

# Welcome!

We are so glad you are here!

We will get started shortly.  
In the meantime, we invite you to intentionally enter this space.



Silence your cell phone



Stretch



Close the door



Take a few deep breaths



Close browser windows



Emotionally release your to-do list



Check your audio and video



Take a bio break

2021 Healthy Start Virtual Grantees' Meeting  
***Closing the Fatherhood Gap in Maternal and Child Health (MCH):  
Moving Towards Family-Child Health (FCH)***  
Wednesday, November 3, 2021 || 3 pm to 4:20 pm ET



# Closing the Fatherhood Gap in Maternal and Child Health (MCH): Moving Towards Family-Child Health (FCH)

## Breakout Session

Wednesday, November 3

3-4:20 pm ET

*The Healthy Start TA & Support Center is operated by the National Institute for Children's Health Quality (NICHQ). This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant number 1 UF5MC327500100 titled Supporting Healthy Start Performance Project.*

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National Institute for  
Children's Health Quality

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TA & SUPPORT CENTER





# Agenda

Housekeeping

Danisha Charles, Healthy Start TA & Support Center

Welcome & Introduction

Danisha Charles, TASC

Closing the Fatherhood Gap in Maternal and Child Health (MCH)

Kenn L. Harris, TASC  
Kenneth Scarborough,  
National Healthy Start Association

KEEP Fathers Engaged

Matthew Cournoyer,,  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Q&A

All

Closing

Danisha Charles, TASC





This session is being recorded.



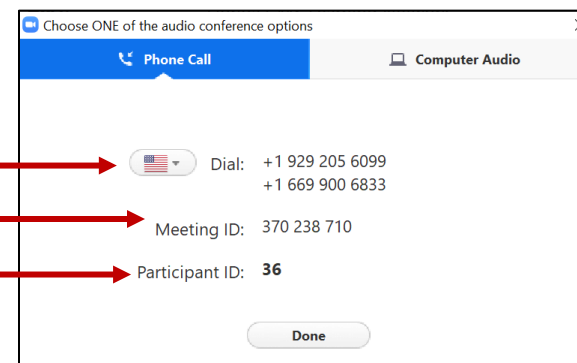
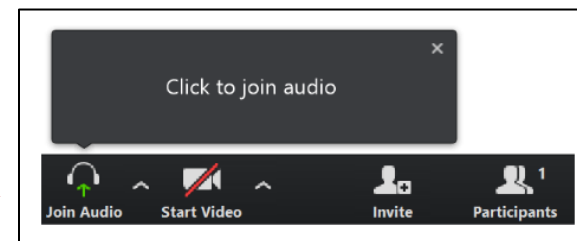
All participants are muted upon entry. We ask that you remain muted to limit background noise.



Participants are encouraged to share comments via the Chat module and ask questions via the Q&A module in Whova (on the mobile app or browser).

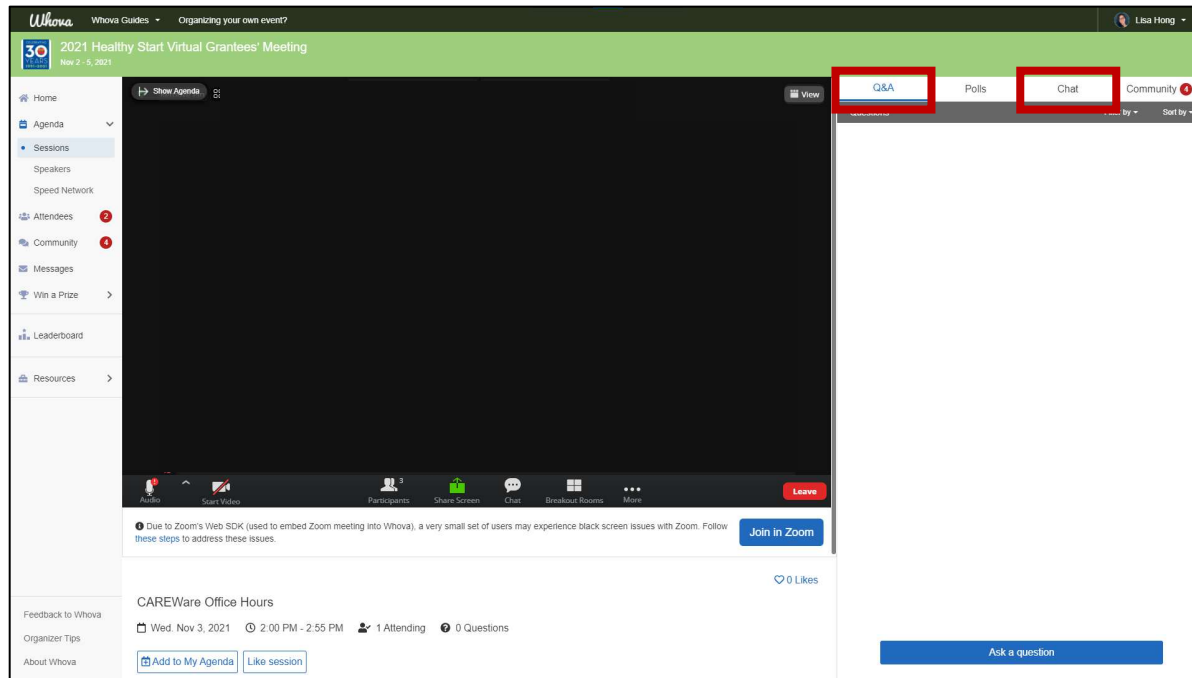
# Audio

- After you join the Zoom session, an audio conference box may appear.
  - If you do not see the box, click **'Join Audio'**
- From the audio conference box, select **'Phone Call'** or **'Computer Audio'**
  - If using the phone:
    - Dial one of the given numbers next to **'Dial'**
    - You will be prompted to enter the **Meeting ID**
    - Then you will be prompted to enter the **Participant ID**

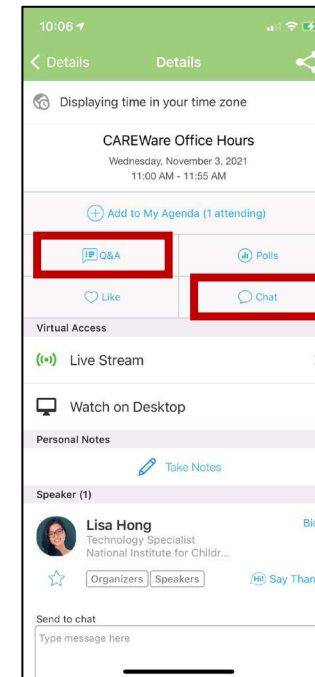


# Chat and Q&A modules in Whova

## Chrome Browser



## Mobile Application



# Like what you see?

*The Healthy Start TA & Support Center is now active on social media!*

1. Take a picture or a screenshot
2. Share on Instagram or Twitter!
3. Don't forget to tag @HS\_TASC and @NICHQ and include hashtags #HealthyStartVGM2021 and #HealthyStartStrong



# Technical Issues

If you experience any technical challenges with Whova, please email [support@whova.com](mailto:support@whova.com).



# Welcome & Introduction

**Danisha Charles**

Healthy Start TA &  
Support Center

#HealthyStartVGM2021  
#HealthyStartStrong  
@HS\_TASC @NICHQ

*Closing the Fatherhood Gap in Maternal and Child Health  
Hosted by the Healthy Start TA & Support Center at NICHQ on November 3, 2021*

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# Welcome to the VGM!

We hope you have been enjoying today's sessions so far!

#HealthyStartVGM2021  
#HealthyStartStrong  
@HS\_TASC @NICHQ

*Closing the Fatherhood Gap in Maternal and Child Health  
Hosted by the Healthy Start TA & Support Center at NICHQ on November 3, 2021*

## In this breakout, you will:

- Develop an increased understanding of how and why father engagement has been important from the start and its importance in strengthening outcomes for children and families in Healthy Start programs.
- Learn a framework of approaches and strategies for engagement at three levels—program, organization, and system.
- Learn from several concrete examples of that programs, including those primarily or historically focused on serving children, mothers, and/or families rather than fathers specifically, can use to improve their engagement of fathers.
- Explore considerations related to engaging fathers equitably and achieving equitable outcomes through engagement.

# Our Speakers

## **Matthew Cournoyer**

Presidential Management Fellow  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and  
Evaluation

## **Kenn L. Harris**

Executive Director  
Healthy Start TA & Support Center (TASC)  
National Institute for Children's Health Quality  
(NICHQ)

## **Kenneth Scarborough**

Fatherhood and Men's Health Consultant  
National Healthy Start Association (NHSA)

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**#HealthyStartStrong**

**@HS\_TASC @NICHQ**

*Closing the Fatherhood Gap in Maternal and Child Health*

*Hosted by the Healthy Start TA & Support Center at NICHQ on November 3, 2021*

# Questions during the session?

Use the Q&A module in the Whova platform and make sure to identify the speaker to whom you are directing your question(s).

Questions will be answered during the session if time permits. Otherwise, questions will be addressed post-session.

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# Kenn Harris



Executive Director & Engagement Lead  
Healthy Start TA & Support Center  
(TASC)  
National Institute for Children's Health  
Quality (NICHQ)



The logo for HRSA Maternal & Child Health. It features a red stylized icon of a person holding a child to the left of the text "HRSA" in large, bold, blue letters. Below "HRSA" is the text "Maternal & Child Health" in a smaller, red, sans-serif font.

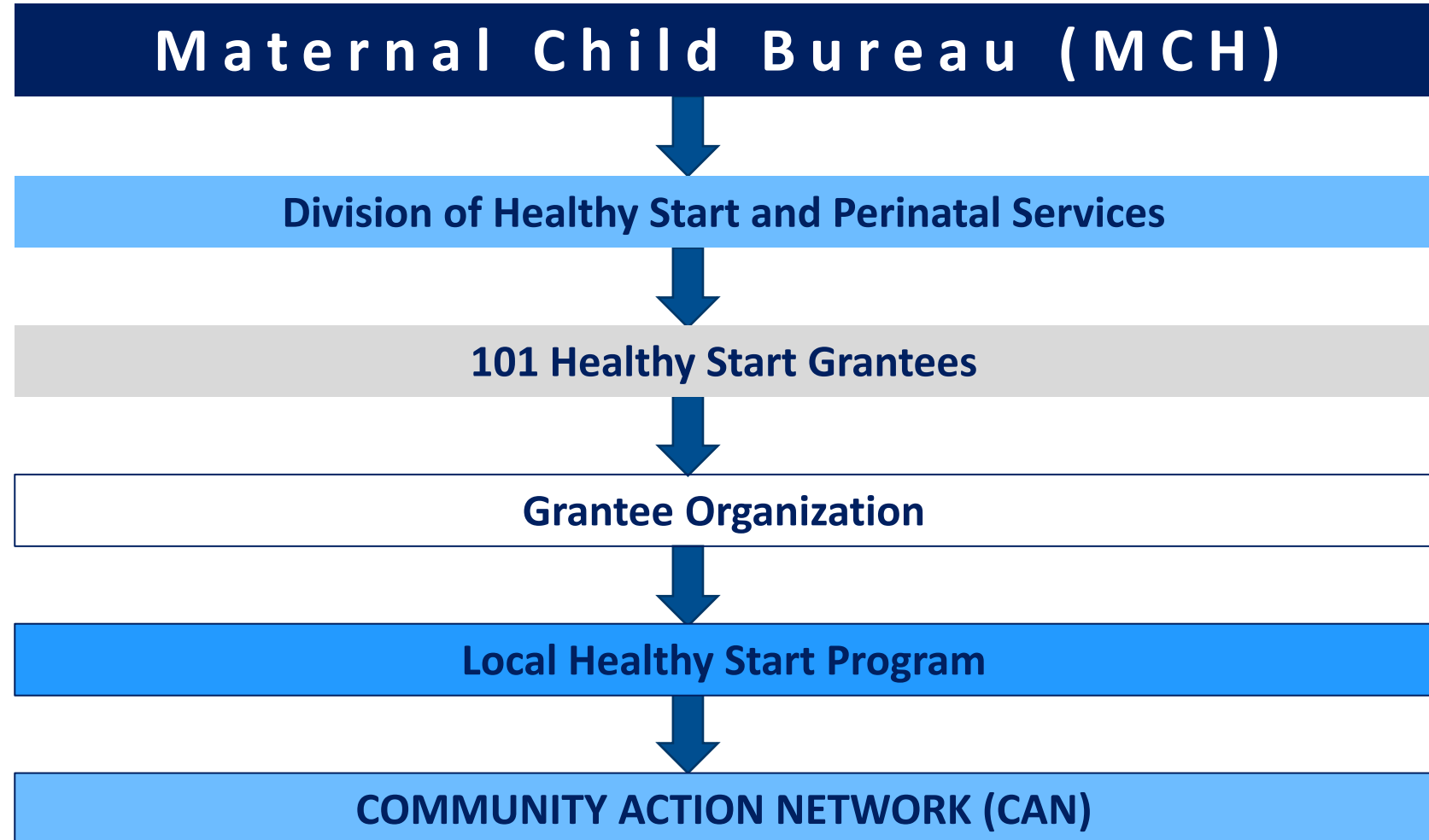
# HRSA

## Maternal & Child Health

**Dr. Brandon Wood**, DHSPS Project Officer and NICHQ Liaison for Fatherhood  
DHSPS Activities: Fatherhood Workgroup Lead  
HS States: IL, IN

# Inclusion, Investment, Involvement

- ✓  Resources dedicated to father inclusion
- ✓  Fatherhood a required component
- ✓  Expectation for integration and serving 100 fathers/partners
  
- ✓  Responded to NOFO father inclusion in program design
- ✓  Implementation of services for fathers/partners
- ✓  Build community partnerships to sustain father engagement



# Healthy Start TA & Support Center

If have any questions or need any support, please email [healthystart@nichq.org](mailto:healthystart@nichq.org)



# Kenneth Scarborough, MDIV, MPH



Fatherhood and Men's Health  
Consultant  
National Healthy Start Association  
(NHSA)







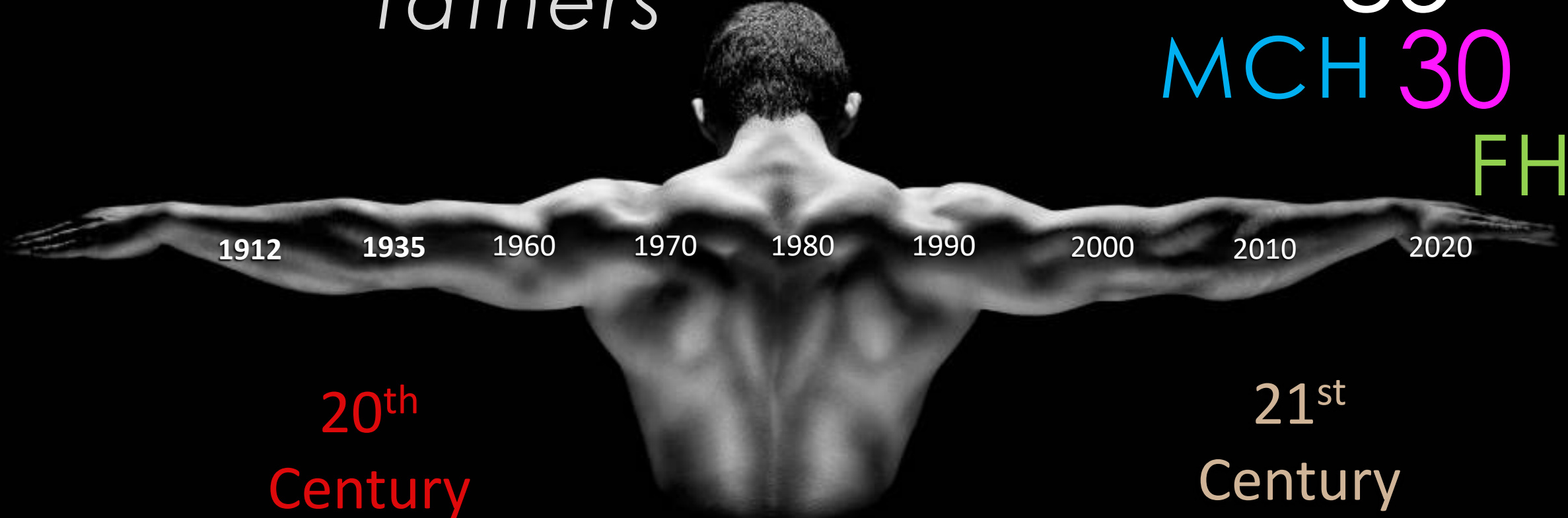
Moving towards Family-Child Health (FCH)

A close-up photograph of a man with dark skin and dreadlocks kissing a young boy on the cheek. The man has his eyes closed and a gentle smile, while the boy is seen in profile, also smiling. They are both wearing light-colored, vertically striped shirts. The background is a plain, light grey.

Closing the Fatherhood Gap in  
Maternal and Child Health (MCH)

# building fatherhood *fathers*

85  
MCH 30  
FH



1912 1935 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010 2020

20<sup>th</sup>  
Century  
Fatherhood

21<sup>st</sup>  
Century  
Fatherhood





Healthy Start provides male involvement/fatherhood programs that provide opportunities for men to engage in the well-being of children, supports healthy relationships between parents, and provides an opportunity for self-sufficiency and the economic stability of the family. Through the engagement of fathers, HS grantees strive to improve men's health and provide support for strengthening life skills.

## from the start

**Promote Father Involvement,** HS sites have engaged in efforts to involve fathers in program activities

improving the well-being of children by increasing the proportion of children growing up with involved, responsible, and committed fathers.

involving fathers in providing practical support during pregnancy and in raising children, as well as helping parents develop supportive and effective relationships with each other and their children.





# Matthew Cournoyer

Presidential Management Fellow  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation

# KEEP Fathers Engaged

Key Programmatic Elements of Father Engagement to  
Promote Self-Sufficiency

November 2021



Matt Cournoyer

# What is KEEP Fathers Engaged?

- Identify key approaches and strategies used to better engage fathers
- Examine a range of human services programs
- Interview program staff and solicit feedback from fatherhood experts
- Develop case studies, issue briefs, webinars and other tools for practitioners and program staff

# Defining father engagement

***Father engagement*** refers to the ***purposeful inclusion of fathers*** (including those who are biological, social, resident, nonresident, and stepfathers) in program services and activities with the ***goal of improving outcomes for fathers, children, and families***. Strategies to promote father engagement may include recruiting, enrolling, and maintaining active participation of fathers in programs, involving fathers in developing policies and programs, and integrating fathers into program operations.



# A Framework for Father Engagement

A stylized, light blue graphic of a man's profile is positioned on the right side of the slide. The profile is composed of several overlapping, wavy lines that create a sense of movement and depth. The background is a solid, dark blue color.

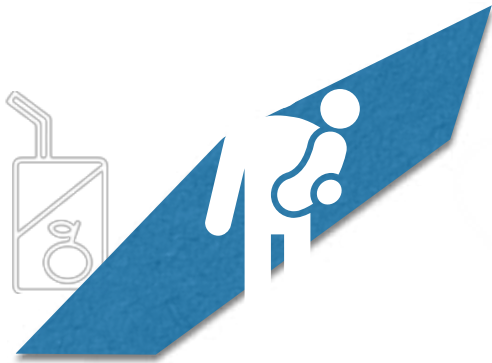
# Father Engagement in Services

Father engagement is the purposeful inclusion of fathers in program services, with the goal of improving outcomes for fathers, children, and families. Programs, organizations, and systems all play a role in promoting father engagement in services.



# Strategies for Father Engagement



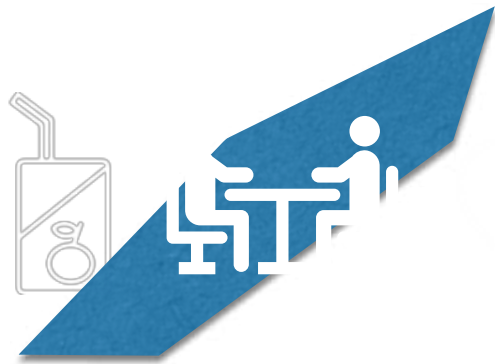


## Tailor recruitment and intake methods and create a father-friendly environment

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- Go into the community to reach fathers
- Highlight the importance of fathers to their children's outcomes
- Increase male staff representation





## Leverage community partnerships, train staff, and include in organizational goals

- 
- Align father engagement with the organization's mission
  - Train all staff to engage fathers
  - Collect data for continuous quality improvement
  - Identify and collaborate with partner organizations



## Identify and break down systemic barriers to father engagement

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- Review intra-agency policies to ensure that internal policies are father-friendly
- Align policies across programs to reduce barriers to father engagement
- Include fathers' voices in policy, technical assistance, and research development

# Case Study



# Case Study: Father Engagement in Family Nutrition and Health Programs



## California WIC Association

Lessons learned about supporting and encouraging local program practices to engage fathers:

- Commissioned a committee to study father engagement in WIC
- Provide local programs concrete guidance and resources:
  - Toolkit (available at <https://www.calwic.org/what-we-do/engage-wic-families/engaging-men-a-dads/>)
  - Conferences and events
  - Trainings
- Identify ways to put father inclusion into practice at local level:
  - Engage and train staff on the inclusion of dads
  - Make the environment friendly to dads
  - Focus on ways dad can bond with the baby
  - Provide service referrals and build community partnerships

# Case Study: Father Engagement in Healthy Start Programs

Fatherhood  
PRIDE  
(Florida)

Lessons learned about improving recruitment, enrollment and participation of fathers:

- Enhance engagement by emphasizing a separate focus on fathers.
- Develop partnerships with key systems serving fathers to promote engagement.
- Leverage targeted enrollment and social supports to improve ongoing participation.
- Lessons and considerations:
  - Emphasize a father focus by including programs that support fathers
  - Capture a father's motivation to participate during the intake process
  - Tap into a father's social network to increase his participation



# Sample Intake Topics to Promote Father Engagement

## When working with the father:

- Relationship with children
- Family composition
- Financial responsibilities
- Work schedule and availability
- Barriers to participating in services
- Preferred communication method

## When working with the mother:

- Father's relationship with children
- Family composition or level of father involvement

# Resources for Practitioners:

<https://aspe.hhs.gov/father-engagement>

## Podcasts:

- [New Insights from an Early Childhood Nonprofit That Supports Fathers](#)
- [How Fatherhood Programs Supported Dads During the Pandemic](#)



# Q&A

Please submit questions using the Q&A module in the Whova platform.

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A photograph of a Black man with a beard, wearing a white t-shirt, smiling warmly while holding a baby in his arms. The baby is also wearing a white t-shirt. The background is a bright, blurred indoor setting.

# Thank you for joining us!

If you need any support...

Please email [healthystart@nichq.org](mailto:healthystart@nichq.org)

**Upcoming Session:** 4:30 pm ET  
**Collaborative Approaches to Addressing  
Maternal and Infant Health Disparities**

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