
Approved Funding Summary

Initiative:	Healthier Beginnings
Project Name:	Mentoring of Moms (MOMS) & Dads Program - Year 12
Funding Period:	February 1, 2022 – January 31, 2023
Date of Funding:	February 1, 2022
Project Coordinator:	Kathleen Richard, LMSW
Project Administration:	Life Choices of North Central Louisiana
Total Funding Approved:	\$61,000.00

Program Summary

The Mentoring of Moms (MOMs) Program has been funded by the Foundation since 2010. In 2013, the program was expanded to include the mentoring of fathers-to-be (DADs Program). In its first year as The Mentoring of Moms & Dads Program, a Fatherhood Program (DADs) Coordinator and a MOMs Program Coordinator were hired. Life Choices is currently overseeing 22 active mentoring matches, with 4 of those matches involving fathers-to-be. Over the course of the grant, there have been 167 mentors matched to Life Choices volunteers. Since 2013, the program has continued to grow with successful matches involving the MOMs program, as well as the DADs program.

This grant exists to provide “at risk” young mothers, mother-to-be, and fathers-to-be in Lincoln Parish with mentoring-based resources that promote healthy lifestyles through effective mentoring relationships, educational resources, and development of client’s ability to make good decisions.

For Year 12, the following goals have been established:

- 25 active cases by January 31, 2023, 1 of which to include men (Dad/Mom matched with husband/wife mentors)
- Pre-term birth rates among MOMs clients to be equal or less than the Louisiana average
- Low-birth weight babies among MOMs clients to be equal or less than the Louisiana average
- 50% of pregnant Mentee Moms will attend Baby Steps class

- 33% of men participating in DADs program will attend educational classes
- 60 men will attend Fatherhood visits
- 75% of Mentees will establish a strong rapport with mentors, as evidenced by 'end of year' surveys
- 75% of Mentees will report positive changes in their life after being matched with a Mentor, as evidenced by 'end of year' surveys
- Mentees will participate in classes offered by Life Choices and other community partners
- 10 men will attend at least one extra-curricular event.