

**Partnering for Progress**  
Presented by Kanawha Institute for  
Social Research & Action, Inc.  
(KISRA)



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# Overview

“ Who we are

“ What we do

“ Fatherhood & Re-Entry  
Focus

“ Key Partners

“ Partnership Experiences

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# Who we are

“Kanawha Institute for Social  
Research & Action, Inc.

“ Faith-motivated and  
community-serving initiative  
that was started by Ferguson  
Memorial Baptist Church  
(Dunbar, WV)

“ 501(c)3 organization

“ Established in 1993

“ First initiative (Harambee  
Learning Center) began in  
1998



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# Who we are: Our Vision & Mission

“ Our vision is that communities in West Virginia will be strong and self-sustaining.

“ Our mission is to serve and empower West Virginians through education, employment, economic empowerment, and behavioral health initiatives.



# What we do

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## Education

- Harambee Child Development Center
- Harambee Learning Center
- Harambee Teen Achievers
- Promoting Responsibility Education Program

## Employment

- KISRWorks!
- WV Pathways to Responsible Fatherhood Initiative
- Second Chance Mentoring/Re-Entry

## Economic Empowerment

- Financial Fitness
- Homeownership
- Business Development

## Behavioral Health

- Compeer Friends
- AmeriCorps
- Care Coordination
- Family Planning Clinic



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# Fatherhood & Re-Entry Focus

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# Our Resources

“ USDHHS/ACF/OFA/Path  
ways to Responsible  
Fatherhood

“ USDOJ/Second Chance  
Act Re-Entry Mentoring

“ WV Division of Justice &  
Community  
Services/Justice  
Assistance Grant





WEST VIRGINIA

**pathways**

TO RESPONSIBLE FATHERHOOD

**initiative**

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# Fatherhood Target Audience

Fathers who are:

1. present TANF recipients, former TANF recipients or whose children are receiving TANF; or
2. 200% or below the federal poverty level; or
3. within 6 months of their release from prison; or
4. previously incarcerated.



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# Fatherhood Program Design

“ See handout



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# Planned Outcomes

“ **Long-Term Outcome:**  
To increase child and family well-being.

“ **Intermediate Outcome:** To empower fathers with the skills and resources that they need to succeed as fathers and as providers.



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# Second Chance Mentoring



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# Mentoring Target Audience

Parents who are:

- “ aged 18 and older; and
- “ convicted of non-sexual crimes as adults; and
- “ imprisoned in state prisons and jails; and
- “ returning to Kanawha, Putnam or Cabell Counties.



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# Mentoring Program Design

“ See handout



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## Planned Outcome

**“ Long-Term:** To increase public safety and reduce recidivism among previously incarcerated persons returning to Kanawha, Putnam and Cabell Counties, West Virginia.



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# Key Partners



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# Key Partners - Local

- “ County Family Courts
- “ Ministerial Alliances –  
Charleston & Huntington
- “ Ferguson Memorial  
Baptist Church
- “ Charleston Police  
Department

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## Key Partners – Local (cont'd)

- “ City of Dunbar
- “ Day Report Centers
- “ Housing Authorities
- “ Office of Research & Planning/Criminal Justice Statistical Analysis Center (Dr. Haas)
- “ Local Domestic Violence Programs

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# Key Partners - State

“ WV Division of  
Corrections

“ WV Bureau of Child  
Support Enforcement

“ WV Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence

“ Workforce West Virginia



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# Key Partners - Federal

“ Federal Bureau of  
Parole

“ Federal Re-Entry  
Taskforce

“ DISMAS



# Partnership Experiences

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# Partnership Experiences

- “ Local
- “ State
- “ Federal

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QUESTIONS?



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# Contact

“ Carl Chadband, M.Ed.,  
COO

“ [Chadband@kisra.org](mailto:Chadband@kisra.org)

“ 304.768.7900

