

***Funding to Improve Family Stability and Child Well-Being***

The Foundation facilitates partnerships and provides resources to implement evidence-based and promising programs to meet the needs of vulnerable families. Many of these programs are community-based one-stop service sites, such as Family Success Centers (FSCs).

*FSCs* provide and coordinate a wide range of services, both on-site and through linkages with government and community agencies, to enhance family stability, improve parenting skills, and facilitate healthy child development. On-site services include benefits counseling, parent education, parent-child activities, and support groups. Referrals are made for health, mental health, substance abuse, and employment-related services.

Nicholson's specialists collaborate with government agencies, educational institutions, community organizations, and other foundations in developing these initiatives. They also identify additional financial resources and provide technical assistance in applying for these funding opportunities.

For more information on select programs, click on the program title below.

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**Programs Receiving Grants from The Nicholson Foundation**

<b>Newark Now</b>	<p>Newark Now is a not-for-profit organization that partners with municipal government, grassroots organizations, and the philanthropic community to improve the safety, well-being, and economic independence of Newark’s residents.</p>
	<p><b>Family Success Centers (FSCs) and the Newark FSC Network</b></p> <p>Newark Now operates three <a href="#">FSCs</a> located in public housing projects in Newark’s most disadvantaged neighborhoods. In addition to having operational responsibility for these three centers, Newark Now provides administrative oversight and support to eight Newark FSCs that are funded by the State of New Jersey. The coordination of these eleven centers—referred to as the Newark FSC Network—promotes consistency and quality of service delivery and adoption of best practices.</p> <p>Newark Now also works with the Newark Office of the Deputy Mayor for Neighborhood Engagement on issues that may affect the FSCs.</p>
	<p><b>Anti-Violence Collaborative</b></p> <p>Newark Now is working with seven community-based grassroots organizations to implement the Anti-Violence Collaborative to help reduce the overall level of violent crime and gang activity in Newark. The member agencies, which jointly plan and coordinate anti-violence and anti-gang activities, include the Street Warriors, Supporting Our Sisters, Stop Shootin’, Saving Ourselves, FP Youth Outcry, The Network, and Diamonds Among Men. These anti-violence activities are a resource for the <a href="#">Newark Family Success Center (FSC) Network</a> and the <a href="#">Newark Comprehensive Center for Fathers (CCF)</a>.</p> <p>Each agency in the Collaborative provides one workshop monthly at an <a href="#">FSC</a> or at the Newark CCF. Typical workshop topics include domestic violence awareness, conflict resolution, and anti-gang strategies.</p>

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<p><b>Newark Now</b></p>	<p><b>Family Success Center (FSC) Data Management System</b></p> <p>The Foundation is supporting Newark Now to work with Business Access, an information technology company, to develop and implement a uniform <a href="#">FSC</a> Data Management System. This data system, utilized at all Foundation-supported FSC sites, allows the Centers to collect consistent demographic, service needs, and referral information on all participating individuals and families. Since the FSCs coordinate referrals to many government and community-based agencies, the data system enhances the Centers' ability to monitor outcomes. The data system also serves as an evaluation tool to improve service delivery.</p> <p>The FSC Management Data System is being enhanced for use at the <a href="#">Newark Comprehensive Center for Fathers</a>, the <a href="#">Essex County Grand-family Support Center</a>, and <a href="#">Single Stop</a> locations.</p>
<p><b>New Community Corporation (NCC)—Project Coordinator for the NCC Family Success Center (FSC)</b></p>	<p>NCC, a community development agency that focuses on housing, health care, education, childcare and economic development, has been operating a family resource center in Newark. To enable the resource center to meet FSC requirements and become an <a href="#">FSC</a>, the Foundation is supporting a full-time project coordinator. The coordinator enhances the Center's operation by ensuring that family service plans are developed, the FSC data system is utilized, and standard FSC reports are prepared. The NCC FSC is part of the <a href="#">Newark FSC Network</a> coordinated by <a href="#">Newark Now</a>.</p>
<p><b>Family Connections—City of Orange Family Success Center (FSC) and West Essex Coordination Project</b></p>	<p>Family Connections is a community service agency providing counseling, crisis intervention, case management, and wraparound services to families and at-risk youth in Essex County. With the support of The Nicholson Foundation, Family Connections operates an <a href="#">FSC</a> in the City of Orange.</p> <p>Family Connections also provides administrative oversight and support for four FSCs in West Essex County—the West Essex Coordination Project—including the Orange and Montclair FSCs funded by Nicholson and two State-funded Centers in East Orange and Irvington. The coordination of the four Centers promotes quality services, the efficient use of resources, and implementation of best practices.</p>

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<p><b>United Way of Greater Union County (UWGUC)—Roselle Park Family Success Center (FSC) and Union County FSC Network</b></p>	<p>UWGUC operates an <a href="#">FSC</a> in Roselle Park for Union County residents, which is supported by the Foundation. Also with Foundation funding, UWGUC provides administrative oversight and technical assistance to four FSCs in Union County—the Union County FSC Network—including the Roselle Park FSC and three State-funded FSCs in Plainfield, Linden, and Elizabeth. UWGUC is also coordinating a County-wide system of family supports and services, which facilitates collaboration between the FSCs and other Union County resources.</p>
<p><b>United Way of North Essex (UWNE)—Suburban Essex Family Success Center (FSC)</b></p>	<p>With the Foundation’s support, UWNE operates an <a href="#">FSC</a> in Montclair for the residents of suburban Essex County. The Montclair FSC is a member of the <a href="#">West Essex FSC Network</a>, which is coordinated by Family Connections.</p>
<p><b>Family Intervention Services (FIS)—Family Success Center (FSC) Training and Technical Assistance</b></p>	<p>FIS, a statewide family service agency, was awarded a grant from the New Jersey Department of Children and Families to provide training and technical assistance to <a href="#">FSCs</a> throughout New Jersey. The Foundation is providing matching funds to FIS to enhance their statewide training and technical assistance, facilitate networking among FSCs, develop web-based courses for FSC staff, and assist with the development of outcome measures and standards for FSC certification.</p> <p>FIS is partnering with Parents Anonymous of New Jersey, the Statewide Parent Advocacy Network, and the New Jersey Alliance of Family Support Organizations in this statewide training and technical assistance initiative.</p>

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<p><b>Newark Now–Newark Comprehensive Center for Fathers (CCF)</b></p>	<p>The Newark CCF is a specialized one-stop center serving non-custodial fathers who are disconnected from their children. Many are unemployed or underemployed, some are homeless, and others have recently been released from prison. The CCF, located at Essex County College, provides a range of services including employment preparation and placement and access to job-appropriate clothing to help the men achieve self-sufficiency; legal services to help them obtain visitation and custody rights; and counseling, mentoring, and support groups to help them improve their parenting skills. The program is modeled on the college fraternity concept, which fosters a sense of belonging.</p> <p>The Newark CCF is a collaboration among <a href="#">Newark Now</a>, the Office of the Mayor, Newark Works, Essex County College, The Nicholson Foundation, and other government and community agencies. Newark Now has an agreement with the Philadelphia CCF, the program that serves as the model for the Newark Center, to provide technical assistance.</p>
<p><b>Camden Community Planning and Advocacy Council (CPAC)—Camden Comprehensive Center for Fathers (CCF)</b></p>	<p>The Camden CCF is a specialized one-stop center that helps non-custodial fathers achieve self-sufficiency and improve their parenting skills.</p> <p>CPAC contracts with the Genesis School of Business to operate the Camden CCF. Technical assistance is provided by JANUS Solutions and the Philadelphia CCF, the program that serves as the model for the Camden Center.</p>
<p><b>The Salvation Army—Essex County Grandfamily Support Center (GSC)</b></p>	<p>The Essex County GSC is a one-stop center serving grandparents and other family caregivers who are raising children whose parents are unable to care for them. The Center, which is located in Newark, provides a wide range of services—both on-site and through referrals to government and community agencies—tailored to meet the needs of these families. GSC services include legal and financial assistance, childcare, housing, and respite care, as well as linkages to health, mental health, and educational resources.</p> <p>The GSC is a collaboration among the Salvation Army, The Nicholson Foundation, the Newark Office of the Mayor, the Newark Office on Aging, the Essex County Department of Human Services, the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, the Social Security Administration, and other government and community organizations.</p>

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**Partners for Women and Justice— Essex County Family Justice Center**

Partners for Women and Justice is a non-profit organization that helps low-income and abused women with a range of legal and other services. With the support of the Foundation, Partners for Women and Justice is working to develop a coordinated community response to domestic violence in Essex County, with the goal of establishing a Family Justice Center.

When fully operational, the Essex County Family Justice Center will be a one-stop multidisciplinary center for victims of domestic violence. Services will include crisis intervention, safety planning, and emergency shelter, as well as legal, medical, and counseling assistance for victims and family members. In addition, victims will have easy on-site access to police, prosecutors, and the court system.

The development of the Center is a collaboration among Partners for Women and Justice, The Nicholson Foundation, Newark’s Office of the Mayor, Essex County Department of Human Services, Newark Police Department, The Fund for the Bar of New Jersey, New Jersey Administrative Office of the Courts, and numerous government and community agencies.

**Single Stop USA (SS USA)/Newark Now—Single Stop Services**

SS USA is a national organization that works to improve the lives of low-income individuals and families by maximizing their use of public benefits, tax credits, and other government programs. The Foundation is partnering with SS USA to fund [Newark Now](#)’s implementation of Single Stop services at four of its program sites. Single Stop services include utilizing computerized benefit calculators to determine eligibility for government benefits such as welfare, food stamps, Medicaid, childcare, housing subsidies, and energy assistance; helping with the application process for these benefits; filing for tax credits and refunds; and providing financial and legal counseling as well as referrals for social services.

The Newark Single Stop initiative is a collaboration among Newark Now, SS USA, The Nicholson Foundation, the Essex County Department of Human Services, and other government and community agencies.