

July 21, 2026



Family Resource Center Association



Making Connections. Strengthening Families.

Welcome to Colorado Fatherhood Network (CFN)'s July 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.

Network Updates

Northeast Colorado Regional Forum

You are invited to the Colorado Fatherhood Network's **in-person Northeast Colorado (Sterling) Regional Forum** on **August 4th from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm** (*please note the new date and time*).

The forum will provide networking opportunities to strengthen father engagement efforts in the Northeast region. Participants will learn the developmental stages of fatherhood and how their work can support fathers in such stages. Participants will also receive important updates on the Colorado Fatherhood Network. Don't miss this in-person opportunity to learn, connect, and grow fatherhood supports in the Northeast.

Register [here](#).



**COLORADO
FATHERHOOD
NETWORK**

THE COLORADO FATHERHOOD NETWORK'S
**NORTHEAST COLORADO
REGIONAL FATHERHOOD FORUM**

FORUM DETAILS:

- **IN-PERSON EVENT!**
- **RESCHEDULED:**
TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2026
10:00 AM - 12:30 PM MT
- **NORTHEASTERN JUNIOR COLLEGE
HAYS STUDENT CENTER
TENNANT ART GALLERY
100 COLLEGE AVE.
STERLING, CO 80751**

RSVP HERE



PURPOSE OF THE FORUM:

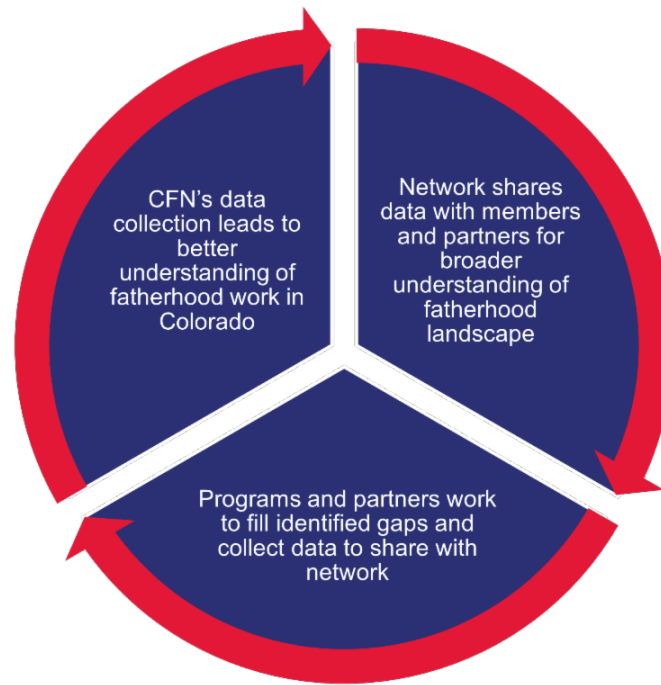
- Join the Colorado Fatherhood Network's Northeast Colorado Fatherhood Forum to connect, share, and learn with other practitioners in your community
- Network with other practitioners, programs, and stakeholders to share successes and barriers in supporting father involvement in programs
- Learn more about the Colorado Fatherhood Network and how it can support regional efforts

QUESTIONS? CONTACT ALEXA SCHAFER AT ASCHAFER@COFAMILYCENTERS.ORG

Building The Colorado Fatherhood Network's Next Chapter

The CFN's Data and Evaluation Committee is hard at work developing a Network Data and Evaluation plan to bring the CFN into its next chapter. By collecting simple, program-level data from network members around the state, the network will better understand what supports dads currently have around the state, and where there are gaps. This information will be shared with network members and community partners which can then lead to program design and partnerships aimed at filling any identified gaps.

Be on the lookout for opportunities to share your thoughts about this project!



In Case You Missed It...

Watch the recording of the CFN's June convening. You will hear updates on the CFN's Data and Evaluation Committee's work. Then, special guest speaker Virginia Howey presents on how practitioners can support fathers in their leadership development to become advocates in their communities.



COLORADO
FATHERHOOD
NETWORK

THE COLORADO FATHERHOOD NETWORK'S
JUNE 2026 CONVENING

→ Date: Wednesday, June 24th

→ Time: 10:30am - 12:00pm MT

→ Topic: Fathers in Leadership Roles

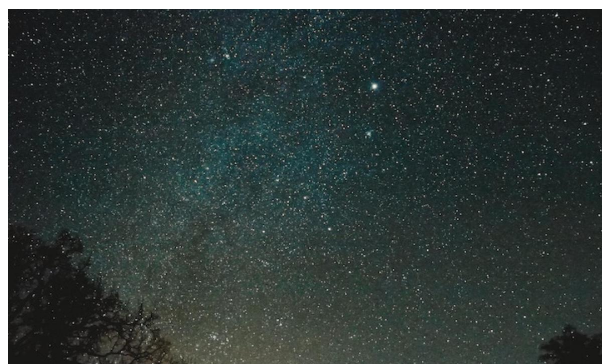
→ Join for connection and conversation on how the CFN can support leadership development for fathers



Program Resources

Parenting Resource: Magic Moments

Check out [this article from LENA](#) about everyday moments that can turn into rich conversations between parents and children. You can encourage the dads you work with to try a few of these strategies out - or give them a try yourself!



Confidence Building Activity

Check out [this activity](#) from the National Fatherhood Initiative on helping fathers identify their "True North." Instructions are included to conduct this both in a group and one-on-one.

How do family support staff engage dads?

In [this article](#), the [Children's Trust](#) shares some ways family support staff engage dads. Check it out and try out some of the methods discussed!



Upcoming FREE Training Opportunities

Check out some great upcoming training opportunities, available for FREE!

Motivational Interviewing Workshop, by the Legacy Foundation with DenverStrong:

Friday, August 21st, 9:00am-12:00pm via Zoom. [Register here.](#)

QPR Gate Keeper Training for Suicide Prevention, by DenverStrong:

Thursday, July 23, 9:00-10:00am via Webex. [Register here.](#)

Wednesday, August 12, 12:00-1:00pm via Webex. [Register here.](#)

Monday, September 14, 10:00-11:00am via Webex. [Register here.](#)

Narcan Overdose Response Training, by the [Denver Department of Public Health and Environment \(DDPHE\)](#):

Tuesday, August 11th, 2:00-3:00 pm, in-person or remote. [Register here.](#)

Tuesday, October 13th, 2:00-3:00 pm, in-person or remote. [Register here.](#)

Tuesday, December 8th, 2:00-3:00 pm, in-person or remote. [Register here.](#)

Research and News



150/250 CELEBRATING
EARLY CHILDHOOD
CHAMPIONS

150/250 Celebrating Early Childhood Champions

Congratulations to [Patrick Christensen](#) and [Deborah Young](#) for being recognized as early childhood champions by the Colorado Department of Early Childhood! We are so happy to have such great advocates for fathers in Colorado and in our network.

I Am Dad Videos by Prowers County Department of Human Services

Check out the [Prowers County Department of Human Services on Facebook](#)! They have some great videos of dads talking about their fatherhood experiences.

Registration is Open!

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

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



THE FATHERHOOD MANDATE

**REGISTER NOW TO BE
PART OF THE EXPERIENCE!**

2026 NATIONAL FATHERHOOD SUMMIT
AUGUST 3-5, 2026 | DALLAS, TX

Registration is open for the 2026 National Fatherhood Summit

Join the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Family Assistance (OFA), and the National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse (NRFC) for the 2026 National Fatherhood Summit. The 2026 Summit — taking place August 3-5 in Dallas, Texas — brings together practitioners, leaders, and partners committed to strengthening father involvement and helping families thrive.

[Register Here](#)

**National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse
PSA**

In this new PSA from the National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse, Zach shares his journey through addiction, recovery, and fatherhood.

A father of four sons and a Kentucky Army National Guard veteran, Zach speaks honestly about the long road back to his children, the work it took to rebuild trust, and the daily commitment required to become the father his family needed.

His story reminds us that fatherhood is not about perfection. It is about presence, consistency, and the courage to keep showing up.

Learn more at www.fatherhood.gov.



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 soccer players stay cool? They stand near the fans!

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