

Continuing the Conversation: Lessons from the Love4Dads Summit
May 7, 2026

Q: Will you consider the time considering that February is a winter month?

A: Yes, we can consider another time. As this was the first L4D Summit, we initially intended it to coincide with Valentine's Day to build upon the love theme, however, our team will explore options for the timing of a next event.

Q: Mental Health is such an important aspect to ensuring the baby attaches to both the mother and father. I am glad to see that you all are addressing this.

A: Fathers were quite interested and receptive to the conversations about mental health and bonding with baby. A lot of the feedback around bonding was related to feeling encouraged by the very simple things that they can do to bond with baby (such as kangaroo care, feedings, etc.), particularly when moms have such a large role in the baby's care. We also discussed it can also positively impact Dad's mental health, and mom's too by giving her a break, reducing burnout, stress, and relationship friction.

Q: How can we get on the email list for future events?

A: Register here: <https://learn.4k4dads.com/register/>

Q: Is it possible to have the conversation continue across all Healthy Start sites and create a plan that we all can align our programs with best practices for fatherhood?

A: Please visit the [Fatherhood Forum](#) in the Healthy Start Hub to continue the conversation and share information across sites. The TASC is also exploring ways to continue to support best practice in fatherhood programming.

Q: Are there plans to have more community fathers present?

A: We intentionally solicited Healthy Start sites to invite community dads to join them for the inaugural event. And while we'd like to continue to include community fathers in the national event, we received feedback highlighting the difficulties many dads face in scheduling time away from home particularly during the work week. Based on that feedback, while we are open to inviting community dads to the national summit, it seems a more feasible option is for HS sites to offer similar community-based events, modeled off the L4D Summit, at the local level to attract more community dads to participate.