



# AMTC

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## News

Our clients break through challenges, even in the midst of a pandemic. Thanks to them, thousands will gain skills to foster new opportunities in life.

— ANGELA TURNER

### AMTC News

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## Perseverance at All Times

Nothing stops our clients. A theme throughout this newsletter is perseverance—always striving to do what’s best for the communities they serve. Resting is not in their vocabulary.

Our clients break through challenges, even in the midst of a pandemic, and have secured new funding in two areas: Healthy Marriage and Relationship Education (HMRE) for Youth and Responsible Fatherhood (RF) Education. Thanks to our clients and the funding they secured, thousands of participants will gain skills to foster new opportunities in life, from bolstering healthy relationships to securing employment.

Among our clients’ many offerings, some of them include Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP). The second article (page three) explains how new funding for HMRE complements TPP services, and how the parallel programs enable our clients to build capacity and expand their reach.

Speaking of expanding reach, AMTC & Associates has implemented an internship program to encourage college students to enter the fascinating field of evaluation, which

is highlighted on page four. While building real-world skills, we also hope to facilitate a greater pool of candidates entering this vocation, including minorities who are often underrepresented in the research field.

At AMTC, we too never stop. We always do our utmost to support our clients with the greatest evaluative resources and support. There is always more to be done, more to accomplish, more lives to positively affect. To find out how AMTC could positively affect your organization and the individuals you serve, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Wishing you good health,

Angela Turner  
Principal





# BUILDING ON SUCCESS

Transforming Lives and Families

For years, AMTC clients have made an indelible impact on their communities by transforming lives and families for the better. They do this by effectively building relationship and job skills—to the point that adults build higher-quality relationships with each other, and children experience a stronger sense of love and support. In 2020, despite the pandemic, our clients continue to forge ahead, advocating for and serving the communities they love. Passionately. Enthusiastically.

And while much has been accomplished, our clients never rest! When an opportunity arose to secure new grants to serve fathers, youth, and their families, the six organizations listed below jumped at the opportunity. Each was recently awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human

Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance, in the areas of healthy marriage and relationship education and responsible fatherhood.

The HMRE grant is the “Relationships, Education, Advancement, and Development for Youth for Life (READY4Life).” It exclusively serves high school youth and endeavors to put students on the right path to success. The RF grant is called “Fatherhood—Family-focused, Interconnected, Resilient, and Essential (Fatherhood—FIRE).” It promotes quality parent-child relationships and fathers’ confidence in providing for their children—both emotionally and financially. Combined, the six organizations aim to touch the lives of over 12,000 individuals each year of the five-year grant.

The six grantees serve diverse

communities across the U.S. in urban, low-income areas where residents experience limited access to resources and training. Both HMRE and RF grants are implemented with a multi-pronged approach that provides tools to create caring, lasting relationships with their families by:

- promoting/sustaining healthy relationships and marriages (as appropriate),
- improving parenting skills (as appropriate), and
- improving employment and economic mobility.

The grantees additionally partner with community service providers for a holistic approach, including primary health care, substance abuse prevention, domestic and intimate partner violence intervention, child maltreatment and trauma-informed care.

These organizations have many years of proven delivery experience and have served many thousands of individuals since inception. We congratulate them on yet again securing funding, through a very competitive process, to continue affecting the communities they love.

AMTC Clients Recent Recipients of HMRE & RF Grants

Organization	Location	Grant	Target Numbers
<b>Healthy Marriage and Relationship Education (HMRE) for Youth</b>			
Better Family Life Inc.	St. Louis (City and County), Missouri, and East St. Louis, Illinois	READY4Life	2,700 youth
Family and Workforce Centers of America	St. Louis City and St. Louis County, Missouri	READY4Life	2,331 youth
Trinity Church	Miami-Dade County, Florida	READY4Life	3,150 youth
<b>Responsible Fatherhood (RF) Education</b>			
Fathers & Families Support Center	St. Louis (City and County), Missouri, and East St. Louis, Illinois	FATHERHOOD (FIRE)	1,035 fathers
International Church of Las Vegas	Las Vegas, Nevada	FATHERHOOD (FIRE)	1,350 fathers
Milwaukee County Child Support Services	Milwaukee County, Wisconsin	FATHERHOOD (FIRE)	2,025 fathers

# HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

## at the Core of Youth Development

Two grantees concurrently receive funding for READY4Life and Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP), both sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. **Better Family Life Inc.**, serving the St. Louis area of Missouri and extending into Illinois, as well as **Trinity Church/Peacemakers Family Center**, serving Miami-Dade County, Florida, are building upon successes to move ahead with greater vitality in service to others. They provide numerous opportunities, services and evidence-based curriculum to individuals in low-income areas, building self-sufficiency and promoting well-being for individuals and families. The READY4Life grant (see page 2) complements their evidenced-based TPP programs.

These organizations were recently awarded the READY4Life grant, which complements their evidenced-based Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) programs.

### Complementary Projects

Erica Driver is the Senior Director of Youth, Family Services and Compliance, at Better Family Life Inc.: "The READY4Life project complements the TPP project as an additional tool for students to utilize, engage, network, and participate in their empowerment, promoting the success of life after high school."

Crystal Agnew, Project Director of Peacemakers Family Center, similarly expressed how READY4Life builds capacity and how the two programs strengthen each other. For example, the curriculum in both

program areas builds healthy relationship skills and financial literacy, including trauma-informed care, thereby fostering youth resiliency and mindfulness. It's a holistic approach, noted Agnew.

### A Valuable Partnership

Agnew and Driver are grateful to AMTC & Associates. "It is rare to find a partner [like AMTC]," said Driver, "who shares experience, resources, and responsibility for achieving community, engagement, empowerment and education."

Agnew agrees: "AMTC's help in evaluation and program performance services and their technical assistance helps to make sure that what we're providing in the community is best practice and holistic work, helping us ensure that we're doing our best to serve our

community. They've kept us in the forefront of what's most effective in all those areas."

READY4Life and TPP are complementary and powerful. It's what Driver termed a "hand up, not a handout... by giving youth opportunities to not only survive but to thrive."



Erica Driver,  
Better Family Life  
Inc.



Crystal Agnew,  
Peacemakers  
Family Center



**HOLIDAY**  
*Greetings*

— To our dear friends and valued clients —  
May you have a beautiful holiday season  
and may the new year be filled  
with health, happiness and hope.

*Thank you for the opportunity  
to serve you this year!*

# Meet our *Associates*

Our diverse team delivers fast, relevant results for our clients. Here are two individuals who contribute to those efforts.



## IMMACULATE APCHEMENGICH INTERN

*EDUCATION:* PhD candidate,  
University of Wisconsin-  
Milwaukee Joseph J. Zilber  
School of Public Health

### ***What drew you to intern at AMTC & Associates?***

I was looking for an opportunity to be part of program evaluation throughout different phases, ideally from program planning through completion, to complement my research experience in academia.

### ***What knowledge and skills have you gained so far?***

AMTC has given me a real-world opportunity to understand program evaluation. I have gained skills in planning evaluation, data analysis, report writing, the Online Participant Tracking System and more. I am also currently working on creating a personal development plan for career development. The AMTC team ensures that I am engaged in as many ways as possible.

### ***What do you enjoy about working with AMTC?***

I have felt welcomed, accepted, respected and valued since day one. The work environment is not only professional but also has a sense of family.

### ***Has anything surprised you while working at AMTC?***

Not surprising per se but I have been amazed by the level of care that the AMTC staff have for each other. During my very first all-staff meeting, I was amazed when the meeting started with staff sharing any concerns that they were having or needed prayers for anyone.

### ***What do you hope to do in your future?***

I hope to build my career profile in the field of research and evaluation by improving upon my skills and actualizing what I learn at AMTC.

### ***What do you enjoy doing in your free time?***

In the current pandemic times, I have been spending my free time with my family, baking, playing board games and puzzles, or watching science fiction.



## BRANDON OSBORN RESEARCH ASSOCIATE FOUNDER & COORDINATOR, OF THE AMTC RESEARCH & EVALUATION INTERNSHIP PROGRAM *WITH AMTC SINCE 2019*

*EDUCATION:* California State  
University-Long Beach,  
University of California-Irvine

### ***What does AMTC offer to someone exploring the field of evaluation? What skills do you hope an intern gains at AMTC?***

The purpose of the internship is to give college students exposure and real-world experience in the field of research. The opportunity also provides an additional access-point into the field of evaluation, a vocation that is often underrepresented by minorities. Fostering diversity is particularly meaningful to us, as a lot of our clients represent and serve diverse communities.

As interns, students will gain experience in the area of research, program evaluation, government-funded grants, and obtain skills in data collection, quantitative analysis, performance measurement and reporting.

### ***What relationship is formed between an intern and AMTC?***

I aim to foster a mentor-mentee relationship wherein interns have an opportunity to receive individualized training.

### ***What benefit does an intern provide to AMTC?***

To assist our research and evaluation associates, interns provide a vital role by performing certain tasks in evaluation. When funding is available, interns are compensated for these duties with a stipend.

### ***How do you go about finding an intern?***

I work with local university departments to recruit potential candidates who are enrolled in social, behavioral, or health sciences-related programs.

### ***If someone is interested in interning at AMTC, what should that person do?***

For more information, contact Brandon Osborn at [brandon.osborn@amtcassociates.com](mailto:brandon.osborn@amtcassociates.com) or call (414) 316-4518.