

## FACILITATOR RESOURCE COUPLE STATION CARDS

### COUPLE #1: JASMINE AND MARCUS

#### Health

Jasmine, you gained 60 lbs during pregnancy and were diagnosed with diabetes in your eighth month. You gave birth to a healthy baby boy, Marcus Jr. When you got home with the baby, you were really depressed and didn't seem to have the energy to take care of your son. The doctor told you that diabetes and postpartum depression often go together. Marcus, you've been working hard to understand Jasmine's depression but you're worn out after working all day and coming home to crying children. You want Jasmine to get herself together. **What are you thinking? What are you feeling?**

#### Employment and Finances

Jasmine, you haven't done any temp work since you were diagnosed with diabetes. So, Marcus, you've had to pay all of the family's bills and with a new baby, it's a lot. Also, Aaron's mother filed a child support case and now \$200 is coming right out of your check every month. There's no way you can move to a larger apartment now. **What are you thinking? What are you feeling?**

#### Child Support

With the child support coming directly out of your check, you can no longer pay all of your bills, so you go to the Child Support Office to get your child support order modified. When you get there, they give you some "Review and Adjustment" forms to complete and tell you that it will take up to six months for them to schedule a hearing. **What are you thinking? What are you feeling?**

### COUPLE #2: LONDELL AND SHANICE:

#### Employment and Finances

Shanice, you gave birth to a healthy baby girl, Mina. Londell, since Mina's birth, there's been a downturn in the economy and you're working a lot less than usual. You can't pay your old bills and now there are even more things to buy like diapers and formula. **What are you thinking? What are you feeling?**

#### Housing/Transportation

Shanice, today you have a 9:00 appointment to get recertified for Section 8. You wake up at 6:30 and get all three kids bathed, fed, and dressed. Imani is in a terrible mood and throws several tantrums. By the time you get yourself dressed and pack a bag with diapers, bottles, snacks, and toys, it's 8:30. You put Mina in a stroller and head to the bus stop with 2-year-old Dante and 4-year-old Imani in tow. You finally get to the housing authority at 9:30 and sit there for two hours before you're seen. **What are you thinking? What are you feeling?**

#### Child Well-Being

Shanice, when you get home from the housing authority, you're completely worn out. Imani is still cranky and irritable. Londell, you use all of your tricks to calm Imani down but she just keeps screaming. Finally you lose your temper and spank her behind but all she does is scream more. **What are you thinking? What are you feeling?**

### COUPLE #3: CACHE AND BRANDON

#### **Health**

You find out that the pregnancy is going well. Brandon, you go with Cache to most of her appointments and today you she gets a sonogram and the two of you see a picture of your baby for the first time. You find out that you're having a girl! **What are you thinking? What are you feeling?**

#### **Education and Finances**

Cache, you finished your current semester, but then decide to quit community college until the baby is about a year old. So your dream to become a nurse will have to be postponed. Brandon, when you didn't receive your \$900 tax refund, the IRS explained that the funds had been garnished by a company because of a bill that you never paid. So without the money for a security deposit, you can't move. **What are you thinking? What are you feeling?**

#### **Your Relationship**

Cache, you decide that you cannot go back to the efficiency with a newborn and a toddler. Brandon, you want the family to stay together but don't see how you can make it work. Together you decide that Cache will ask her mother if she can move back home. Cache's mother agrees. Brandon, you get a second job to try to earn enough money for a larger apartment. You're providing some child support and saving some money but because you're working all the time, you hardly ever see Cache or the kids. **What are you thinking? What are you feeling?**

### COUPLE #4: ADRIAN AND LAKEISHA

#### **Housing**

Adrian, when your stepmother, Alicia, finds out that Lakeisha is pregnant, she goes off and curses Alicia out. Lakeisha, you pack up your stuff and move the kids in with a friend on a temporary basis. **What are you thinking? What are you feeling?**

#### **Employment and Finances**

Adrian, you decide to get back into the game one last time to earn some fast money so you can finally get an apartment and move out of your father's house. Things go well so you keep hustling for a few extra months. You get arrested and, because it's your third strike, you face a long mandatory sentence. **What are you thinking? What are you feeling?**

#### **Partner/Extended Family Relationships**

Lakeisha, after Adrian's arrest, his dad calls and asks you to move back in with him and Alicia. Now that Adrian is back in jail, his dad and Alicia seem more willing to help you and the grandkids. You give birth to a beautiful baby boy, Antwon. Surprisingly, Alicia just adores Antwon and is acting pretty decent. Lakeisha, you take the children to see their father every other month but the whole situation is really hard. Adrian, you barely know your baby son, Antwon, and you can see that Adrian Jr. is heading down the wrong path now that you're away again. **What are you thinking? What are you feeling?**