



TA & Support Center News & Updates

June/July Healthy Start Events & Deadlines

Deadlines:

Jun 15	HSMED-II Report (CSV or XML) Due
Jun 30	Aggregate Report (Excel) Due
Jun 30	Grantee Performance Report Due
Jul 15	HSMED-II Report (CSV or XML) Due
Jul 31	Final Aggregate Report & Corrections Due
Ongoing	Fathering in 15 Curriculum

Events:

Jun 24	HS CAN Learning Academy Session #2
Jul 16	NFI 24/7 Dad Webinar Training
Jul 19	TIROE CoP Learning Session #3 – COP members only
Jul 20	4th Trimester Webinar Series Session #2
Jul 21	HS COIN Meeting #7 – COIN members only
Jul 22	HS CAN Learning Academy Session #3
Jul 29	Fatherhood Learning Academy Session #1

COVID-19 Vaccination

Vaccines are one of the most effective ways to protect your health and the health of those around you. MCHB's Division of Healthy Start and Perinatal Services (DHSPS) encourages you to consider opportunities to leverage your programs and partnerships to support confidence in and uptake of COVID-19 vaccines among MCH populations, for example:

- The Administration's organizing efforts, including Community Canvassing, Phone Banking, Text Banking, and Vaccination Events, will focus on what we know works best to ensure everyone has equitable vaccine access: *person-to-person action that connects people with key resources and information*. MCH programs can support these efforts by visiting <https://wecandothis.hhs.gov/> which includes available [resources](#) that you can use to support the communities you serve.
- Four of the nation's largest child care providers will offer free child care to all parents and caregivers getting vaccinated or recovering from vaccination from now until July 4th.
- Extended hours at pharmacies across the country will offer more flexible appointment availability in June.

- Visit <https://www.vaccines.gov/incentives.html> to learn more about some available vaccine incentives.

To learn more about estimates for vaccine hesitancy in the local communities, counties, and states you serve, visit the Office of The Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation mapping tool [here](#).

For more information on COVID-19 Vaccinations for Children and Teens, visit the CDC resources [here](#) and the *We Can Do This* resources page [here](#), which includes an Adolescent COVID-19 Vaccinations Toolkit among other resources.

Deadline Extended: Mental Health Training Scholarship Applications

The Healthy Start TA & Support Center (TASC) is still accepting applications for the following mental health training scholarship opportunities:

- [Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders: Components of Care Training](#)
 - **65 spots left for either August 11-12 or August 20-21 trainings**
- [Mental Health First Aid for Adults Training](#)
 - **8 spots left for August 19 training**
 - **11 spots left for August 27 training**
- [Wellness Coaching Training](#)
 - **1 spot left for self-paced online training**

We have linked the applications for each training above. **Please submit your application by COB Friday, July 9.** For more information about each opportunity, [please click here](#). If you have already submitted an application for any of the training opportunities, please do not reapply. Please note, you can only be selected to receive one training scholarship.

24/7 Dad Webinar Training

TASC is happy to announce we have partnered with National Fatherhood Initiative (NFI) to offer their 24/7 Dads[©] Webinar Training to Healthy Start grantees on **Friday, July 16 from 12-5 p.m. ET**. 24/7 Dads[©] is an evidence-based fatherhood program used by hundreds of organizations across the nation to improve the knowledge, behavior, and skills of dads of all races, religions, and demographics. The program is built on the basis that fathers can be nurturers, and for men, nurturing is a learned skill. Training attendees will learn more about the program and how to use it with their Healthy Start clients.

- To register for the training, [please click here](#).

4th Trimester Series Webinar #2

Please join TASC for Webinar #2 of the three-part 4th Trimester Webinar Series on **Tuesday, July 20 from 12-1:30 p.m. ET**. This webinar will feature Inas Mahdi, MPH and Phoebe Wescott, MPH of the National Birth Equity Collaborative

(NBEC). During the webinar, we will discuss strategies for promoting equity during the fourth trimester and better serving Healthy Start participants.

- To register for Webinar #2, [please click here](#).
- If you missed Webinar #1 on June 21, 2021, you can [watch the recording here](#). The first webinar featured Kimberly D. Harper, MSN, RN, MHA; Kimberly Tully, PhD; and Sarah Verbiest, DrPh, MSW, MPH of the UNC Collaborative for Maternal and Infant Health and the Maternal Health Learning and Innovation Center.
- The final webinar (Webinar #3) will be held on **Tuesday, August 17 from 2:30-4 p.m. ET** and will include a discussion led by NBEC and UNC staff. To register for the final webinar, [please click here](#).

Healthy Start Mentoring Program

TASC is looking forward to launching the next Healthy Start Mentoring Program, in partnership with the National Healthy Start Association (NHSA), in August. The Mentoring Program provides an opportunity for experienced Healthy Start Project Directors with proven expertise to mentor another Healthy Start program. The application for the Mentoring Program will be available in July and information about the application will be shared via the weekly update emails and newsletter. To sign up to receive these communications, please email healthystart@nichq.org.

In Case You Missed it...

HS CAN Learning Academy Session #2 – Community Engagement & Collective Impact

Session #2 for the Community Action Network (CAN) Learning Academy took place on Thursday, June 24. It was facilitated by Angela Ellison in partnership with TASC staff and other subject matter experts. The goal of the CAN Learning Academy is to empower grantees to elevate their CAN to address maternal and child health disparities and other disparities by implementing CAN activities that are developed using a racial equity lens.

- To register for Session #3, [please click here](#).
- To view the content from Session #1, [please click here](#).
- To view the content from Session #2, [please click here](#).

Quality Improvement Learning Academy Session #5

On June 18, TASC hosted the final session in the five-part Quality Improvement Learning Academy. This Learning Academy focused on building knowledge and skills around Quality Improvement and is facilitated by HS TA & Support Center (TASC) staff, in partnership with Quality Improvement Advisor Jane Taylor, over a period of approximately 5 months.

- To view the webinar recording, [please click here](#).

Fatherhood Talk Tuesday

Thank you for joining TASC for Fatherhood Talk Tuesday webinar on June 8. Dr. Kevin Billups, Professor of Medicine & Urology at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, TN, discussed a practical approach to men's health in the era of COVID-19.

- To view the webinar recording, [please click here](#).
- Please note, TASC will not be hosting Fatherhood Talk Tuesday in July and August.

Networking Café: Enduring Challenges Amidst COVID-19

Thank you for joining TASC for the Healthy Start Networking Café on June 7. Networking cafés are informal lunchtime sessions, which provide Healthy Start staff an opportunity to come together and share their experiences, challenges, and strategies around a specific topic. This session focused on continued challenges due to COVID-19. Healthy Start staff shared challenges they are experiencing due to COVID-19, as well as strategies that have helped their teams continue to support families amidst COVID-19.

- To view the recording, [please click here](#).
- If you have an idea for a topic for a future Networking Café, please email healthystart@nichq.org.

Legacy of Slavery and Impact of Racism on Breastfeeding Webinar

On June 1, TASC hosted the Legacy of Slavery and Impact of Racism on Breastfeeding Webinar. This webinar was facilitated by Reaching Our Sisters Everywhere (ROSE) and featured input that Healthy Start Breastfeeding Cohort participants provided during a focus group in early May. ROSE discussed the impact of slavery on health in general, and the health of Black mothers and infants, specifically. The team provided potential strategies to support Healthy Start projects and staff in addressing the legacy of slavery on maternal and child health—including breastfeeding—in their daily work.

- To view the webinar recording, [please click here](#).

Rapid Response Virtual Home Visiting Webinar #3

On May 26, TASC hosted the third and final session in the Rapid Response Virtual Home Visiting Series. This webinar focused on identifying families' needs as states and communities transition to less rigorous COVID-19 rules and regulations; building upon current strategies to support families in staying connected with others; and identifying virtual resources to support home visitors in meeting the needs of families.

- To access the slides and recordings from each webinar, please click the following links: [Webinar #1](#) || [Webinar #2](#) || [Webinar #3](#)

How Can We Support You?

We want to better understand how we can support you in navigating the next year in the midst of the pandemic. [Please take five minutes to complete this](#)

short survey.

We truly appreciate your ideas and input and look forward to responding to your needs. As always, we encourage you to send stories about your successes and challenges to healthystart@nichq.org. Your #HealthyStartStrong story may be featured in an upcoming webinar or newsletter.



June: Men's Health Month

June is Men's Health Month, a time for men, boys, and their support systems—including their families, friends, community members, and health care providers—to acknowledge the importance of men's physical and mental well-being. This includes discussing and raising awareness of common preventable health issues among men, as well as the importance of early detection and treatment. For Healthy Start programs, in particular, this month is a time to reflect on the role of fathers within families, within their children's lives, and within the field of maternal and child health.

Historically, research has shown that men are [less likely to exhibit help-seeking behaviors](#) and more likely to avoid health care, due to stigma and gendered beliefs about social roles and masculinity. Over the past year, the COVID-19 pandemic has led to higher levels of [health care avoidance or delay](#) among Americans in general. According to the CDC, four out of 10 American adults reported avoiding routine and non-emergent medical care from March to June 2020. This delay and avoidance of health care could lead to an increased risk of morbidity and/or mortality from treatable and preventable health conditions.

In addition to the delay and avoidance of health care, the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting isolation has been associated with [increased anxiety and stress](#), as well as negative changes in dietary and exercise habits. Now more than ever, it is essential for men to take care of their physical and mental health and well-being. Healthy Start projects and their fatherhood programs can play an important role in connecting fathers to health care services and educating fathers on the impact their physical and mental health and well-being has on their families. To support Healthy Start programs in these efforts, the TASC has gathered the below resources. We hope this information guides your day-to-day interactions with fathers and strengthens your work to promote families' physical and mental health. Please feel free to share with Healthy Start fathers and partners.



Supporting Father Involvement and Co-parenting Webinar Series

This [webinar series](#) from Brazelton Touchpoints Center explored how early childhood programs, home visitors, health and mental health providers, and community agencies can increase their effectiveness in supporting father engagement and co-parenting. It discussed and shared strategies, tools, and outcomes from the [Supporting Father Involvement \(SFI\) Program](#), an evidence-based research and intervention program.

Supporting The Inclusion of Fathers in Child And Family Services Webinar

[This webinar](#) from the University of Wisconsin-Madison explored strategies and techniques for supporting inclusion of fathers that can be applied across a range of services and service delivery models including infant and early childhood mental health, parenting support, healthcare, and education services. The webinar discussed how father-inclusive programming can support the caring, involved presence of fathers in the lives of children.

Men: Take Charge of Your Health

[This webpage](#) from the Department of Health and Human Services provides information to support men in taking steps to improve their health. Topics include developing healthy habits; making small changes; getting preventive health care; and navigating health care costs and insurance. The webpage is also available in [Spanish](#).

Young Men's Health

[This website](#)—developed by the Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine at Boston Children's Hospital—provides information for young men and teens on the basics of health and specific diseases and conditions. The site also includes interactive guides, a place to ask health questions, and section for parents.

Men's Health Network Online Support Community

Men's Health Network (MHN) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to reach men, boys, and their families where they live, work, play, and pray with health awareness and disease prevention messages and tools. [The MHN Online Support Community](#) provides a safe place for patients and caregivers to connect and support

one another on a variety of topics such as prostate health, low testosterone, and sexual health.

Men's Health Network Wear Blue Campaign

[MHN's Wear Blue Campaign](#) seeks to raise awareness about men's need to attend regular check-ups and receive education about health issues that affect men (e.g., testicular cancer, prostate cancer, cardiovascular disease, skin cancer, lung cancer, diabetes, etc.). Their website shares information, tools, and resources to help you plan an impactful Wear BLUE event where you live, work, play, and pray.

Recruit and Retain Fathers

The National Fatherhood Initiative (NFI) has developed a [free resource](#) on recruiting and retaining fathers in your fatherhood program. The webpage explores the five keys for enrolling and keeping fathers in your program: 1) successful recruitment tactics, 2) successful retention tactics, 3) creating a positive image in your community, 4) ideas for connecting with your community, and 5) the importance of innovating in the first four areas.

Father Friendly Check-up

NFI has also developed a free tool called the [Father Friendly Check-up](#), which can help you assess how your organization encourages (or doesn't encourage) father involvement in the activities and programs offered by your organization. The free download includes a video with instructions for using the tool, the tool itself, and a strategic planning document to use after you complete the assessment.

All Men Are Sons Documentary

[All Men Are Sons](#) is a PBS documentary, which shares the stories of five men from diverse backgrounds, including their relationships with their fathers. The documentary explore ways to raise boys to be less violent and more emotionally expressive, providing an intimate glimpse at how the vital father-son relationship molds these ideals. To watch excerpts from the documentary, please [click here](#).

Fatherhood Project Resources

[The Fatherhood Project](#)—an initiative by Massachusetts General Hospital and the Harvard Medical School Teaching Hospital—has created an ongoing, curated selection of high quality, downloadable resources for fathers. Topics include assessing your level of involvement at your child's school; building healthy emotional connections with your child; and relationship check-ups for fathers and their co-parents and/or children.

Other Resources:

New Notice of Funding Opportunity: Accessing Social Determinants of Health Data Through Local Data Intermediaries Initiative

The Office of Minority Health (OMH) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services administers grant programs to support projects that implement innovative models to improve minority health and reduce health disparities. OMH recently

released a new funding opportunity announcement for the Accessing Social Determinants of Health Data through Local Data Intermediaries Initiative. The purpose of this initiative is to demonstrate whether existing local data intermediaries can facilitate community stakeholder access to and utilization of integrated community-level data and increase community stakeholder skill and capacity to use and apply data to address health disparities among racial and ethnic minority populations. *Applications are due at 6 p.m. ET on Wednesday, July 28.*

- For more information about the opportunity and how to apply, please [click here](#).

Substance Use Disorder and Pregnancy Webinar

The Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Office of Regional Operations (ORO) in Regions 5, 6, and 7 hosted a webinar on Substance Use Disorder and Pregnancy on Tuesday, June 22. This webinar was part of ORO Regions 5, 6, and 7's Maternal Health Webinar Series. The series' goal is to highlight innovations and promising practices as well as resources to promote and further maternal health and well-being across the lifespan.

- For more information and to access the webinar recording, please [click here](#).

SAMHSA SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) Initiative

The SAMHSA SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) initiative is a national program designed to increase access to the disability income benefit programs administered by the Social Security Administration (SSA) for eligible children and adults who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness and have a serious mental illness, medical impairment, and/or a co-occurring substance use disorder. SOAR is a key part of a systemic response to ending youth and family homelessness and represents an innovative model for increasing income and housing stability for children and youth who have disabling conditions, particularly for those exiting foster care. The SAMHSA SOAR TA Center has developed tools and resources available to providers working with children, youth, and families including the SOAR Online Course: Child Curriculum.

- For more information about SOAR, please [click here](#).

Maternal Health Learning and Innovation Center Webinar

The Maternal Health Learning and Innovation Center (MHLIC) is hosting a webinar on Tuesday, July 13 at 1 p.m. ET titled "Doulas and Respectful Care: Supporting Models that Support Families." The webinar will include a panel of doulas who will provide insight on their experience with supporting pregnant people and their families. It will also provide lessons learned from local and state partnerships to inform how health officials can effectively support community-based doulas. To register, [please click here](#).



Healthy Start Fatherhood Corner

TASC is excited to support Healthy Start staff in their efforts to engage fathers. To that end, we will share resources and information for Healthy Start programs and fatherhood coordinators related to fathers/partners in this “Fatherhood Corner” of the SHSPP monthly newsletter.

If you are doing work that specifically demonstrates successful inclusion of fathers in your MCH program, you are invited to share your story with us so that it can potentially be featured in the Fatherhood Corner or the new quarterly Fatherhood newsletter! Please email your stories to healthystart@nichq.org.

TASC Quarterly Fatherhood Newsletter

Beginning in July, TASC will be distributing a quarterly Fatherhood newsletter! The Fatherhood newsletters will feature TASC events related to fatherhood, as well as external events and resources on the topic. This newsletter will be geared towards Fatherhood Coordinators and other Healthy Start staff who work with dads. The newsletter will highlight and promote learning opportunities, helpful resources, Healthy Start site and staff spotlights, commentary from experts, and so much more! If you or your site would like to share a success story about working with fathers in your community, please email healthystart@nichq.org.

Partner4Fatherhood (P4F)

TASC is excited to launch Partner4Fatherhood (P4F), an informal group that will bring together new and experienced Fatherhood Coordinators to connect, share wins and barriers, and discuss their Healthy Start projects’ work around fatherhood. All Healthy Start Fatherhood Coordinators and other staff who work with fathers are invited to join. In addition to serving as a fellowship opportunity with a mentoring structure, the group will allow participants to share their insights and concerns with the entire group while also being paired with another member for a more

concentrated dialogue. If you are interested in participating in this group, please email healthystart@nichq.org.

Moynihan Institute Webinars

The Moynihan Institute for Research and Policy conducts research and provides policy positions on issues that impact Black families from the perspective of fathers. Each month, the institute hosts a webinar for fathers. The next webinar will be held on **July 15 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. ET** and will focus on “Employment and Wealth Gap Opportunities for Black Fathers.” To learn more and to register for a webinar, please [click here](#).



Hosting or attending an exciting event or webinar?

We will use the EPIC Center [Training Calendar](#) to share information about events specifically planned for Healthy Start projects, as well as other relevant webinars, trainings, and other events that are open to the public. If you know of events or trainings that you think other Healthy Start projects should be aware of, please feel free to send information to healthystart@nichq.org.

Have questions? Either respond to this email or contact the sender on healthystart@nichq.org

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