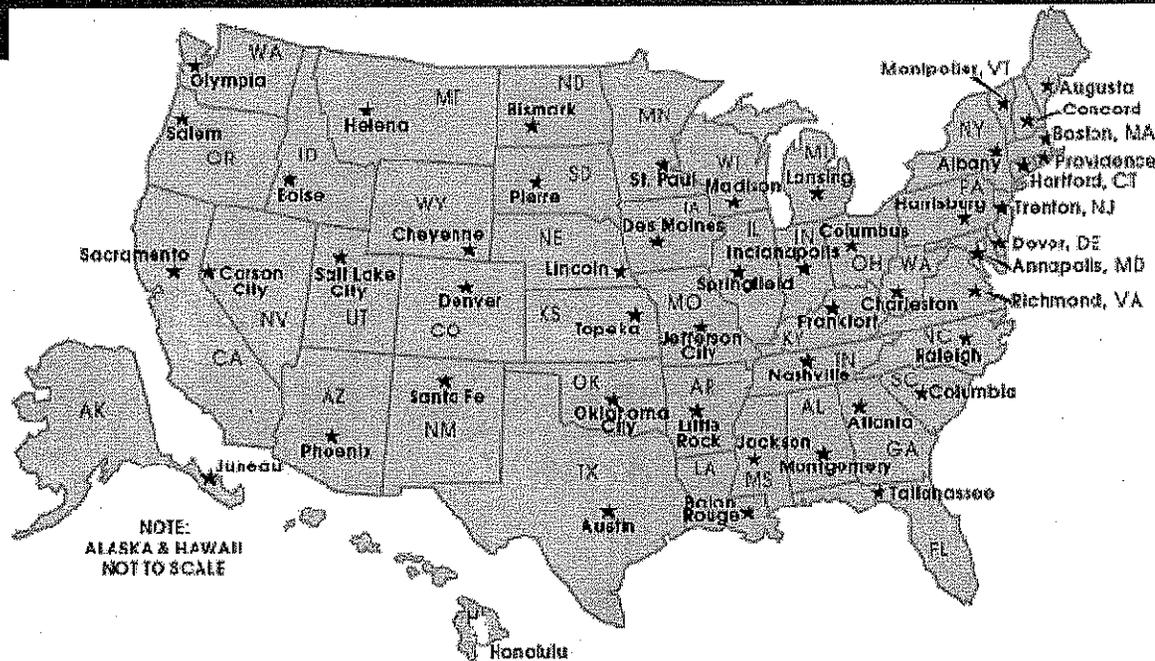


Building a Statewide Fatherhood Service Delivery Network

Connecting Agencies
and Programs

Robert D Johnson

Issues Facing Low-income Men: A National Issue

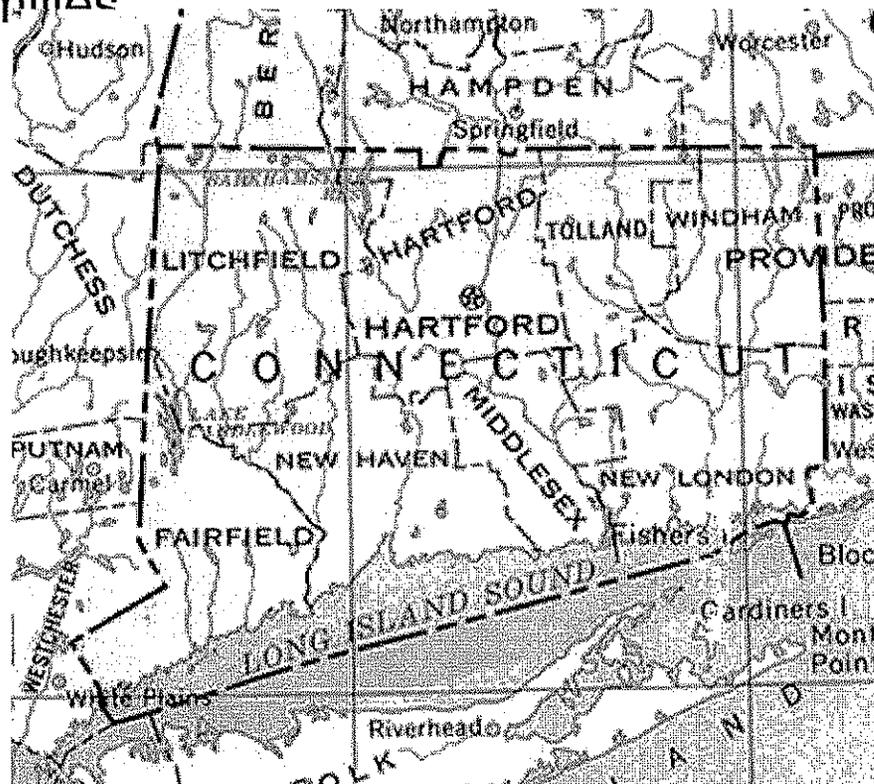


Example: it is estimated that over 100 billion in child support arrears are owed to our nations children

- **According to studies 70% of debt owed- individuals have no quarterly earnings in any quarter for the previous year**
- **OIG : 60% NCPs who don't pay child support are limited by income, education, high rates of institutionalization, or intermittent employment**

In Connecticut

- Hundreds of millions in tax payer funds are dedicated to low-income families



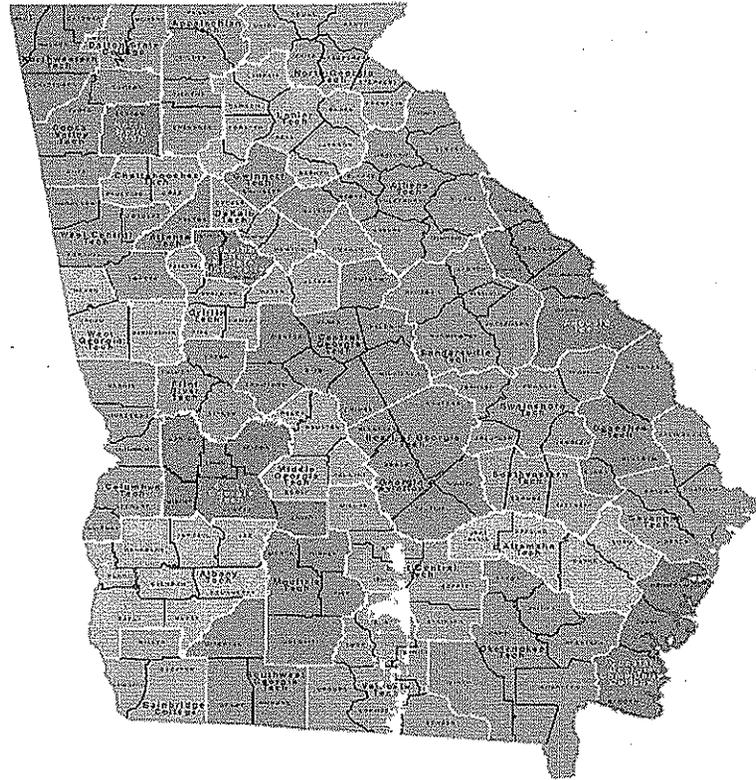
Coordinated State Response

- **The magnitude of the problem of non-support, the array of services that can be brought to bear and the potential taxpayer savings all dictate an effective system wide coordinated response**

Georgia: A Return-on-Investment Program Design

- Uncollected child support in Georgia was estimated at \$500 million annually
- Georgia Fatherhood Program initiated with
 - leadership from governor and # department directors
 - strategic approach to problem solving
 - potential return on taxpayers' investment
- Demonstration began in 1996 in seven areas of the state
- Collaboration with department of Technical and Adult Education, Labor, Pardons and Parole

Programs Located in 36 Technical Colleges within 50 miles of every Georgian



What Are The Key Components of Effective Coordination

- **Relationship with Child support and the courts**
- **System-wide Employment and training plan**
- **Collaboration between state and community based organizations**
- **Framework for administrative procedures**
- **Adequate Funding**
- **System wide evaluation**
- **Strategic Objectives Connected to State or Jurisdictions Objectives for Children and Families**

Strategic Objectives Connected to State Objectives

10-Year Strategic Plan	State Objective
Judicial support	Enforce child support
Interagency coordination	End dependency/gov't benefits
Return on investment	Reduce tax payer burden
Part of agenda: welfare reform	Reduce out of wedlock births
Evaluation framework	Economic self sufficiency

Outcomes

- Fatherhood incorporated into Georgia's agenda for children and welfare reform
- Provided alternative to incarceration for more than 30,000 participants since 1997
- Successful job placement for more than 60% of participants
- Provided millions of dollars of economic support to Georgia's children
- Improved relationship with father and child

Lessons Learned

- **Piecemeal efforts not integrated with enforcement efforts don't work**
- **A return on investment strategy is critical to long term impact**
- **Programs and initiatives without a clear definition of desired outcomes lead to few or no outcomes**
- **Without executive leadership programs for low income non custodial fathers face potentially fatal institutional barriers**
- **Technology platform is key to effective system wide management**

Potential Federal Policy Support

- Responsible Fatherhood Healthy Families Act
- Green Jobs Act
- TANF Reauthorization
- Workforce Investment Reauthorization
- 2nd Chance Re-entry

MORE INFORMATION

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