

January 20, 2026



Family Resource Center Association



Welcome to Colorado Fatherhood Network (CFN)'s January newsletter. Through this communication, the CFN is excited to bring you news and resources to connect to other statewide providers and learn the latest best practices in fatherhood work. Please let us know if you have celebrations or resources to share with others by emailing us at [aschaffer@cofamilycenters.org](mailto:aschaffer@cofamilycenters.org).

## Network Updates

### Upcoming CFN Peer Learning Session



**COLORADO  
FATHERHOOD  
NETWORK**



**JOIN US!**

**THE COLORADO FATHERHOOD NETWORK'S**

# **PEER LEARNING SESSION**

**CREATIVE SUSTAINABILITY IN FATHERHOOD  
PROGRAMMING**



**Wednesday,  
Jan 28th**



**10:00am -  
11:00am MT**



**Zoom**

**Register Here**

## **In Case You Missed It...**

Did you miss the December CFN convening? Check out the recording! Thanks to all who joined for a great conversation on the history, present, and future of fatherhood programming.



COLORADO  
FATHERHOOD  
NETWORK

THE COLORADO FATHERHOOD NETWORK'S  
DECEMBER 2025 CONVENING

- Date: Thursday, December 18th
- Time: 10:00am - 11:00am MT
- Topic: Fatherhood Programs Then, Now, and into the Future
- Special keynote from national fatherhood expert, Nigel Vann from Fathers Incorporated



## Call for Stories of Impact

The CFN is looking to feature YOUR stories to help inspire programmatic change to better involve dads! Let us know how you are engaging fathers! For example, have you had success reaching out to a private sector group such as the VA?

Reach Out to Share Your Story!

## Program Resources

### CFN Tip Sheets

The CFN has created three tip sheets for your use. Please share with fathers, other program providers, and anyone who can benefit!

[14 Tips for Father-Friendly Programs](#)

[Father Engagement Benefits](#)

[Top 10 Benefits of Co-Parenting](#)



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## Funding Opportunity!



The National Fatherhood Initiative is accepting applications for organizations to receive free enrollments in their ProFathering15 program, as well as training and technical assistance on the program.

Applications must be submitted by **Friday, January 30th at 2pm ET.**

[Click here for more information](#)

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## Indigenous Leadership Insights for Stronger Families

Check out the latest video in the National Family Support Network's Voices of Family Leadership Series. This session discusses how embedding cultural values, honoring family voice, and advancing equity contribute to stronger families and more responsive systems.

## The Indigenous Children's Leadership Initiative (ICLI)

ICLI offers children ages 3 to 11 a parallel course when their parents attend classes. The model follows the IFLEI class format, with children learning civic topics through selected Indigenous children's literature. Children build a family library over 22 weeks.

### Important features of ICLI include:

- Differentiated, developmentally-appropriate activities, designed to appeal to multiple age groups.
- Trained providers that facilitate ICLI with youth serving as assistant teachers
- ICLI offers a culturally responsive and linguistically appropriate curriculum. Facilitators incorporate American Sign Language, Ojibwe language and cultural activities in ICLI by using Indigobox (a digital culture in the classroom) and the IF curriculum.



## FAMLI Neonatal Care Leave

Starting January 1, 2026, parents whose infants enter a neonatal unit or higher level of care may have up to 12 weeks of paid Neonatal Care Leave to be there at this critical time. Afterwards, they may be eligible for 12 more weeks of other paid FAMLI leave, such as parental bonding.

These flyers in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) explain who is eligible and how to apply.

For more information, visit the [Colorado FAMLI website](#).

### FAMLI Neonatal Care Leave

**Paid time to be there when your newborn needs you most.**

Starting January 1, 2026, parents whose infants enter a neonatal unit or higher level of care may have up to 12 weeks of paid Neonatal Care Leave to be there at this critical time. Afterwards, they may be eligible for 12 more weeks of other paid FAMLI leave, such as parental bonding.

**Broad Eligibility**

If you're a ...

- Parent
- Foster parent
- Step-parent
- Adoptive parent
- Individual acting in loco parentis

... then Neonatal Care Leave is for you

**Time Off When You Choose**

- You choose the time to spend away from work and with your newborn
- Tell FAMLI the hours you spent at work the prior week – it can be zero
- Receive payment to make up any lost work hours each week

**How to Apply**

- Visit the My FAMLI portal today <https://myfamli.colorado.gov>
- Select Neonatal Care Leave as your reason for leave
- Upload admission documents
- Rest and recover with your family

**Want To Get Ahead?**

If you're preparing for possible complications, you can get a head start on paid leave by beginning your Neonatal Care Leave application early as a draft. Then submit your claim once you upload your baby's admission documents. Talk to your healthcare provider today.

**Learn More**

FAMLI provides leave for many of life's most important moments – including bonding with a child, recovering from health conditions, caring for family members, and more.

Visit the Colorado FAMLI website at [myfamli.colorado.gov](https://myfamli.colorado.gov) or scan this QR Code to find out how FAMLI has you covered.

## Get Ahead Colorado 2026 Tax Season Launch Webinar



It's almost tax time again! Join Get Ahead Colorado for a webinar to hear from local and state partners on how to help families access tax credits, participate in free tax filing, and other resources and benefits.



[Register Here!](#)

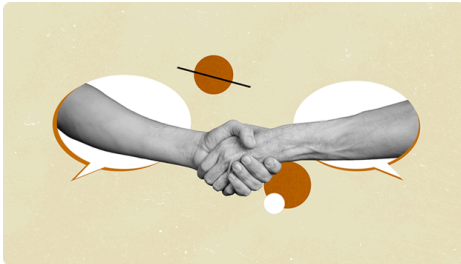
## Research and News

### Colorado Department of Early Childhood (CDEC) Update

The Colorado Department of Early Childhood (CDEC) is sharing a new factsheet on CCDF funding to provide a clear overview of the temporary restrictions and how federal child care subsidies support families, providers, and early childhood systems across Colorado.



[Click here for the fact sheet](#)



### Tips for Rapport Building

Check out the National Fatherhood Initiative's latest article, [Beyond the Lesson Plan: Building Rapport with Dads.](#)



AMERICA 250 | COLORADO 150

**NOMINATE A  
COLORADO  
EARLY CHILDHOOD  
CHAMPION**



### Nominate a Colorado Early Childhood Champion!

The Colorado Department of Early Childhood (CDEC) is seeking nominations of champions providing excellent work in early childhood fields. Champions can include early childhood education/child care staff, family & community support professionals, health & wellness professionals, dedicated volunteers & advocates, and school district staff. Let's work together to recognize the great work happening around our state!

Nominate a Champion

***Submissions for this monthly newsletter are always welcome and appreciated. Please send any resources, research or news relevant to fathers in Colorado and those who work with them [here](#) any time!***

**ABOUT THE NETWORK:** The Colorado Fatherhood Network is a father-focused, statewide, systems-level professional network for practitioners and programs working with fathers and families. The CFN provides connections, resources, education, evaluation, and advocacy to advance the field of Fatherhood and Family Services.



### **Dad Joke of the Month:**

What did the wool hat say to the scarf? You hang around while I go on ahead.

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