

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **GATEWAY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY AND KENTUCKY RIVER FOOTHILLS ANNOUNCE RECEIPT OF GRANT AWARDS TOTALING \$1,599,998**

West Liberty, KY and Richmond, KY - Gateway Community Action Agency (Gateway) and Kentucky River Foothills Development Council (KRFDC) announced today that the two agencies have been awarded grants of \$1,599,998 from the United States Department of Health & Human Services Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance to promote healthy marriage and responsible fatherhood by the Claims Resolution Act of 2010.

Gateway and KRFDC, two community action agencies, serve individuals and families in Bath, Clark, Estill, Madison, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Powell and Rowan counties. Community Action Agencies (CAAs) are private non-profit or public organizations that were created by the federal government in 1964 to combat poverty in geographically designated areas. Gateway and KRFDC are two of 23 CAAs across the State.

Earlier this year, Gateway and KRFDC applied to the Office of Family Assistance for the two grants. Gateway, with KRFDC as a partner, was chosen as only one of 55 agencies in the nation to receive ***Pathways to Responsible Fatherhood*** grant funds; and KRFDC, with Gateway as its partner, received one of 60 ***Community-Centered Healthy Marriage*** grants.

The marriage and fatherhood grants were awarded through a competitive process and aim to test promising strategies for supporting healthy relationships and marriages and for helping fathers meet their parenting and financial obligations to their children.

Organizations receiving healthy marriage grants may provide a range of services including marriage education, divorce reduction, and marriage and relationship skills programs that may include parenting skills, financial management, conflict resolution, and job and career advancement. Fatherhood program funding must be used to promote responsible fatherhood through activities that promote or sustain marriage and responsible parenting, and that foster economic stability.

Applicants were encouraged to develop programs that emphasized comprehensive service delivery, including employment and economic stability.

“These grants will allow our two agencies to build upon a long established partnership to promote responsible parenting, encourage healthy relationships and marriage, and help families move toward self-sufficiency and economic stability,” said Dennis Gulley, Gateway Executive Director . “In addition, these grants will allow us to offer jobs that otherwise would not exist in

our communities by hiring program staff who will work for the programs for their three year duration. More importantly, these grants will allow our agencies to expand services that we already offer to improve the stability and functioning of families in the projects' nine county service area."

"By working together, we were able to propose projects that relied on the abilities, histories, and resources of two organizations, said KRFDC Executive Director, Vicki Jozefowicz. "We believe that the 'Power of Partnership' made our applications much stronger than if either of us had applied independently."

These two programs will begin next month. In Clark, Estill, Madison and Powell counties call Melissa Gross, Project Coordinator, at (859) 624-2046. 859/624-4116. In Bath, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan and Rowan counties call Debbie VanNorman, Project Director, at (606) 743-3133. Gateway Community Action Agency can be found at <http://www.gcscap.org> and KRFDC can be found at [www.foothillscap.org](http://www.foothillscap.org).

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