

March 17, 2026



Family Resource Center Association



Welcome to Colorado Fatherhood Network (CFN)'s March 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

### CFN Data Survey



The CFN is launching a data and evaluation project to show the collective importance and impact of fatherhood services in the state. To start this project, we want to hear about your current data and evaluation practices. Please fill out the survey below by 3/31.

This is the same survey as was given during our March convening, so you do not need to complete it if you already did so.

[Click here for the survey](#)

## CFN Technical Assistance

Did you know the CFN can provide technical assistance for fatherhood practitioners and programs? If you are looking to improve your data and evaluation practices, develop new outreach strategies, or plan out a new project, we can support - free to you!

Reach out to Alexa

### In Case You Missed It...

Did you miss the February CFN webinar on child support? Check out the recording! This is a great opportunity to learn more about the child support process and how you can collaborate with your local child support office.



The image is a promotional graphic for a webinar recording. It features a dark blue background with a circular inset showing a man and a child. The text is white and yellow. At the top left is the Colorado Fatherhood Network logo. The main title is 'THE COLORADO FATHERHOOD NETWORK'S FEBRUARY 2026 WEBINAR'. Below that, it says 'UPCOMING WEBINAR.' followed by a list of details: Date: Thursday, February 19th; Time: 1:00pm - 2:30 pm MT; Topic: Child Support Panel. A large white play button icon is overlaid on the text. At the bottom, there is a red oval with the text 'REGISTER HERE' and a yellow bar with the contact information 'QUESTIONS? CONTACT ALEXA AT ASCHAFFER@COFAMILYCENTERS.ORG'.

COLORADO FATHERHOOD NETWORK

THE COLORADO FATHERHOOD NETWORK'S FEBRUARY 2026 WEBINAR

UPCOMING WEBINAR.

- Date: Thursday, February 19th
- Time: 1:00pm - 2:30 pm MT
- Topic: Child Support Panel
- Learn from a panel of child support professionals how dads can be supported with their local child support office

**REGISTER HERE**

QUESTIONS? CONTACT ALEXA AT ASCHAFFER@COFAMILYCENTERS.ORG

## Research and News

# The Talk-to-Reading Connection

Conversational turns during the first years of life are linked to:



Higher reading scores at age 5



Stronger brain activity in language areas



Better neural pathways for reading success

## Did you know?

Just 2 extra conversational turns per hour is associated with an increase of a child's IQ by 1 point!

[Read more here.](#)

**Tip:** Talk your way through your day to build real-world connections and language skills for children.

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## 150/250 Celebrating Early Childhood Champions

Congratulations to [Ken Sanders](#) and [Matthew Mitchell](#) for being recognized as early childhood champions by the Colorado Department of Early Childhood! We are so happy to see two father-focused community leaders recognized. We are lucky to have the two of them in our network!



[Learn more and nominate a champion here](#)

## Program Resources

[Additional Child Support Resources](#)

If you want to continue your learning about the child support system after the CFN's February webinar, we suggest reviewing the following resources:

- [Child Support Enforcement: Program Basics \(Library of Congress\)](#).
- [Office of Child Support Enforcement's 50th Anniversary website](#)



The screenshot shows the website for the Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE), an office of the Administration for Children & Families. The page is titled "Celebrating 50 Years of Child Support Enforcement" and features a navigation menu with links for About, Parents, Child Support Professionals, Employers, Partners, Policy, Data, Grants & Waivers, and Resources. A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main content area includes a "Listen" button and a large image of a diverse group of children and adults. Below the image, there is text explaining the program's history and impact, and a link to resources for partner organizations.



## Resources to support access to child support for domestic violence survivors

The Safe Access for Victims' Economic Security (SAVES) Demonstration grant is a project in select states, including Colorado, seeking to improve access to child support for domestic violence victims. The project in Colorado has created resources you can use to engage in addressing and preventing DV as well as supporting survivors.

- [SAVES Center](#)
- [10 Ways to Engage Fathers in Addressing and Preventing DV](#)
- [Resource Links for CSS Staff](#)

## Registration is Open!

The Strengthening Colorado Families & Communities Conference is scheduled for August 26 - 28th in Keystone.

Register before July 3, 2026 to receive the early bird registration discount. Check out the [conference website](#) to stay up to date on the great line-up being created and make sure to plan ahead for this year's conference theme: *Stronger Together: Inspiring Change, Nurturing Hope.*



Strengthening Colorado  
Families & Communities  
CONFERENCE

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## Pinwheels for Prevention®

April is a time for organizations and individuals to take collective action using shared messaging and a shared campaign toolkit to raise awareness for the prevention of child maltreatment.



[The Pinwheels for Prevention® 2026 Toolkit](#) is now available. In the toolkit, you'll find: a messaging guide to help share strength-based prevention messages; ready-to-use graphics and sample social media posts; a campaign flyer; a template press release; and more! For questions, email [info@illuminatecolorado.org](mailto:info@illuminatecolorado.org).

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***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:

How do bees get to school? They take the *buzz!*

[www.cofamilycenters.org/colorado-fatherhood-network/](http://www.cofamilycenters.org/colorado-fatherhood-network/)  
[info@cofamilycenters.org](mailto:info@cofamilycenters.org) | (303) 388-1001





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