

August 18, 2026



Family Resource Center Association



Making Connections. Strengthening Families.

Welcome to Colorado Fatherhood Network (CFN)'s August 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



COLORADO
FATHERHOOD
NETWORK

THE COLORADO FATHERHOOD NETWORK'S AUGUST 2026 WEBINAR

UPCOMING WEBINAR:

- **Date: Monday, August 24th**
- **Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm MT**
- **Topic: Using Data to Inform Practice in Fatherhood Programs**
- **Presenter: Colorado Children's Campaign**



REGISTER HERE

QUESTIONS? CONTACT ALEXA AT ASCHAFFER@COFAMILYCENTERS.ORG

Upcoming Webinar

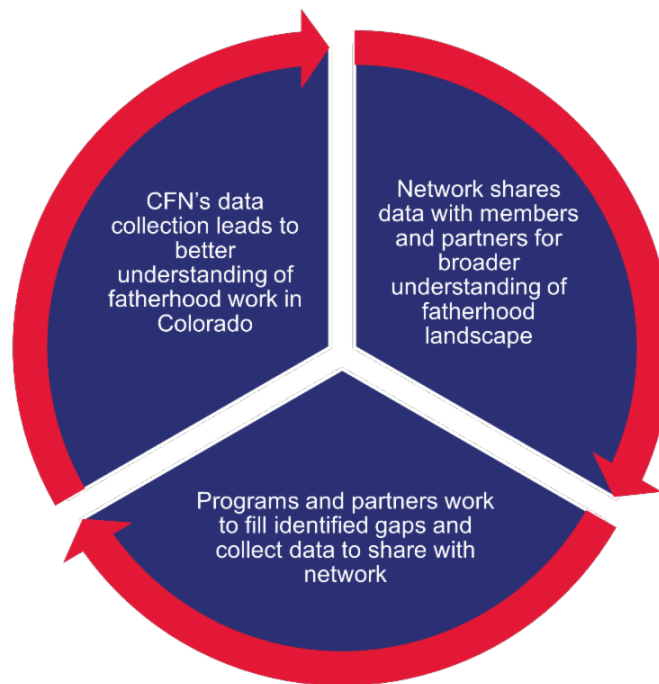
Join the Colorado Fatherhood Network to learn more about how you can be using data to inform practice in your fatherhood programs. In this webinar, you will hear from the [Colorado Children's Campaign](#) about how you can use their data report, **[KIDS COUNT in Colorado!](#)** to shape your programs, inform your partnerships, and support your messaging.

REGISTER HERE

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 July peer networking call. You will hear participants discussing how they support leadership development for fathers they work with. Discussion includes successes practitioners have seen as well as resources and supports needed.



The Colorado Fatherhood Network Out and About!

Earlier this month, the Colorado Fatherhood Network gathered practitioners in Northeast Colorado to discuss successes and barriers in supporting father involvement.

Participants made connections, learned about resources, and discussed opportunities to improve father engagement in their communities.



Thank you to everyone who joined us! Stay tuned for more in-person events around the state coming soon!

Program Resources

THE NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

National Fatherhood Mentoring and Training Academy

Join the **3rd Cohort** of our premier national mentoring program.

About the Academy: The Academy provides comprehensive training and personalized support to equip emerging leaders in fatherhood and family practice.

To date, **20 mentees** have successfully been mentored and completed all academy requirements!

We are also seeking to expand our network of Academy Mentors this year!

PROGRAM START DATE

October 5th

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Sept. 11th

Registration Details

Space is limited to ensure personalized mentorship and training.

Mentee Registration: \$500



Scan to Apply

Ready to Lead?

Dr. Jeffery M. Johnson
Program Coordinator

Submit your application today to guarantee your spot in the upcoming cohort or apply to be a mentor.

The National Fatherhood Mentoring and Training Academy

Are you, or is someone you know, an emerging leader in fatherhood and family practice? The National Fatherhood mentoring and Training Academy may be for you! Scan the QR code above to learn more and apply for this opportunity.



Training Opportunity: The Ripple Effect

The Ripple Effect: An Integrative Framework for Trauma Informed Practice Across Systems is a no-cost, virtual 2-day workshop. The

workshop will provide an integrative framework for understanding and communicating across systems about how trauma can affect a child, a family, and a system.

Project ACORN will host this workshop for Colorado infant and early childhood professionals on August 31 and September 1, 2026 from 9:00am-2:30pm. This training will occur via Zoom. All Colorado infant and early childhood professionals are welcome. More information and registration link are available [here](#).

Upcoming FREE Training Opportunities

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

QPR Gate Keeper Training for Suicide Prevention, by DenverStrong:

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, 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](#).



Quick Confidence Builds

The National Fatherhood Initiative continues their limited blog series of quick confidence builds with an activity on Fathering Stressors. The link includes instructions on facilitating this activity with a group or one-on-one. Activity instructions can be found [here](#).

Research and News



Congratulations to the Prowers County and Denver County Fatherhood Programs for your recognition at the 2026 National Fatherhood Summit! The programs were recognized for focusing on strengthening fathers' engagement, encouraging participation in life activities, and fostering healthy coparenting and consistent support. Great work, Prowers County and Denver County teams!

New Report: Increasing Access to Child Care for Parents & Caregivers Seeing SUD Treatment & Recovery Services

[Illuminate Colorado](#) will soon be releasing a new report titled Increasing Access to Child Care for Parents & Caregivers Seeking SUD Treatment & Recovery Services: Practice & Policy Recommendations. [Click here](#) to learn more about this upcoming report and to register for the Report Release Webinar.

See You at the Strengthening Colorado Families & Communities Conference!

Will you be attending the Strengthening Colorado Families & Communities Conference later this month? Come say hi to the

Colorado Fatherhood Network! Stop by our booth in the exhibit hall to learn more about how the Network can support your work. You can also attend our presentation, titled "Strengths-Based Approaches to Father-Inclusive Programs," to learn more about ways to make all family programs father-inclusive. We hope to see you in Keystone!



Strengthening Colorado
Families & Communities
CONFERENCE



When Economic Instability Undermines Fatherhood

Today's fathers aren't just expected to provide financially - they're also expected to be hands-on, emotionally present caregivers. A [study](#) (summarized [here](#)) out of Washington University in St. Louis finds that fathers have internalized the need to succeed at both simultaneously. Even for fathers who are actively involved with their kids, having low wages, not working full-time, or not owning a home can undermine how they feel about themselves as parents. When fathers feel like they're falling short, the research suggests they're more likely to disengage from parenting altogether. Programs that focus only on parenting skills without addressing the economic piece may be missing what's actually driving that disengagement.

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:
Why was the computer late for school? He had a hard drive.

www.cofamilycenters.org/colorado-fatherhood-network/
info@cofamilycenters.org | (303) 388-1001



Family Resource Center Association | 2543 California Street | Denver, CO 80205 US

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