No phone calls will be answered in regards to the actual applications. All questions and answers should be submitted -- all questions

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should be submitted through the Q & A process.

As well as the -- that's the only restrictions that we have, is the communication piece. Just use the Q & A period to ask any questions.

The final date that you should note is the deadline to submit your proposal, and that is September 4th by 3:00 o'clock.

I will now introduce Matt Cunningham, he will go over the forms and budget forms evaluation. Thank you.

MATT CUNNINGHAM

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Good morning.

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AUDI ENCE: Good morni ng.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: This is a very, very large room and we're overflowed. My name is Matthew Cunningham. I'm a Section Chief in Section Agreements, used to be known as TANF Interagency.

So I'm here to talk a little bit about, basically how we're gonna manage the program and the grants and answer some of your questions as they deal with the technicalities of the program and management of the grant.

Some of you I've seen before, we met before. You had experienced the last RFGA grant

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which I was involved in. And some of you know Karen White and Sue Cook. Sue can't be here today, she's using one of those cost savings days, but Karen is in the back of the room. Could you stand up, Karen?

For those who have current agreements, that's putting a face with the name. Karen and Sue will continue in the next biennium, this current biennium, I should say, helping Tracy manage the grants. They will be processing invoices, they will be handling the technical assistants, answering any questions you may have.

Let me start out, there's -- Anthony talked about some of the forms. This RFGA is a little different than the last one, for those of you applied for the last, remember. I'm trying to remember here if we had somewhere between 48 and 50

applications last time around. Based on the size of this room, looks like a similar if not larger number.

As Tracy made reference to, this is a very tight budget. Tracy did an excellent job in getting money surviving the budget process.

I've been doing this for a while, and we have a lot of earmarks. Earmarks are basically programs that we're able to get money out of the Legislature and budget. There were 23 in our last

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budget. This time around, there is zero, none. So hence the reason, I'm not just doing TANF stuff, I'm doing other things, too. But we're here to assist Tracy in that.

So let's talk a little bit about the changes in RFGA this time around. I was on the Review Committee last time, and reading those 48 to 50 proposals, and I know you guys -- for those who applied, put a lot of effort in, but what we tried to do, I hope, is simplify the process.

There's a couple different forms. First thing is -- this won't be as free hand as last time. Basically we made this into an application process. There's a series of questions on a couple forms that we want you to go down. And there's also some link required.

As you can see from this room, we're expecting a lot of people to apply. So a team of 4 to 6 people is gonna spend several days of their lives in September choosing who is the nine programs

that we'll fund in the future.

So you have any questions about those forms, go ahead and ask, but those forms, basically serve, this time around, as your application process. And of all the forms that Anthony covered and these

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two forms and the budget, that is what we will review for and make a determination on the award. Those forms basically ask all the questions we need to know and you guys need to operate the program successfully under TANF.

There are some page limitations to it, need to be cognizant of that. Each question also has a little link. We believe that, you know, if you're concise you should be able to fully answer those questions. But, again, we're expecting a lot of applications based on this turnout.

Let me talk a little bit about granting. Once the nine programs are awarded, there's a process we go through, we develop the grant agreement, agreement or contract with those nine awardees. That contract has to be signed by the Executive Director or the person with contract signature authority, in your organization, as well as the Director of our department.

Even though Tracy is the Executive Commissioner on Fatherhood, these dollars are being awarded by the Department of Job & Family Services, which is basically the fiscal and financial manager

of these programs.

And state government, for those of you

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who never worked with us, we also have something called "Purchase Order." And the purchase order comes slightly after the signature of the grant. Once the purchase order has been processed and approved through our central Department of Office and Budget Management -- it's a separate department from JFS -- it's basically responsible for all the finances in the state. Once OBM approves that purchase order, on that date, is when you can actually start work, okay. So that's a very important date, okay.

So once you sign your grant agreement, you'll have -- you wait for the purchase order, which will be few days thereafter, and then from the date of the purchase order, Karen and/or Sue will contact you, probably by phone or email and say, "go, you can start." Until you get that kind of communication, no work can be done. No work will be reimbursed prior to that.

So your grant agreement will run from the date of the purchase order to end of the state fiscal. State Fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30. So technically, this is not a full two-year program unfortunately. But we'll try to get everybody up and running as quickly as possible.

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Hopefully we're probably expecting start dates in September, beginning of October, get everybody kind of where we're going.

I'm not gonna go over the forms themselves, but if you have any questions about the forms, please ask. There is a budget somebody very important. Please, look it over, over and try to fill it out to the best of your ability. It is a projection. We understand that. We understand things change, but it's very important to be as accurate as possible in your projection.

Now, as the grant operates through, we can make changes to that budget, but you have to have approval from the grant manager before you can act on those changes.

This is probably the most easy -- This is the most difficult and the easiest thing we can do with you guys. This is a real big theme of mine, been doing this for a while, communication. When in doubt, please ask. There is nothing more important than communicating with the grant manager. That will make your lives' easier and will make our lives' easier, and will really make your lives' easier. We're not there to necessarily always say, no, we're there to help guide your program and there to help,

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you know, to maximize your effort.

And the budget piece is most and

foremost. Just don't assume you can make a change to the budget and not communicate that to us, 'cause it's not official until we tell you it's official.

We see this all the time. We see this a lot to the end of the fiscal year when everybody is trying to finish up. I know there is always the desire not to leave money on the table, but in these tight economic times, we are very critical the last couple months. You know we see heavy expenses in equipment the last month or two. Our question back to you guys will be, how is this serving the program, how is this helping you meet the program goals or is this just in equipment so you have new equipment in the future.

You know, my section is Chief of the -- we get accused a lot of times, but, you know, we won't say necessarily, no to equipment, and we can understand the circumstances.

Understand the circumstances is two-way communication, you know. We didn't see it on the invoice and you guys have never talked to us. What it is, is what it is. You know, you may or may not get paid. So if you need to buy something, you

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know, you think it's getting late in the year, you know, it's an unusual request, you didn't budget for it and something has come up, but you didn't proceed. I understand it, but you got to talk to us. You know, just can't bill us for it and expect us to go, rubber stamp it and away we go, we won't do it.

I don't -- in these times I don't know any, but our department definitely won't do it. I don't want to scare anybody. I don't want to knock down anybody's application, but these are important things that we've seen over time for a variety of programs I've run over the years. You know, communication, communication, communication. When in doubt, always ask. You know, just talk to us. We like to know what's going on.

TANF. These programs are funded through TANF which stand for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families. Other TANF are generally for purposes of TANF. This is gonna be funded under the third purpose of TANF, which is to help prevent out of wedlock pregnancies.

What that means for you guys in a practical sense, why the purpose of TANF is to assist low income families, because this program is out of TANF purpose 3, we don't have to do a great risk

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individual eligibility determination. Okay. We don't have to necessarily do constant determine income verifications or an application process. That's the good news.

Now, if you have an application process for the program, that's still okay, but you don't have to do anything special for this program.

For those of you who may have gotten TANF from our department before and from the counties

at various programs, we may have done processes like that. But the purpose of this program, there won't be any individual determinations. That's the good news, and that saves you guys a lot of time.

The next item on the agenda as I'm going down, TANF Services -- I've kind of covered that, so let's skip over that. I'm gonna talk a little bit about Restrictions. 'Cause these dollars are TANF, there's a few things that are absolutely, no, in TANF. One thing TANF will not pay for in any form of permanent improvements to a facility or building. We won't buy a building. We won't buy an automobile for your organization. You know, so if you need plumbing, if you need electrical wiring, you know, these are taxes permanent improvements. We can't pay for 'em under TANF.

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What we can do is, if you're renting a facility, we can prorate part of the rent for the purposes of this grant. You know, if you enter into an agreement for four years, we're not gonna pay the four year agreement in this grant. You know, this grant we pay the prorated portion of that for the duration of the grant.

The other thing to keep in mind with TANF. If you run other activities through your program -- you know, some of you are members of large organizations that provide multiple services to the communities, you may have multiple sources of funding. We're not gonna pay for everything that is

a common use area. Classic example of this is the office copier. You know, this is the only program, okay, but, you know, if you have multiple streams of funding and that copier is being used for multiple things, you cannot bill the entire cost of that machine against this grant. We will pay a reasonable portion. Yes, ma'am.

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Does that mean you don't except admin overhead?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: We'll do admin overhead. I mean we'll do a reasonable amount of admin overhead. Administration by TANF is limited to

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15 percent, it's capped at 15 percent for the program.

I guess I'll briefly touch -- I don't know how many of you guys' programs do indirect cost plans, cost rules. Some times we'll refer to administrative cost rules, we will look at those. What we don't allow is somebody's direct charges and the charges indirect, I mean you have to choose one or the other. We do an indirect cost structure. We need to see how you develop that indirect cost structure, what is your indirect cost.

I would submit that as part of your application. Best way, if you're not ready yet and you haven't decided, that's okay, too, but before we enter into a grant agreement with you, we're definitely gonna want to see how that indirect cost

structure is developed. We're gonna want to see your plan. Okay. Yes, ma'am.

JUDITH ALLEE: If the, ah -- if the grant proposal is -- would be accepted, but the budget part of it is out of line, can that be negotiated afterwards or --

MR. CUNNINGHAM: I'll have --

JUDITH ALLEE: -- is it all -- is it all or nothing.

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COURT REPORTER: Can I get your name?

JUDITH ALLEE: Judith Allee, Mental Health America of Licking County.

MR. ROBINSON: You know, this is in here. We're gonna do the question and answer session after we're done with this part of Matthew's presentation.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Oh, okay.

MR. ROBINSON: But if you ask a question, you must tell us your name, so that that transcriber can get it for the record. Thank you.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Okay. Sorry about that. All right. Let me hurry through here. I have a few other items here, and then we'll get into the Q & A's. Sounds like everybody has a lot of questions.

Some restrictions. Supplies, reasonable amount. I imagine that all of you will be doing traveling. So here's the nice little rule in travel. I'm being senicle. We follow the OBM policy. The Office of Budget Management has a

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website that's available and the policy is on their website. We reimburse for travel based on the state rate, not the IRS rate. This is very important, 'cause the state rate is lower than the IRS rate.

The state rate, I believe, currently

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is about .50 cents per mile, but it's gonna go down, I think .45 cents per mile in October. IRS rate is at .57, .58 cents a mile.

There's also some restrictions on overnight stays, it states on the policy, so if you guys are gonna do a lot of travel, please be cognizant of what we will reimburse for.

Now, if you have the means to absorb a higher travel cost and want to pay your staff the normal IRS reimbursement fee, that's fine, but we will only pay what the state reimburses us at and that is a lower rate, so let me be very clear about that.

The other thing, too, based on Tracy's requirements and the fact that we are in much tighter budget situation, we're not reimbursing for out-of-state travel, okay., everything is in state. This program will serve the 88 counties.

Now I just thought of it, there is a couple errors in the RFGA, so let me address that. Under the Regional Listings -- Can you save your question for the Q & A?

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Oh, we just

can't hear you back here.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Oh, okay. Sorry.

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UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Oh, that's all right.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: There is a couple things left out in the RFGA concerning the districts. There's a couple counties, it looks like, that stood out, but there might be some more. This program is open to all 88 counties, so you can apply.

The nature -- Let's talk a little bit about food, the purchase of food and beverages. This is a tricky situation for us in state government. Back in 2007, when Governor Strickland came in, he issued an executive order about food. Generally what this means for your programs, is we will not pay for reimbursement of food, outside of travel situation, and it's involving an overnight stay. But let's say you guys hold a meeting among your staff or if you enter in some sub-grant agreements and you sub-contract out services, we won't pay for what we would say, you know, if you're holding an administrative meeting, we're not gonna pay for the donuts and coffee, we're not gonna pay for the bottled water.

Now, if you're bringing in your clients, the actual participants in the program, the food is still possible at reasonable amounts. But

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you got to budget for it in your budget, and second, before you undertake such an agreement, please discuss it with Tracy and Karen or Sue or your assigned grant manager, Karen or Sue. It's very important to talk about that, 'cause there are some restrictions about food. And this is another thing where the state of Ohio being very cheap. I apologize for it, but, you know, we have to cut things down, and food is a tricky area, and a lot of hurt feelings get involved about this, and we're trying to correct it here and prevent that. So questions about, you know, food, food for clients and participants, you should discuss with your grant manager before you enter into or start up this activity that's gonna involve --

Now, if there's questions about food for the staff that's gonna participate at the meeting, you know, the answer is gonna be, "no." I mean unless they're on travel status and overnight status, has to be per OBM's policy, there won't be food. So the coffee and donuts on morning meetings -- And this is the same policy in the state of Ohio, so this is nothing new.

Now, walking down my little handwritten list here, sub-contractors. It's

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perfectly acceptable to use sub-contractors. However, the big issue, 'cause these are federal

dollars, TANF, is making sure you properly procure federal contract. We really can't see, because of Dave's situation, anything like that. The way around -- I can't say it's really a way around, but it's the method to follow proper procurement, would be many of you work with other entities already. You identify those entities and you are working with in your application process to us, you're awarded a grant, that will mean a definition of procurement for us. But you have to identify those in the time application.

Now, for those who are setting up a program and can't identify your subject, you may have to, depending on the dollar amount involved and the nature of the work, do a form of procurement afterwards. Does not necessarily have to be the same level of procurement the state of Ohio does, so don't be scared, it depends on the dollar amount. Say you use a \$100,000.00 grant, it may be a very simple procurement.

There is multiple forms of procurement if you look at the federal regs and the state regs. So, again, this is something we can discuss or if you

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have specific questions you can submit to us during the Q, A that we can look at the situations.

Let's talk a little bit about invoice. Most of these grants will be invoiced monthly. Usually in the state of Ohio we do monthly or quarterly, but quarterly is a very long period, so

what we've determined, and this worked well in the last program, monthly invoice is usually a very good length of time for everybody to invoice monthly.

The grant agreement will probably have a date that says the 10th or the 15th, but there is a little bit of flexibility in that, but we really do not want to see somebody get two or three months behind, that's a problem. So try to keep up, work with the grant manager, keeping invoices up-to-date so we can get money out to you and you can continue your program.

Gonna go back to TANF for a moment with incentives, gifts and stipends. In general we don't like to do stipends. If you give direct money or awards to participants, they have to be what's termed under the federal regs as "incentive." Which means that participant has to participate in some activity, completed some activity to get an incentive and it has to be reasonable. Of course we all know

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reasonable has a very open definition. So that's another thing you probably should run by the grant manager before you do it, okay, or better yet, put it in your application if you're already thinking it.

Some items, you know, cash is usually an okay thing, reasonable amounts of cash, but they really should be tied to that participant completing an activity. You know, showing up is generally not enough. Actually getting them in -- giving cash out

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and get them in there to complete a class. Okay. But if the class runs a long time, maybe you need to break it up beforehand. But you need to be very clear in your requirements to meet that. And if the participant doesn't meet that requirement, they simply don't get that award. Okay. So talk about that. So, you know, some incentives are okay.

What I would really like to get everybody away from are things like door prizes, you know, buying electronic games, giving away raffles. Please avoid it. If not, we're gonna ask you what -- how is this tied to the purpose of the program, how does this meet an incentive. You know, maybe somebody out there can make a reasonable argument, and my guess is, probably not.

For all you, when we manage the grant

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and follow the federal regs -- 10-45-CFR an easier way to get nice summary of that, is used to looking at the Office of Management and Budget, a series of circulars, I would advise all of you to go out and take a look at A-87, A-102, A-133 --

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Would you repeat that again?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: The federal regs that we follow, the Chairman -- are in Title 45. The Office of Management and Budget does a nice job putting these documents together in a summary under the A series of circulars: A-87, A-102 and A-133, those are the ones I would look at. And I believe

A-102 are not for profits. They're all very -- except for A-133 which gives -- A-87, the master circular, and then both A-102, A-110, A-122 are versions of different types of organization. So you go out and look at the one that applies to not for profit -- most of you are, but that's what we want to see. The county governments, there's is a different circular, but they have a lot of staying rules and regs, and those circulars do a nice job of summarizing.

Okay. I got two more things, and then I'm gonna turn it over to the Q & A and let you guys

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ask your questions.

One of the prohibitions that that the federal regs takes a very dim view on, and I did see a few of these in grants last year and that caused some problems is what they call "entertainment," Pure entertainment. We can't use federal dollars. This is not just a TANF description, this is a description of all federal dollars. We can't use items of full entertainment. Some examples, movie tickets, paying for amusement parks, paying for sporting events. You know, if they're gonna go there and participate in sporting events, that may be a different possibility, not pure entertainment. But paying for Indians or Reds games, going to the Cavaliers or Pacers, that's purely and entertainment activity and that's a no.

The last item I have to cover, reimbursement. TANF, by its definition, is a reimbursable grant. Generally what that means for you guys is you actually have to spend money for us to reimburse you. Okay. This is kind of a difficult concept, so let me give an example or two depending, and I imagine there will probably be questions and answers on this, but let's give an easy example first to talk about.

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You want to be reimbursed for a laptop. You actually have to physically buy the laptop before we reimburse it, okay. We can't enter into an agreement and then bill us and then we pay you and then pay, say, Dell, it won't work. You have to pay Dell first, then we will reimburse you for your expense to Dell, okay. That's an example of reimbursement. You put something on a credit card bill, you pay the credit card bill, we reimburse you.

Generally when you're invoicing, we will look for proof of reimbursement on your invoice. Doesn't mean we're gonna look at canceled checks and we will work with you guys to see what your county systems. 'Cause as I've learned over the years, everybody uses a different accounting system and they report things differently. But we actually need to see some form of proof that you made the expenditure. That is the key thing. You have to make the expenditure before we will reimburse.

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before, this is nothing new, those of you who haven't, this could be, just a little bit of a tricky issue for you. Keep that in mind as you're sitting of your program.

Okay. That's the end of my

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presentation. I think Tracy is gonna come up and Anthony and we'll help -- be available to help answer the questions here.

As Tracy had said, when you go ahead, ask your questions, raise your hand, we'll call you, state your name and organization and begin the question.

MR. ROBINSON: I want Anthony Norwood to come up, also. Now Matthew just went over a lot of technical information. Some of you might feel a little overwhelmed by that. I have a different message, you can do this, all you have to do is read the application, it's very simple. We tried to simplify it, but if you just read the application and follow the guidelines -- You got a question, you mail it in. You can do this. Who had a question? Tell me your name and then tell me your questions. Yes, ma'am.

SUSAN McCOMAS: And my question is: Can this be mailed, also, and what about walking the application in on September the --

MR. ROBINSON: No, you can mail it in advance. You don't have to wait till the day it's

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due, trying to get in there five minutes before it's done.

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ANTHONY NORWOOD: That is correct. You can send in FedEx, you can UPS, you can walk it in, mail it in, just make sure that it's in by the 3:00 o'clock deadline.

SUSAN McCOMAS: Thank you.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Postmarking, is that involved or does it physically --

ANTHONY NORWOOD: It has to physically be in our office by the deadline.

MR. ROBINSON: All right. I'm gonna take another question over here, then I'm gonna come over there. Yes, ma'am.

REMEL MOORE: Stark County Community Action Agency. I would like to know, since this is to be a regional program, can it be less than all of the counties in the region and can it be one county? So that's basically two questions. Or can it be one county?

MR. ROBINSON: It's okay with me if you're gonna focus on one county.

REMEL MOORE: Yes.

MR. ROBINSON: What's more important to me, is how many dads are you serving per month.

REMEL MOORE: Okay. I understand.

Thank you.

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MR. ROBINSON: Is there another question? Yes, ma'am. Tell me your name.

JUDITH ALLEE: Judith Allee. If the proposal itself is one that is prioritized, would the budget piece of that, if it was out of line, would that be negotiated, or is it all in one package and you take it or leave it? And that's it.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: That's kind of hard to answer. It depends on what the budget looks like. Minor discrepancy -- minor discrepancies or minor issues, we can work out and we can make adjustments. As I said, the budget is seen as a projection. We'd like as accurate, projection as possible, but we understand things change throughout the time of the grant. And this grant is gonna run for a year and a half roughly. You know, we understand things change, but I can't give you a real form, it depends. I mean, you know, it's a very basic budget, there's not a lot of details and so forth. I don't know. I mean, it's -- the budget gets scored. If you look at the scoring piece under RFGA, there is score.

You know, we're expecting a lot of applicants. So I would try to be as detailed and accurate as possible.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, ma'am. Tell me

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your name now. Let me repeat this. Before you ask a question, tell me your name.

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SUSAN ANSEL: My name is Susan Ansel

and I'm with FUEL Cincinnati, and my question is: If you're the main organization that has not two years of experience doing what the new model is, but your partnership organization has had more than two or three years, and their credentials to work with fathers are longer than that, will you still accept the plan of the main organization that does not have the two years, you know, to -- a prerequisite that you have two years experience in that organization providing that model?

MR. ROBINSON: Yes. And that's what we call "collaboration." Just make sure that you demonstrate that partnership in collaboration within your application.

SUSAN ANSEL: Okay.

MR. ROBINSON: All right. Yes, ma'am.

KERRIE CARTER: Kerrie Carter, WSOS Community Action Agency. I have several questions. In regards to the economic development regions that you've listed, may applicants apply for more than one region?

MR. ROBINSON: Yes. There's nothing

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that prevents you from doing that.

KERRIE CARTER: Okay. And for the budget, it's two separate budgets, one for the first fiscal year, which is based on the -- It says here "November 1" but you mentioned "October 1." So is it October 1 --

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MR. CUNNINGHAM: Well, I mean we tried again to guesstimate time frames. So we're probably looking at start dates some time in October, but, yes, the first part of your question is the budget has broken down fiscal year, that's a requirement with State Accounting. So we do an overall budget and then we do a breakdown budget per the year.

KARRIE CARTER: Okay. In regards to the 250 participants, is that per fiscal year or over the 18 or 20 months?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Ah.

MR. ROBINSON: I believe that the applications says 20 per month.

KERRIE CARTER: It says 250 participants, but it doesn't specify is it per year?

MR. ROBINSON: Well, here's the minimum expectations I'd like to have with these programs that are awarded these grants and that is that you at least do 20 per month and that you bill

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me on the 15th and your program reports in on the 15th. Don't want to over-complicate that, we'll make sure that we nail that down on the transcript that we'll post it on the website.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Thank you.

MR. ROBINSON: Okay. It says 250 for the length of the program, that's 18 to 20 months.

KERRIE CARTER: Okay.

MR. ROBINSON: All right. Yes, ma'am.

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KERRIE CARTER: Oh, wait.

MR. ROBINSON: I'll come back to you.

Yes, ma'am.

SHIPLEY NORWOOD: Shipley Norwood with Columbus Area, Inc. My question is more for eligibility and I need just clarification. In the application or packet it says that you must have two years experience in serving families and children. Isn't a prevention program that has been up and operating for 15 years, so we also do a re-entry program in terms of incarcerated men that offer and carry in program 2, and some of the families participate in our prevention program, also, attend those parenting programs. Because of services are kind of combined, would that still make us eligible?

MR. ROBINSON: It sounds eligible to

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me, but let me just expound upon that for a second. You know, everything that you just said, I didn't hear you say "father." And many times when I go out into the community there are mothers and children and families, kinship, grandparents, mentors, and some times I don't even hear the word "father." So if you're saying that we have experienced providing services to fathers and not just parents, then, yeah, of course.

SHIPLEY NORWOOD: Okay. Thank you.

MR. NORWOOD: Let me clarify the Q & A process. The Q & A period started when the RFP was posted to the web on July 31st. On July 31st. You

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have until the 17th to submit any questions. So if there is a program related question, make sure you send that in during the Q & A process. We have until the 28th to answer all the questions and post your answers. So any questions that you submit from now until the 17th, we have an answer for you by the 28th of August. So any program related questions right now, I would refer those to our email address and send those in during the Q & A process.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, sir.

WAYNE WISNIEWSKI: Wayne Wisniewski, Green County Family & Children First. I have a

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question. I understand TANF under this program, I didn't hear whether or not you are expected to do individual eligibility assessments for each one?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: No. This program is under Purpose 3 and the beauty of Purpose 3 is you don't have to do individual eligibility.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, sir.

PASTOR CARL LEE: Family Services Council. HIPPA compliance, does that call for -- does that call for certification or do you have compliance in the process?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Are you going to offer medical services? Yeah, our department, our department is also over Medicaid, and for that we had some general boiler plate in the RFP, but let me talk a little bit about medical services under TANF. TANF

cannot pay for direct medical services. Usually, I didn't see any of that last time, and I really don't think you have that this time in this RFGA, but TANF dollars can't be used for medical expenses doctor's expense directly.

PASTOR CARL LEE: Is counseling included in that?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: It depends on the nature of the counseling. Usually we can do

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assistance to get counsel usually. I mean, again, what specifically type -- what types of counseling are you thinking of?

PASTOR CARL LEE: Well I hard it referred to as "coaching," "teaching skills."

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Teaching skills, you know, might -- work related, can get jobs -- like that --

PASTOR CARL LEE: Families relationships.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Family relationship. That kind of counseling -- that counseling is possible, but we get into tricky areas as things like alcohol and dependency, psychological testing, psychological evaluations, things like that, that becomes very difficult to pay with TANF dollars.

PASTOR CARL LEE: Thank you.

MR. ROBINSON: I'm gone go back on this side and I'll be back. What is your name?

BURL LEMON: I'm sorry, Burl Lemon.

Tough learning. You had mentioned about the answers to this Q & A all being out August 28th, and I just wanted to share, I think all of us have a common feeling that a lot of our roadmap is gonna be developed and we want to have as much information so

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that come the 28th we're not waiting to necessarily have those in. So that's why our thought process and the questions may be coming for that reason.

But the question I have is -- and it was addressed previously under the grant, but: What is a participant? What are those 250 faces that we're speaking about? What's that clear definition of who is a participant? In some places of the language of the grant it refers to 250 fathers, it refers to 250 fathers and children.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Can I say -- I'll take a stab at that. Basically what I think Tracy is looking for in this program, people who actual father, children. They can still be in a marriage, or out of a marriage situation. They can be people that have custody, have custody or physical custody of children. I'll try to keep --

MR. ROBINSON: I think that's it, Matthew, I think that's it. What I don't want a debate what I told you. See, I call that mentoring. There's other mentoring grants. So I would actually like to have a father figure that have legal custody or living with them. It could be grandpa,

can be uncle. Don't have to be blood related, but that's the father. You know, some time you can ask

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the child, who's my daddy and they tell 'em, you know, that's it. Yes, ma'am.

VIRGINIA: Nicer Incorporated. My question is: Well, where does the prevention piece come in, prevention of father, fatherhood?

MR. ROBINSON: Well, see, I would expect you to tell me that. Okay. I mean, if somebody was doing a program to prevent premature fatherhood --

VIRGINIA: Right.

MR. ROBINSON: Even if they were spacing out unintended pregnancies, that they would have a group of men, maybe young men maybe teenage men --

VIRGINIA: Okay.

MR. ROBINSON: -- that they're working with and engaging them and measuring change of attitude and other things. I mean we have some very good programs do that. Yes, sir.

JEFF NICHOLS: My name is Jeff Nichols, Community Service Alliance. Is there a model program that could be put on the website that we could look at that you've seen success in the past, whether it's Ohio or some other state regarding fatherhood?

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And secondly, is there an anticipated breakdown of services, percentage for mentoring percentage for alcohol and drugs prevention in terms of how we should budget the program, or are you just letting us tap into what we already do or who we already work with?

MR. ROBINSON: I will answer the first question, and you can maybe handle the second one. I'm not into recommending any particular programs for individuals and organizations that are currently doing this work. I think that there's a certain degree of knowledge about the best practices in the community, nationally, even in the state of Ohio. If you just scratch around a little bit, you will bump into those programs quickly.

JEFF NICHOLS: How the services might go out in terms of percentage of mentoring, percentage of alcoholic drug rehab, what are -- are there guidelines that you would give us?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: There aren't actual guidelines. We would like to see what you propose. And I don't think there's one area that Tracy feels is stronger than the other, so we're looking at, you know -- because I think he will even take some programs that are only limited to mentoring or to

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dependency, because, but basically we're gonna have to look at each proposed application.

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JEFF NICHOLS: Lastly, I didn't see it in the application. Are there guidelines are on the font, margins, type size, all of that?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Page limits at the -- Well there are page limits to the application form. I believe there are individual links to each question and to the overall document.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, ma'am. Say your name again.

BARB BUSHMAN: Barb Bushman. Are you gonna work with across regions?

MR. ROBINSON: Work across regions? Okay with me, if you want to serve dads.

BARB BUSHMAN: Pardon?

MR. ROBINSON: It's okay with me, wherever you want to serve dads. Over here. Yes, ma'am.

KERRIE CARTER: Kerrie Carter, WSOS Community Action. In regards to if you're serving a whole region, every county within that region with your partners, do we have to -- it refers to County Commissioner letter and child services, administrator letters, do have to get a letter from every single

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county?

MR. ROBINSON: No.

KERRIE CARTER: Okay.

MR. ROBINSON: Just demonstrate that you have a collaboration. Yes, ma'am. Either one of you.

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TONI OTT: Toni Ott, Four County Family Center. My question is: Some times the relationship between the custodial parent and non-custodial dad is tenuous at best, could the TANF dollars be used to tie into a subsidized like mediation to try to work some of those things out who are also supporting fathers and legal avenues to protect his rights to see his children?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Yes, it can be. Yes, the answer to the question is yes, it can be used to pay for some legal services and activities for mediation, and I'm assuming protect the father's rights, basically a domestic relations content, yes.

TONI OTT: Thank you.

JAMI HIPPERT: I'm Jami Hippert, United Way of Central Ohio. I have two questions. One of the clarifying questions somebody asked can we only work in one county, I just didn't hear any answer to that question earlier?

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MR. CUNNINGHAM: The answer to that is, "yes," you can work in one county.

JAMI HIPPERT: Okay. And then one county. 50 to a \$100,000.00 project, is that per year or -- clarify that?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: So it's a maximum of \$100,000.00 per fiscal year.

JAMI HIPPERT: So there's a possibility it can be \$100,000.00?

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MR. ROBINSON: Yeah. What happens is in that transition between the biennium, for those programs that are meeting the expectations, serving those dads, turning those invoices in on time, turning in those program reports in on time, you know, we renew that and keep going. There won't be another RFGA in the middle of this next biennium, unless there's some money from somewhere else.

Okay. I'm gonna take two more questions over here. I'll be right back. Yes, ma'am.

SUE BOBSON: Sue Bobson, Action for Children. This concerns TANF eligibility. I know we don't need to pre-determination, but do we need to collect the father's social security numbers or address?

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MR. CUNNINGHAM: No.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, ma'am.

RENEE THOMPSON: Renee Thompson. I have two questions, but I think they are pretty quick. The first question regarding the child advocacy component. Does that need to be one of the four partners in the collaboration or is that an addition to the required number of the collaborations?

MR. ROBINSON: A very simple response to that is, however you want to form your partnership. Is on --that's prior to --

RENEE THOMPSON: It has to be a

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demonstrated that we have a child?

MR. ROBINSON: Yes.

RENEE THOMPSON: Okay. And then my second question, I just wanted to clarify about that participant piece, 'cause I'm not real sure, and this has to do with, what about teenage dads that may not actually be engaged. If I understand correctly the point of this is to try to get the fathers engaged. Does that also apply to teenage dads, A, to get them engaged and, B, even to talk about the abstinence piece in terms of, you know, prevention of out of wedlock?

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MR. ROBINSON: Yes and yes. Both of those two things are in my sections.

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Could you repeat the question, please? I'm sorry.

MR. ROBINSON: She said what about teenage dads who don't have a relationship with their children? I said, "yes." And then what about abstinence and trying -- Well, she said "abstinence," I call that, you know, spacing out planned pregnancies, so we don't have another accident.

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Thank you.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, ma'am.

CAROL GATES: Cleveland and Eastside Coalition. I just have a real quick question. For the 250 participants, over the life of the grant, is it a requirement that they be unduplicated

participants, brand new people that we never served in the previous grant?

MR. ROBINSON: Not in the previous grant. When you say "unduplicated," -- Let's say Tracy Robinson comes to your program in October, okay, and then I'm still there in June, I'm still one person. And you can't just say, okay, July I'll put Tracy.

CAROL GATES: Yeah, I understand that.

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But if we served Tracy from October to June and Tracy wanted to come back in November of '09, are you still Tracy or is that --

MR. ROBINSON: No, no, no. Everybody starts fresh come October 1.

CAROL GATES: Thank you.

MR. ROBINSON: Let me go back over here for a minute. Yes, sir.

ALDONIS GRIMES: Al Grimes, Cuyahoga County Fatherhood Initiative. I just wanted -- because -- I just wanted to clarify that the grant amount -- potential grant amounts over the period of time, are we saying that there can be up to a \$100,000.00 for the first nine months of the initial fiscal period, and then an additional \$100,000.00 for the following 12 months of the second half of that? That's my first question?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Correct.

ALDONIS GRIMES: Okay. Great. And then my second question was, one of the grants, one

of the stipulations in there, it talked about the target population. It says only these two criteria must be met and then an additional criteria. The first one was carrying out their appearance of and adversely becoming family to the fathers. And then

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the second criteria was, cohabitating fathers still living with their, with their children that are exhibiting high-risk behavior. But it seems to me now that the large element of dads who may be the non-custodial parent who are not necessarily habitating with their children but are, you know, are engaged in their childrens' lives. So how is that -- are those -- can those dads be included, although they don't necessarily meet the definition, they're not in an institution but --

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Yeah, dads that are non-custodial parents, non-resident parents if you're using child support, they can participate.

ALDONIS GRIMES: Okay. They don't have to meet one of these two along with the other ones?

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, ma'am.

KATHY: Kathy -- Family Initiatives. I want to clarify, as well, the participants. Middle School youth for preventative fatherhood, we can include them as part of our participants?

MR. ROBINSON: Absolutely. I have a 14 year old. You can just listen to the music they

have. Oh, absolutely.

KATHY: So those can be considered

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participants?

MR. ROBINSON: Oh, absolutely, just say I'm doing premature -- prevention of premature fatherhood.

KATHY: Okay. Great.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, sir.

RAY KHORAMSHAHI: I'm Ray Khoramshahi, I'm with Village Network. The partners that we identify in the proposal, can they -- they can also be sub-contractors, is that --

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Yes, that's correct.

RAY KHORAMSHAHI: Also, in terms of the page limits, I didn't see any reference in the RFP page limits. I don't know if I was missing something or?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: I don't think there's a reference to all the forms, because some of the forms, the mandatory forms required by contracts, they're at various lengths, so we didn't do an overall form, but there's a series of forms, and some of those forms have page lengths, that's what we need to look at.

RAY KHORAMSHAHI: How about the narratives, are the narratives sections, I didn't see any reference?

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MR. ROBINSON: It should say one page, two pages, it's there.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: It's there. Yeah, I'm pretty sure they're there.

RAY KHORAMSHAHI: Okay. I'm sorry.

MR. ROBINSON: As the person who has to read all of this, you don't I don't need a 25, 30 page narrative. You're serving dads and you are -- Excuse me. Appendix A is where it is.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Appendix A and I believe -- well, B is the budget. B is the -- A and B I believe if you look under each of the questions, they'll have a length requirement.

RAY KHORAMSHAHI: Okay. Thank you.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, ma'am.

KERRIE CARTER: Kerrie Carter, WSOS Community Action, and my question goes along with his, and I appreciate that he tried to simplify this, but I'm a little confused by this RPF because of Appendix A. To me Appendix A is basically -- your whole proposal is almost in Appendix A, correct?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Correct.

KERRIE CARTER: Where you talk about the tabs, a lot of that is an attachment, but then under 324, that's the deliverables, and each tab, Tab

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3-A through 3-F pertains to those deliverables, A through F, but really, I mean those are just a few

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sentences, so one tab for that and then Appendix A is pretty much the whole proposal. That's how I'm reading it?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Right. What we're -- what we tried to do is some of the tabs are still contracts and -- language, so probably be it's completely washed out, but what we tried to do with this process is, we want you to fill out what contracts -- attachments. And Anthony went over earlier, and then the appendix and the budget, that's it, that should be your proposal. So those series of forms back, that should be your proposal.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, sir.

KEVIN HOLMES: Yeah, my name is Kevin Holmes, I'm with Powernet of Dayton. Do we have to show matching funds on our budget, I didn't see anything about that in there?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: We didn't have a requirement for it on the budget, but obviously we list it in the discussion about reimbursement. There we understand will be matching funds. But we're not requiring where those funds came from and -- Some of your programs will have other sources of funding, by

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general experience, and that's fine. We don't need to see the details necessarily.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, ma'am.

REGINA C. MORGAN: Regina C. Morgan Lake County. I wanted to clarify, are two counties who are not in the same region okay to partner with

this grant?

MR. ROBINSON: I don't see why not.

I'm curious though, are you adjacent to each other?

REGINA C. MORGAN: Yes.

MR. ROBINSON: Okay. That's fine.

REGINA C. MORGAN: That was question 1.

Question Number 2. That on something about back up problems using staff, and that cannot be put in the budget for this grant, we have to pay for that as an agency, is that correct?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Yes.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, sir. Burl Lemon.

BURL LEMON: Burl Lemon. Two questions. The you -- Let's say you're allocated x number of dollars in the first fiscal year, and you have performed, but you haven't used all those allocated dollars, can they carry over to the next fiscal year?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: No.

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BURL LEMON: Okay. Number 2, is -- When you mentioned about "region," do you have to compare two different budgets because you are going to have two different regions being served? In your grant as last time, in the grant proposal, if you were serving -- if you have counties in another region, it required that you have two different budgets?

MR. ROBINSON: No.

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MR. CUNNINGHAM: No.

MR. ROBINSON: One budget per application. Yes, ma'am, in the back.

DEBORAH WATSON: Deborah Watson, Community Action Against Addiction. It relates to if you select a region and you are operating from a particular county, can you show that you're offering services to participants or to other people in other counties, is that -- you pick a particular county to operate from to show that you're reaching out and including people from the other county?

MR. ROBINSON: Yeah. Let me answer it this way. You can operate in one county or multiple counties, that's your choice. See, 'cause you're asking me if I want to do that and I'm gone be here in Columbus. All right. But I'm saying if you want

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to operate more than one county, yes. Yes, ma'am.

EMILY FORD: Emily Ford from Beach Brook. Would it be possible for you to share a list of the people who are here at this meeting so for those of us who might be interested in partnership we could see who the universe is?

ANTHONY NORWOOD: We can publish that on the web.

EMILY FORD: Would it do it before the 28th?

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, sir.

JEFF NICHOLS: Jeff Nichols, from Community Service Alliance, Cleveland, Ohio. That

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was a great question. Do positions have to be filled prior to filing application or can we list them as vacant?

MR. ROBINSON: They can be vacant.

JEFF NICHOLS: Thank you.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, ma'am.

KERRIE CARTER: Kerrie Carter, WSOS Community Action. In regards to the nine proposals that you plan on funding, will that be from nine different regions or will you possibly fund two or three in one region?

MR. ROBINSON: That's the proposal. I

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can do it all over the state, that's the proposal. Anybody else? Yes, ma'am.

DEBORAH WATSON: Deborah Watson, Community Action Against Addiction. So as it relates to the budget, you're not gonna be asking what is the total cost of the program between you're not really interested in other funds -- that's the question.

Question number 2 is as relates to preventing fatherhood or pre-premature fatherhood, do you look -- do you -- against, for or against abstinence based program, safe sex programs and et cetera?

MR. ROBINSON: Let me answer the second one. Let me answer the second one because I forgot the first one. However -- we need so much help in this state for the prevention of premature

fatherhood, that's your choice. I don't have a favorite way to prevent that, I only know a few ways. What was your first question?

DEBORAH WATSON: Are you gonna want to know the total cost of the program so you can see -- I mean are you gonna look more favorably upon proposal that is able to leverage other funds in such if you have an agency that has chemical dependency counselors and providing counseling and aren't really

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charging counseling to the program?

MR. ROBINSON: The budget is part of the proposal, it will receive a score. Of course, if you're leveraging other funds, I believe that that is a strength. Yes, sir.

ELI WILLIAMS: I'm Eli Williams. When it comes to the staff, experience and capability, may we combine the two primary positions that is Program Director and the Case Manager into one position for sack of budget?

ANTHONY NORWOOD: Two people in one question.

ELI WILLIAMS: Well, it's a \$100,000.00 in light of the smallest of that, can the Program Director and Case Manager be the same person?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: In the past we have had programs by two positions, but I would caution on the nature of the program, numbers you're planning to serve, the general structure. So if you are planning to combine your positions, I would take an

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opportunity to explain that a little bit in your application.

AL WILLIAMS: Thank you.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, sir.

CARL LEE: Carl Lee, Family Services

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Council. You partner with a 501-C-3, and you're a faith based organization, can the faith based organization be the lead organization?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Would the faith based be a part of 501-C-3?

CARL LEE: Partnering with an experienced 501-C-3 organization?

MR. ROBINSON: Let me answer it a different way to clarify it. Is the faith based organization in church moss or temple? Is the faith based organization a church moss temple?

CARL LEE: Yes.

MR. ROBINSON: Okay. No, the applicant would be the one with the 501-C-3 status.

CARL LEE: Okay. I saw in the RFP that counting the fiscal responsibility, that has to do with the lead organization? That's my second question.

MR. ROBINSON: The applicant has the responsibility for programming and invoicing.

CARL LEE: Thank you.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, sir.

JOHN DOWDELL: John Dowdell, Ashland

University. The question on a partner, can it be a national organization, not-for-profit or does it have

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to be state chapter thereof?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Yeah, it can be national. Can I just add something. The only thing I would be cognizant there is the out-of-state travel on it.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, sir.

SAM MILLER: Sam Miller, St. John's Baptist Church. Since this money is gonna give us the ability to expand programs, and we don't know the type of people that we'll be dealing with, does the program give -- what would be allowed to provide security -- will it pay for security in certain instances?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: There is no restriction with TANF paying for security. I mean, again, this is reasonable amount. You know, I kind of see that in TANF, something like equipment or that reason, within reason, within reason.

SAM MILLER: I mean that's the whole purpose of the program is to let these fathers back in, you know, with their children, but you don't know who you're dealing with some times, so that's the reason I asked.

Also if someone during the program gets kicked off, will the money that they've had be

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allotted to someone else? So like if you're three months into the program, someone does something wrong, will you look at another application to pickup someone else?

MR. ROBINSON: You mean a father got ejected?

SAM MILLER: No, I'm talking of the program itself. You have an unworthy, an unworthy dads?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Here's the thing, the account mechanism, each program, each of the nine applicants selected can get up to a \$100,000.00 per fiscal year, that's it. Any money that's, you know, that we incur from other programs, we would have redo a procurement process, and frankly the length of time that this takes, you know, it would not be feasible.

MR. ROBINSON: Time check. It's 25 minutes till noon. We do have this room reserved till noon. We don't have to use it every minute though. Yes, ma'am.

CAROL GATES: Carol Gates, Cleveland Eastside Coalition. Real quick, Tracy. On Page 3, Number 8 says applicant must keep equipment charges to a minimum. What is considered "a minimum?"

MR. ROBINSON: Well, I'll let Matthew

talk about that, since he's our TANF person, but I can give you the spirit behind the way I'd like to

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see it. Once again your budget will be evaluated and will be assigned points. I don't know if you read the paper, but, you know, there's a real tight budget in Columbus, really very serious. I mean, I'm looking for programs that has effectiveness and efficiency. And, you know, I have legislators that take a look at my programs and say, wow, why are you spending so much money on equipment? How much do you spend on staff? I have to defend that. Okay. So that's the spirit behind the way I say that. I believe there is a percent cap on administrative in this budget. So, Matthew, you want to talk a little bit more about this?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Yeah. Tracy is correct, there is a 15 percent cap on administrative. Now, depending on the nature of the program, we'll look at equipment cost and that'll be scores for the procurement process. But, I mean, let's be -- You know, I really hate being a standard of what we're looking at, but I think it's very safe to say that 70 percent of your budget request equipment, you're probably not gonna be selected.

MR. ROBINSON: And remember this, I

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said in the very beginning, I want to see dads be served 'cause they spend more time with their children. If they're not making any financial or emotional investment in their children -- that what I want to see programs help solve.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: I'd like to add one
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thing to that. It also -- we're gonna -- we are going to have a look at the type of program and the type of equipment purchased. For example, we've seeing a lot of standard office equipment, we're probably gonna rate that lower unless there is a program that take some sort of special equipment. We'll take that into the scoring -- Again, you know a lot of equipment --

CAROL GATES: Okay. That answers my question.

MR. ROBINSON: Keep saying the same thing -- Yes, ma'am.

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: I have three questions. Do children have to be under the age of 18 or can they be fathers of adult children or both?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: We don't really address that in our RFGA, but I would think as a review team looking at the scoring, I think we would give children and minors probably priority in the

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review process, but again it's not addressed. I'm not saying, no, so it's possible, but it depends on what type of program you're submitting, you know, how large a population.

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Same question. The two positions that you were talking about, do they need to be full-time positions or can they be part -- for instance, if you're putting it into an existing program, can we consider it part of three

program managers, for instance?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: They can be part-time positions. Again, going back to my creation of multiple funding sources, when I talked about that earlier. You know, some orientations depending on how the house is fairly large, large, probably have one person running multiple program costs and we would just ask prorated, we'd have to look at proration estimates as you could have our time.

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: A follow-up question to a question a gentleman over there asked. I just want to make sure that our proposal doesn't get thrown out. We're looking to serve individuals in a halfway house who are transitioning out, they clearly are not gonna meet to cohabitate. How do you suggest documenting that, because it sounds on the

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surface like they're clearly excluded? Is that clear?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: There are still fathers and they're non-custodial, correct?

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Yeah, but they're not cohabitating, they're in a halfway house.

MR. ROBINSON: They don't have to be cohabitating. I mean, if you also look at my statute. The statute from the fatherhood commission, there is a direct line about reconciling fathers with families who have a relationship in the Justice Center. We're not going to throw it out just because of that.

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UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Okay. It's just really clear in here, so I want to be really clear.

MR. ROBINSON: We're gonna serve the re-entry population. We will serve the re-entry population. Does that help you? I'm telling you I'm gonna serve the re-entry population. I don't know what else to say. Yes, ma'am.

DEBORAH WATSON: Deborah Watson, Community Action Against Addiction. Will there be site visits from your staff throughout the program and are there any mandatory meetings, training or conferences that needs to be built into the budget?

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MR. ROBINSON: Yes, they'll be site visits, I will personally come by.

DEBORAH WATSON: Thank you.

MR. ROBINSON: Number 2, we will encourage conference participation. You know, for example, you see a flyer back there we are hosting the financially fit fathers program, not required as part of your grant. So, no. What else did you want to know?

DEBORAH WATSON: That was it. Thank you.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, sir.

JEFF NICHOLS: Jeff Nichols Community Service Alliance, Cleveland. Does the 15 percent administrative cost apply to subs as well as or just the lead?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: 15 percent

administrator cost covers the entire budget of that. So your sub's cost will be factored into that. Now, I mean as a rule of thumb, generally we don't dictate to you if you want to pay your sub more than 15 percent. But as a rule for, you know, if you look at A-1-33 and general accounting practices, I'm not real sure you want to go high but --

JEFF NICHOLS: So 15 percent of the

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whole budget?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: 15 percent of the whole budget. Before we take another question, can I go back to Al's question for a moment. If you -- I think it's 1.6-B, project target population. If you look at 9, it states who are transition out of criminal justice system, how to partner a transition out of the criminal justice system.

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: It says you must meet one of two criteria -- of two criteria first, and then the second one, so that's why I was questioning it, because they wouldn't meet one of the first two, 'cause it looks like it was screening them out before you ever get to Number 9.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, ma'am.

JODY: My questions is: Follow up on that, is I work with incarcerated parents who are not re-entry dads and is that gonna be a population that can be accessible in a couple years of re-entry?

MR. ROBINSON: Yes.

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JODY: To be a father from prison?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Go back to your question. For adult fathers, I don't see an issue, as long as Tracy's on. My concern is TANF prohibits juvenile justice activities. So if these are

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juvenile fathers, through DYS that can be an issue.

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Thank you.

MR. ROBINSON: I just want to add one little caveat.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: The issue is: TANF has kind of broad prohibition against juvenile justice spending dollars in juvenile justice activities and I'm sitting here trying to think through this, but these activities, these are still incarcerated juvenile fathers, that's still a juvenile justice activity, I think that would be an issue. I have to take that back to our policy shop.

I think adult fathers, I think are fine, but unfortunately I think the juvenile fathers, this is a question I have to run through our policy shop.

MR. ROBINSON: I want to just add one caveat to that. Grant management who will conduct this session is gonna add I know one has already posted a re-entry grant that dealing particularly with the issue you keep bringing up, and I think there is a second one that's about to be posted. So for those of you that have a part of re-entry, that

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grant is called a re-entry grant on fathers. Yes, sir. I'm sorry, your name, sir.

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ALDONIS GRIMES: Oh, I'm sorry, Al Grimes with Cuyahoga County. It says that the project completes the grant under the original grant ends June 30th of 2010. I'm assuming if you're doing everything right, there will be some type of amendment to the original grant that would be worked out or signed prior to the end of that?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Correct.

ALDONIS GRIMES: How close to the end do you anticipate that happening, so people can appear or know whether they're gonna -- whether or not they're gonna be refunded for the second year?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Well, Tracy may have a different view, but my experience is to get an amendment done, we're gonna have to be making those decisions in April.

ALDONIS GRIMES: So April, great.

Thank you.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, ma'am.

REMEL MOORE: My name is Remel Moore, Stark County. In the announcement it says, the Ohio Fatherhood Initiative will come between 8 and 20 organizations. Is there any likelihood that there will be funding for more than 9 that you mentioned?

MR. ROBINSON: It might be, depends,

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if I get, you know, two or three \$50,000 applications, if I get, you know, all 800,000, it just depends on what I get, but the answer, yes. Yes, sir.

BURL LEMON: Burl Lemon. As a previous recipient of the grant, is there a requirement to write an entirely different proposal or can we build on what we've already started in the dollars that have already been invested?

MR. ROBINSON: This is a new RFGA, new RFGA. I wouldn't recommend somebody. Yes, sir.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: I don't think that's really what he's asking, but in terms of the technical submission, yes, this is a new RFGA.

BURL LEMON: Right.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: You pay for it, but in terms of continuing this program, that's really the question, correct?

BURL LEMON: That we're, yes, that we're building?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: I mean as long as it meets -- You know, there's a few different requirements in this RFGA, as long as that program can meet those requirements, I don't see an issue. Sorry.

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MR. ROBINSON: That's okay. Maybe we're done. Oh, no, there's one more.

JONES: Jones. Community Housing Network. With this grant, how as far as waiting on it would there be a strong waiting line to show a stable -- or sustain after a year or two, would that be something that would help?

MR. ROBINSON: Oh, absolutely, sustainability is always key. In a budget when you show your budget, you tell us about your program, you know, so that you're not contacting me right before this grant expired instead of asking me what am I gonna do to keep your program running, I love to see that.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: But to add to that a little bit, if you look at the scoring, I don't think there is a specific question, these are evaluated. There is an attachment where it shows the scoring sheet. I would advise everybody to take a good look at that as you answer your question. That's a very good guide.

Having been on many of these, project review, proposal review teams, we really don't have the time to deviate from that structure and we won't do it.

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MR. ROBINSON: Ten minutes, ten minutes. Yes, sir.

SAM GRESHAM: Sam Gresham, Ohio Commission on African American Male. Could you clarify the definition of two years experience in the fatherhood model, what does that mean?

MR. ROBINSON: Well what I'm looking for are organizations who have experience serving fathers. See, when you have an organization that doesn't have experience serving fathers, the start-up time takes a long time to get going, and then they get into serving dads and they go, oh, you know, I need to train my staff on this. This is different than parenting skills. And then they find out, hey, you know, men come with a bunch other issues that we're not used to having, so we need to bring in some mentors and some coaches in here to kind of support. So what happens is, for those who have been serving, they already know that. Then they'll go, oh we need to get curriculum. See, those things should already be in place.

SAM GRESHAM: It doesn't mean successful applicant to you at all?

MR. ROBINSON: I'm sorry, I missed your question.

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SAM GRESHAM: It doesn't mean that person needs to be a successful applicant of your funding at all?

MR. ROBINSON: No, sir.

SAM GRESHAM: Okay.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, sir. Tell me your name again.

JUDITH ALLEE: Judith Allee. Is there a wait that goes with best practice versus

innovation?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: The only waits are identified on the scoring sheet, and I don't think that is an actual question though.

JUDITH ALLEE: Thank you.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, sir.

PASTOR: I'm pastor, Bethel -- Church. How much for the collaboration weigh in the final analysis. And I'm also for partners -- we have a 196 churches in Ohio and we're trying to do a collaboration --

MR. ROBINSON: That was a great commercial there, Pastor.

PASTOR: But how much for the collaboration?

MR. ROBINSON: Yeah, I'm gonna start

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responding that. If you follow what Matthew just said -- the scoring sheet is in there, we're not hiding it from you, and you know, and I'm not telling you how to do your program, but sometimes you start looking at scoring sheet, 'cause I don't get what he's asking versus what I want him to know. Yes, yes, anymore questions? Yes, ma'am.

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: These are working with under the users model, do we have to fund that or is that incorporated as part of the?

MR. ROBINSON: You mean the evaluation?

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: The evaluation.
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MR. ROBINSON: I'll take care of that, just need you to participate in the funding. Anybody.

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: What was that answer, I'm sorry?

MR. ROBINSON: I'll fund, no. The evaluation will not come out -- Funding for the evaluation will not come out of this grant, I'll handle that separately. Anymore questions, anymore questions? Yes, ma'am.

MINDY DYER: Mindy Dyer, HHW PCAC. We just have a question in the RFB -- How would we go

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about getting a previous grants that have approved? How would you go about that process?

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Question, would you repeat the question?

MR. ROBINSON: She said how would you go about getting a copy of a previous approved grant?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: I think we are just asking that as part of your experience requirement, so you just need to list those. You don't need to actually provide us a copy.

BURL LEMON: How does she request a copy of prior grants? You know what section that is?

MR. ROBINSON: Ladies and Gentlemen, we're almost done. I see you want to fellowship together. We gone allow you to do that, and we're gone officially close this meeting after Matthew

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answers this.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: We're gonna stick with my answer, we're gonna -- That's some form of oversight on our part.

MR. ROBINSON: Ladies and gentlemen, I want to thank you for coming today. I'm encouraged, I'm motivated, I'm inspired and I know some good work is gonna be done. Fathers and children are gonna be served. Thank you. Safe travels back home.

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(At 12:00 noon, the bid conference adjourned)

C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF OHIO)
) SS:
COUNTY OF FRANKLIN)

I, Terence M. Holmes, a duly qualified and commissioned notary public within and for the State of Ohio, do hereby certify that at the time and place stated herein, and in the presence of the persons named, I recorded in stenotypy and tape recorded the proceedings of the within-captioned matter, and that the foregoing pages constitute a true, correct and complete transcript of the said proceedings.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand at Cincinnati, Ohio, this 14th day of August, 2009.

My Commission Expires:
July 28, 2012

Terence M. Holmes
Notary Public - State of Ohio

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