

Supporting System Involved Young Fathers to Thrive: A Holistic Approach to Program Implementation

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF)
Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program Grantee Conference

Presented by The Ohio Department of Youth Services and the Youth Law Center's Just Beginning Program



2023 ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY PREVENTION GRANTEE CONFERENCE

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MAY 23-25 | ATLANTA, GEORGIA

FYSB Family & Youth Services Bureau
Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program

ADMINISTRATION FOR **CHILDREN & FAMILIES**



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Meet Your Presenters

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Youth Law Center

Just Beginning Program



Who's in the Room

Audience Engagement





Understanding the Problem

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Why Working With Incarcerated Young Parents Is Important

- 2.5 million children in the U.S. have a parent in prison
- **92%** of incarcerated parents are fathers. (King et al., 2015)
- Estimates of **20 to 30%** of all incarcerated **teen males** are fathers (OJJDP, 2002)
- 2-generational problem
 - Children of incarcerated parents are at higher risk of negative outcomes including delinquency and at risk of becoming incarcerated parents themselves.





Holistic Approach to Program Collaboration

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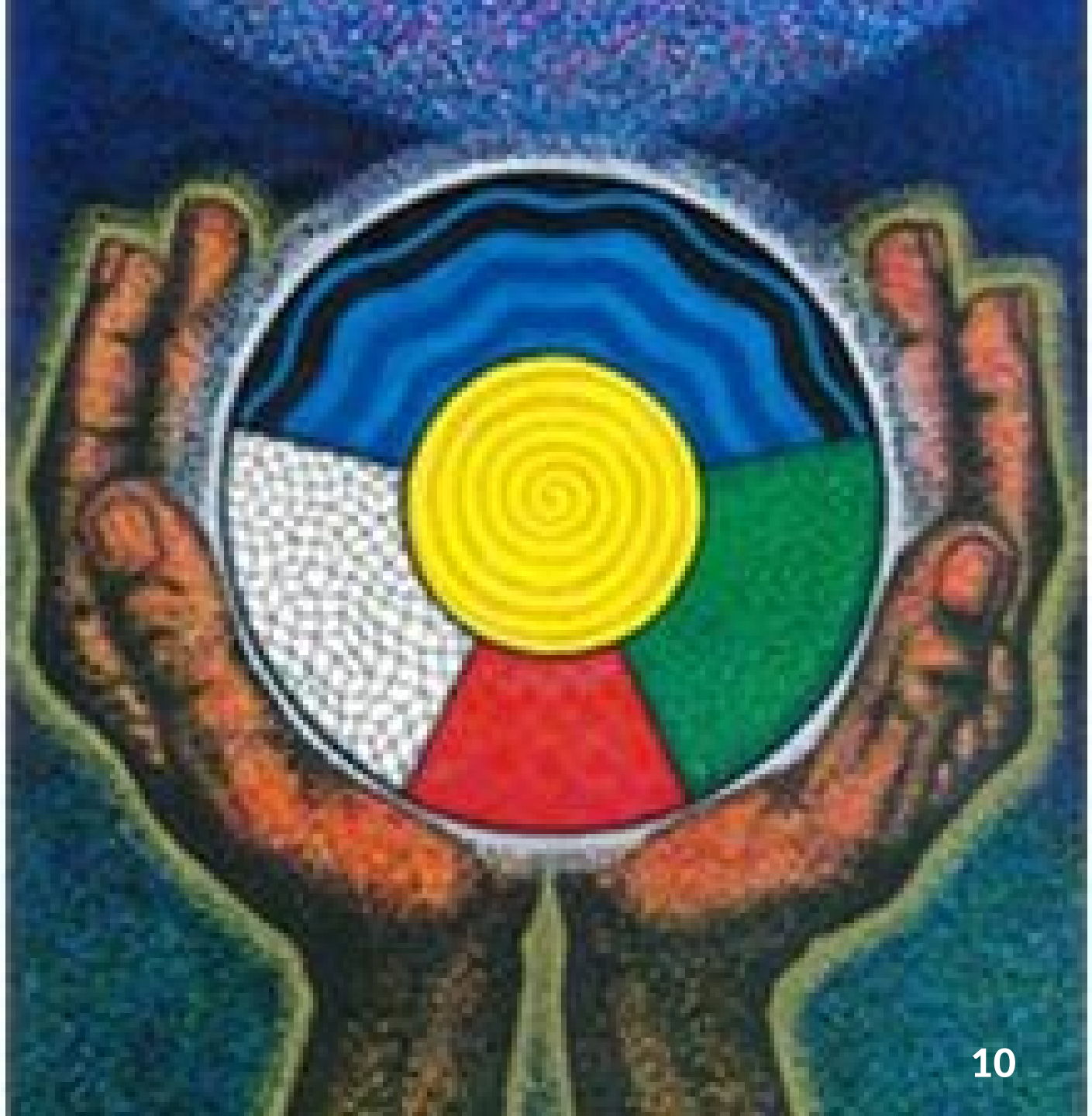
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Every Child Matters (ECM)

Every Child Matters (ECM) is

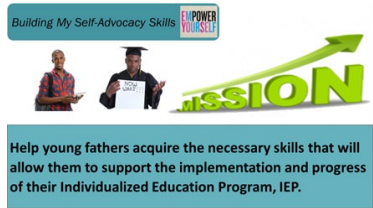
- A collaboration of the Ohio Department of Youth Services (DYS), local, national, and international parenting practitioners, community partners and providers, and other state agencies.
- Services address the needs of incarcerated teen parents and their minor children.
- Programs are delivered using trauma informed care and evidence-based curricula through a continuum of transitional and aftercare planning.
- ECM serves young parents in ODYS facilities, at contract facilities and released to parole.
- Programming includes best practices in relationship development, pro-social skills, parenting, and reentry







Department of
Youth Services

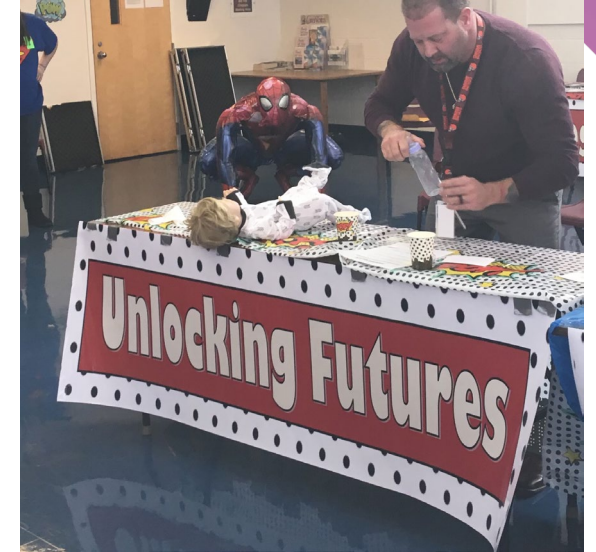
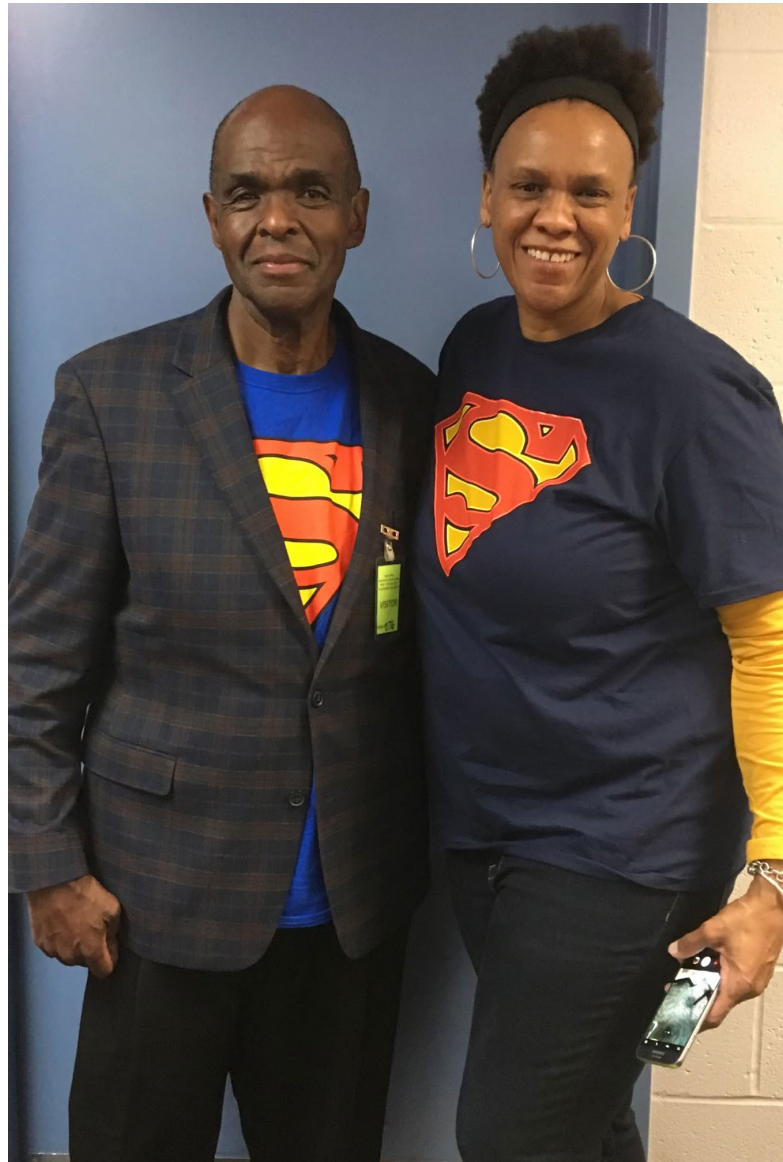
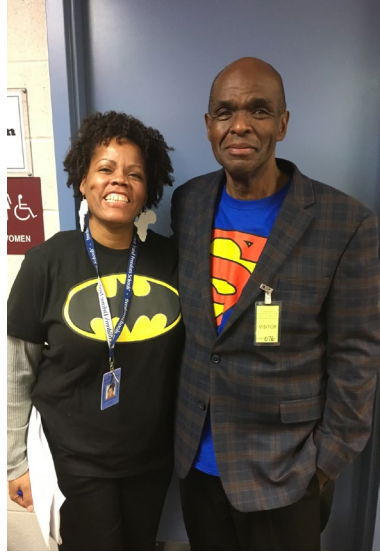


Help young fathers acquire the necessary skills that will allow them to support the implementation and progress of their Individualized Education Program, IEP.



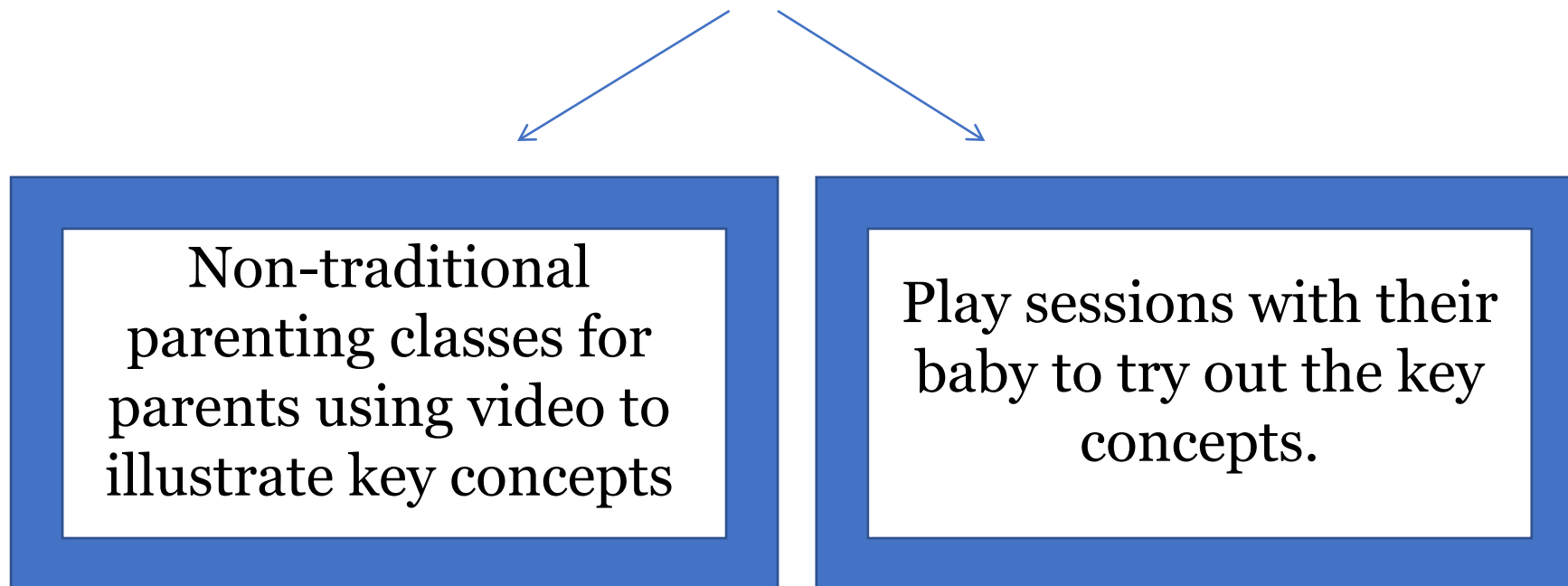
- Collaboration allows for a broader perspective and expertise from multiple organizations or stakeholders
- It results in the development of more comprehensive and effective programs and interventions
- Collaboration helps to identify and address gaps or barriers in existing services or systems
- It allows for the sharing of resources, reducing duplication of efforts and potentially saving time





Overview of Just Beginning

Just Beginning gives fathers the tools and skills to develop a positive relationship with their baby and maintain that relationship.





JB Rooms

The Just Beginning Approach

Learn

Do

Reflect

Engagement and Incentives



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Engaging Fathers

- Create a safe and welcoming environment for young fathers
- Provide opportunities for fathers to connect with their children and families, including virtual visits
- Foster a sense of belonging and community among young fathers.
- Programming that's engaging and age appropriate
- Actively seek program feedback

Sample Virtual Engagement





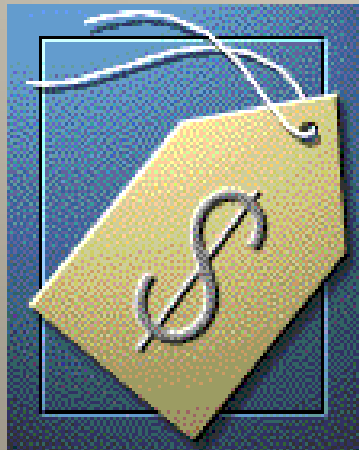
**the
PRICE
is
Right**



How much does
a box of 96
diapers cost?



Size 1 = 8-14 pounds



\$ \$ \$



\$28.49

Bonus Question: How many diapers does an infant go through in ONE day?

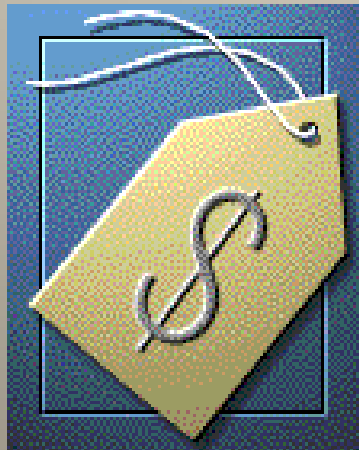


12!

On average, you need to change a baby's diaper every 1.5-2 hours!!!!!!



How much does a
30.8 oz container
of formula cost?



Stage 1 = Birth - 12 months



\$35.49

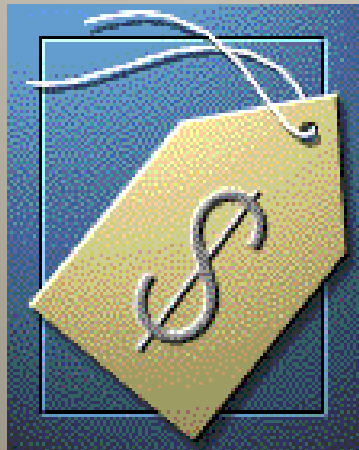
Bonus Question: On average, how long will this 30.8 oz. container last?



6-7 days!



How much does
an all-in-one car
seat cost?



The Graco 4Ever All-in-1 Car
Seat gives you 10 years with
one car seat.

\$ \$ \$



\$329.99

Bonus Question: If you have an infant car seat, it requires a base! How much does a car seat base cost?



\$67.49!

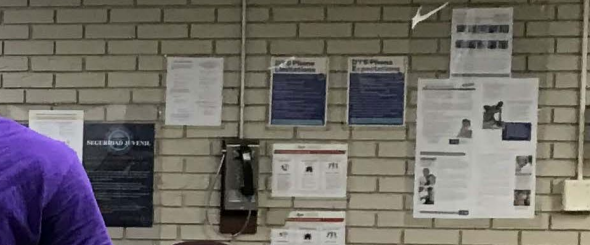
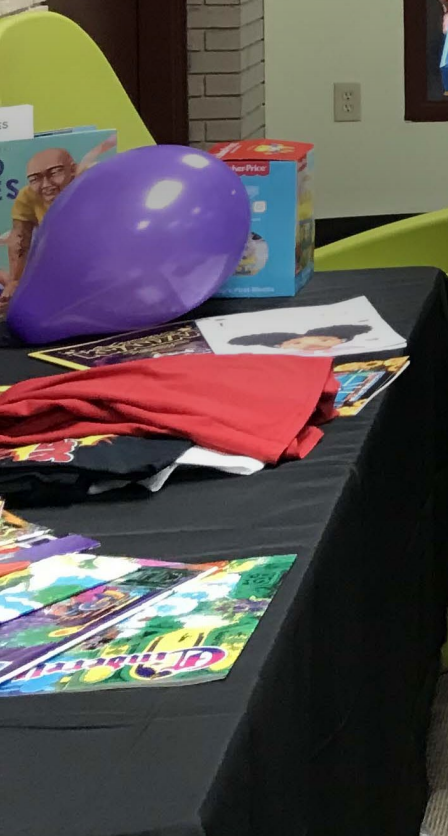
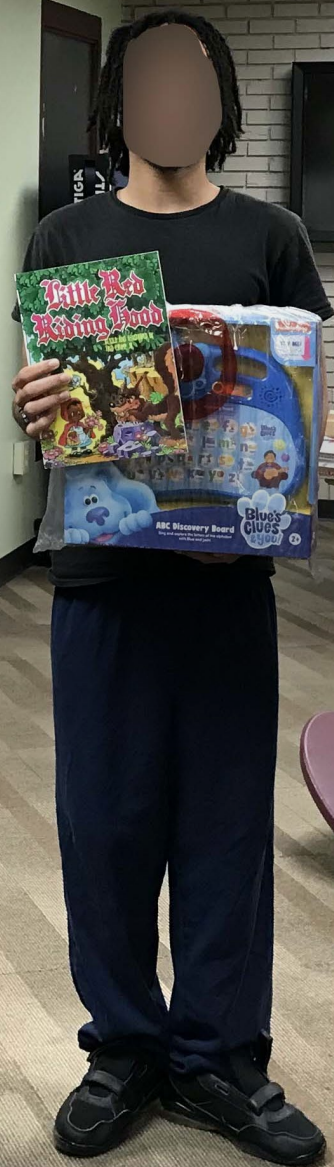
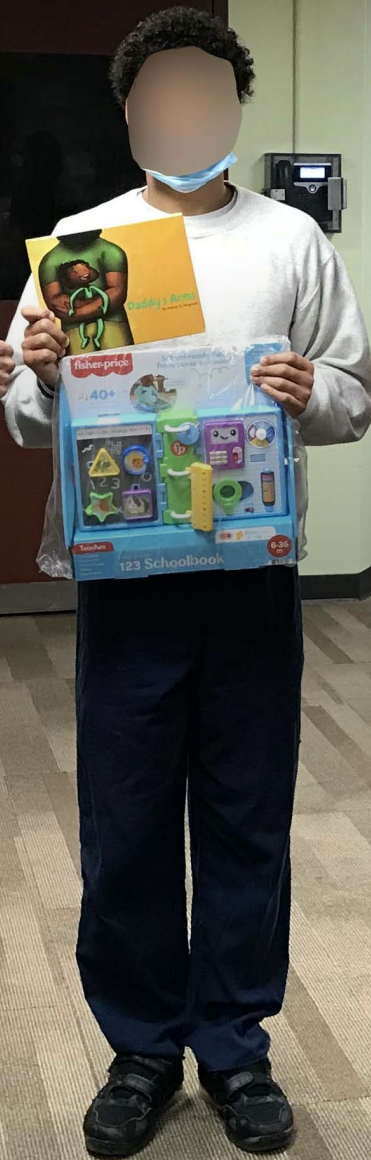
Incentives

- Offer fathers immediate opportunities to parent
- Support fathers in being part of child's big milestone moments
- Encourage and support fathers' involvement in their children's lives, both during and after incarceration.









Utilizing Technology

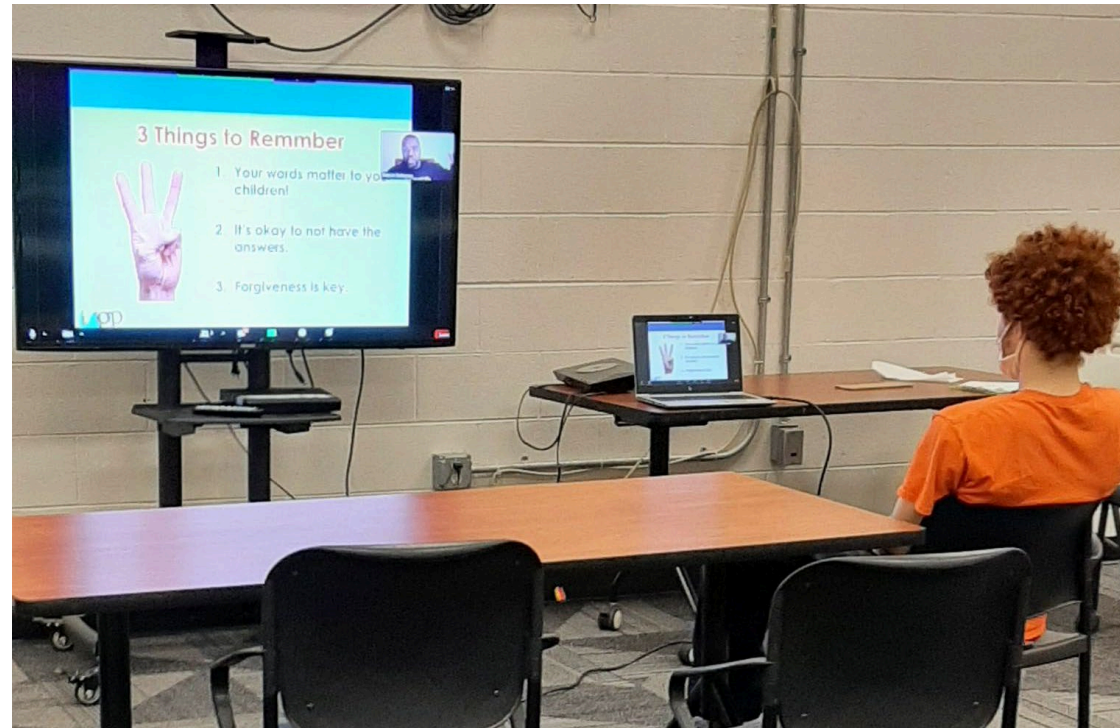
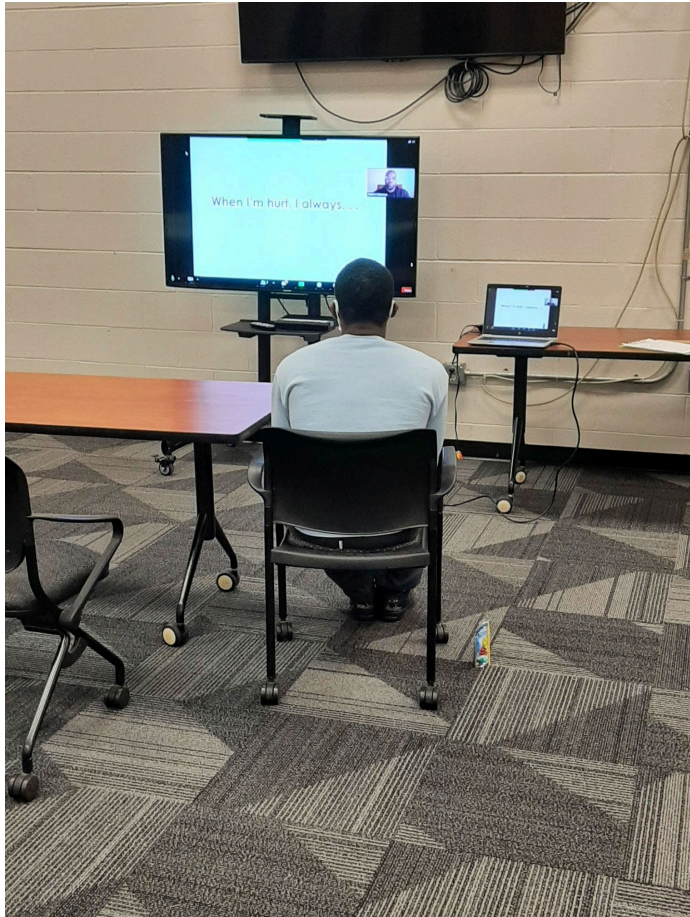


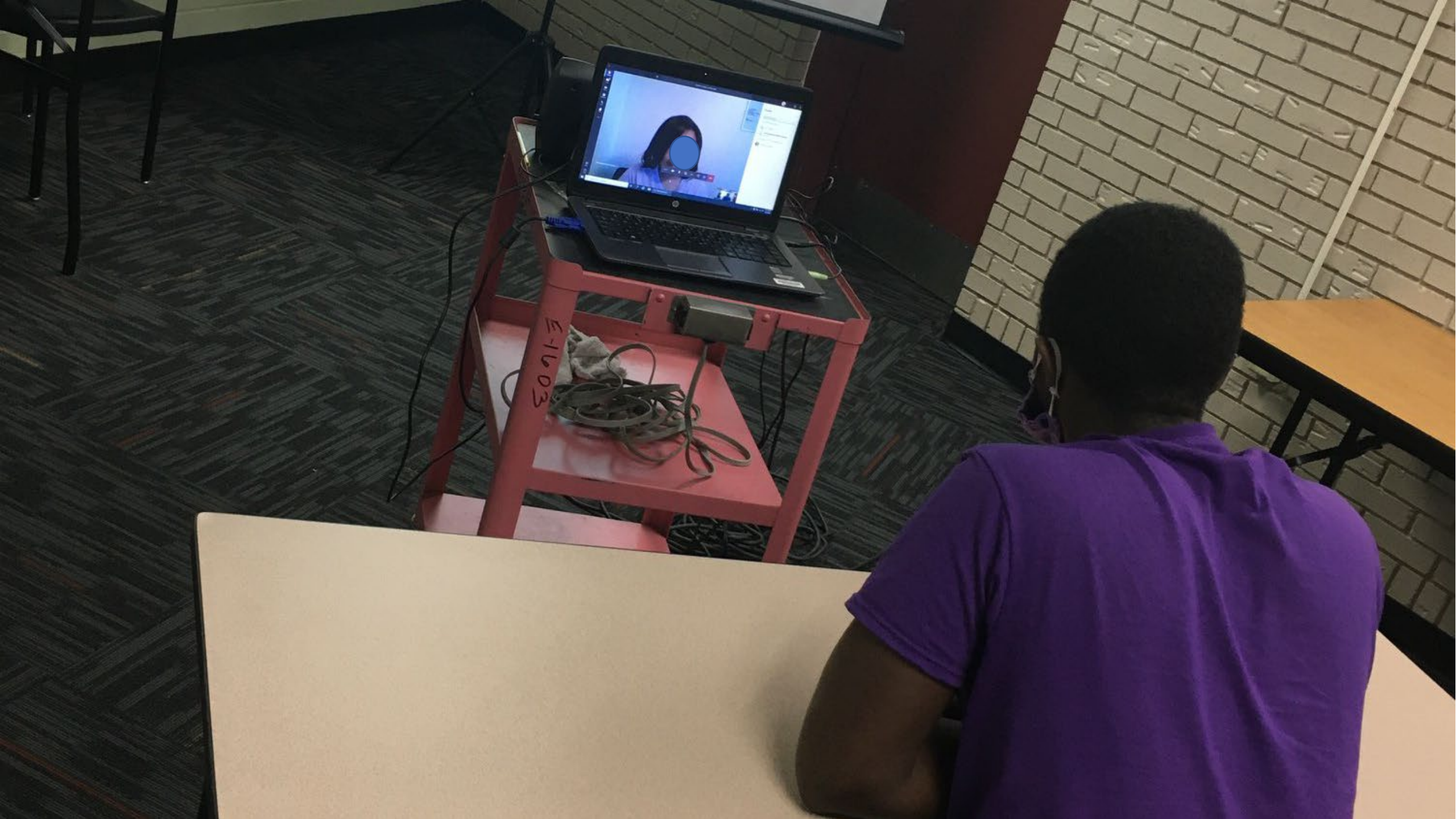
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Adapting to Covid-19





Bonding with Books



Bonding with Books

Read to Your Baby

Reading to babies gives them information about the world around them.

It creates the **loving, secure relationships** necessary for healthy growth and development.



Read to your baby,
On the bus or at home.
Picture, words, and sounds
Are everywhere you roam.

Hearing words and seeing pictures helps babies learn new sounds and recognize images.

Read to your baby,
Five minutes or an hour.
Time doesn't matter.
It's your voice that holds power!

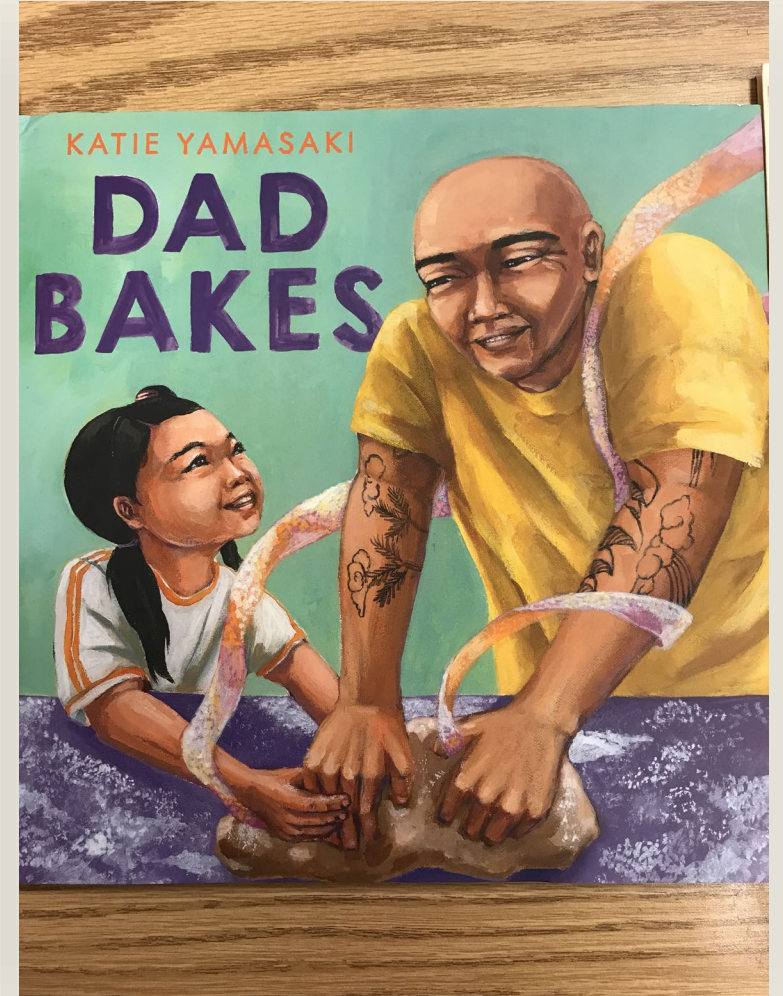
The **emotional and expressive** sound of a loved one's voice is soothing and powerful for babies.

Read to your baby.
Hold your little one tight.
Whisper love stories
Morning, playtime, and night.

Reading to your baby builds a **bond** that lasts through the years.



The Conversation equips Ohio's families, educators, and policymakers with evidence-based knowledge and resources to support the language, literacy, and social-emotional development of young children through rich conversation about storybooks.





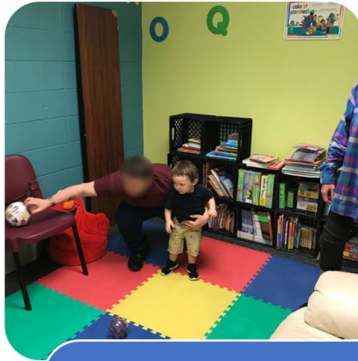
Systemic Solutions

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Policies to Support Fathers



Participating
in ECM
programming
at Facility



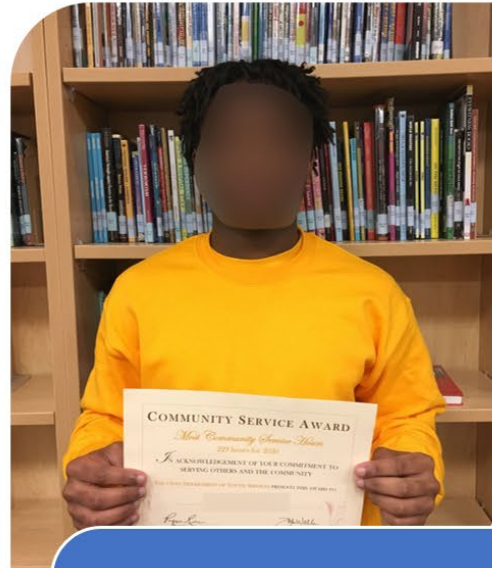
Just Beginning
visits and
other ECM
programming
in Facility



Returned
home and
spending
quality time
with child



Holding Child
For 1st time at
facility



Improved
Behavior in
Facility
Recognized for
most community
service hours



Celebrating
Daughter's 2nd
Birthday with
ECM Virtual
Programming

Summary



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Thank You

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Youth Law Center / Just Beginning Program

Session Evaluation

Please complete a brief evaluation form for all workshops and panels on Tuesday, May 23 and Wednesday, May 24 by scanning the QR code below or visiting the following link:

<https://tinyurl.com/SessEval232323>

