



Snapshot of Responsible Fatherhood (RF) Grant Recipients Serving Community Fathers:

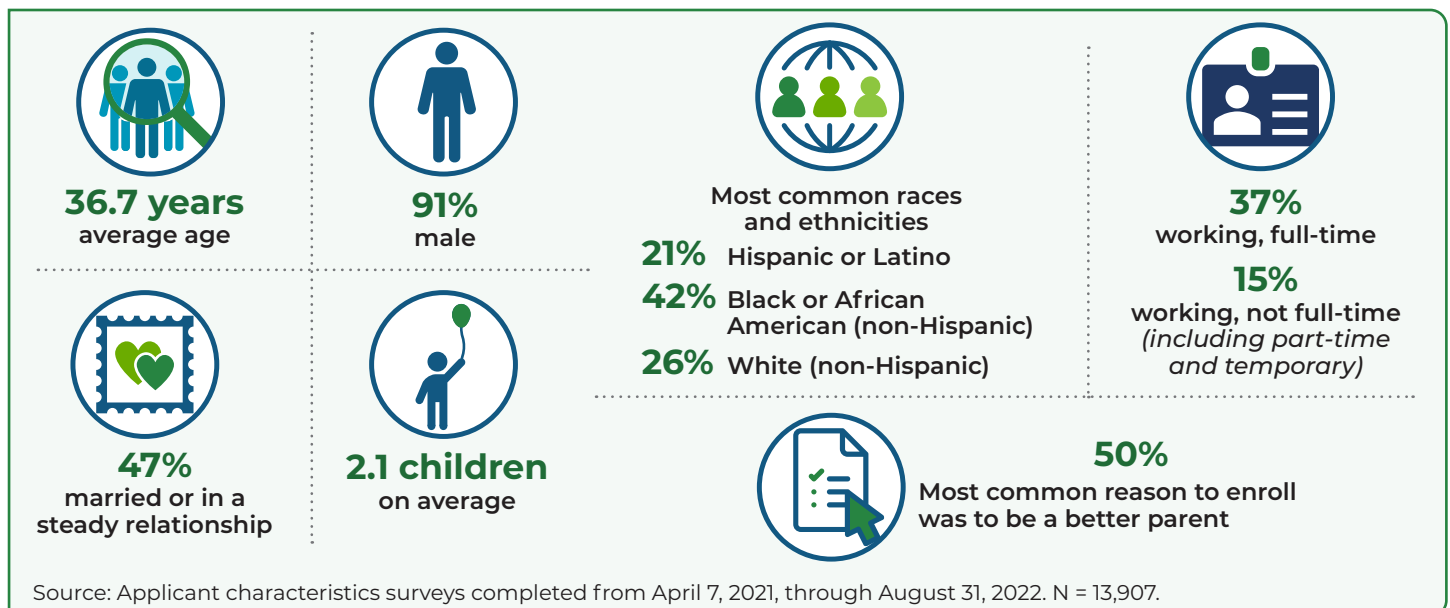
Characteristics and progress during the first two grant years

In 2020, the Office of Family Assistance (OFA) in the Administration for Children and Families awarded Fatherhood–Family-Focused, Interconnected, Resilient, and Essential (Fatherhood FIRE) grants to promote responsible parenting, healthy relationships, and economic stability. Fatherhood FIRE grant recipients provide group-based workshops and case management services. Fathers in the community can enroll as individuals or with another person, who could be their partner or co-parent. We refer to them collectively as “community fathers.” Clients can also enroll if they are within nine months of release from incarceration and intend to return to their communities and families. We refer to them as “reentering fathers” and provide information about them in a separate snapshot.

This snapshot focuses on community fathers the grant recipients served and how they served them during the first two grant years (October 2020– September 2022). Data sources are described at the end of the snapshot.



Exhibit 1. Characteristics of community fathers who enrolled



Recruitment methods

Exhibit 2. Most common ways Fatherhood FIRE grant recipients recruited clients



Source: Program operations surveys completed from October 1, 2021, through September 27, 2022.
Note: The graphic includes all Fatherhood FIRE grant recipients, including those that served community fathers and/or reentering fathers. Grant recipients could select more than one response option. The graphic shows the five most common recruitment methods used by grant recipients. Other recruitment methods that grant recipients could select were street outreach and other. The yearly average number of grant recipients responding to the items in this graphic was 54.

Fatherhood FIRE services

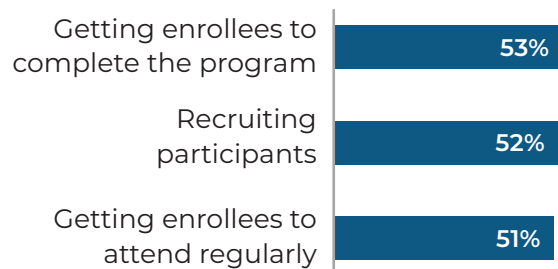
Exhibit 3. Participation of community fathers in services offered by Fatherhood FIRE grant recipients



Source: nFORM 2.0 data reported from April 7, 2021, through September 29, 2022. N = 13,907.
Note: This graphic shows services received by clients who enrolled in the reporting period. Clients are counted as receiving services if they participated in any primary or optional workshop session, participated in a service contact lasting at least 15 minutes (regardless of the issues discussed), or received a referral, incentive, or program support. Days from first to last service contact is days between the client's first service contact (lasting at least 15 minutes) or workshop attendance and the client's last service contact (lasting at least 15 minutes) or workshop attendance. For clients with only one date for service contacts or workshop attendance, service duration = 1 day. For clients with missing data on service contacts and workshop attendance, service duration = 0 days. Service contacts lasting less than 15 minutes are excluded from the calculation of enrolled clients who received any service. Workshop hours include primary and optional workshops. Workshop hours and service contacts are reported as means across all enrolled clients.
nFORM = Information, Family Outcomes, Reporting, and Management.

Implementation of Fatherhood FIRE programs

Exhibit 4. Most common implementation challenges for Fatherhood FIRE grant recipients



Source: Program operations surveys completed from October 1, 2021, through September 27, 2022.

Note: The graphic includes all Fatherhood FIRE grant recipients, including those that served community fathers and/or reentering fathers. This graphic shows implementation challenges most commonly identified by grant recipients. Grant recipients were asked to select one or more challenges related to recruitment, enrollment, client participation, staffing, service delivery, weather, data, and program facilities. The yearly average number of grant recipients responding to the items in this graphic was 54.

Exhibit 5. Percentage of grant recipients with staff that met one-on-one with supervisors at least biweekly

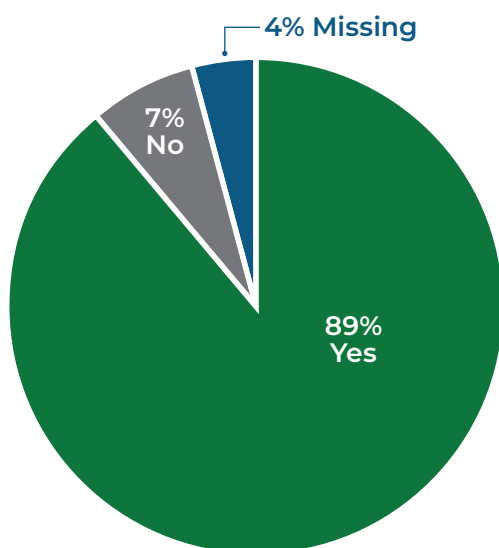


Source: Program operations surveys completed from October 1, 2021, through September 27, 2022.

Note: The graphic includes all Fatherhood FIRE grant recipients, including those that served community fathers and/or reentering fathers. This graphic shows percentages of grant recipients indicating their staff met with a supervisor at least biweekly, among grant recipients that had each position or role. Most grant recipients (94 percent or more) had facilitators, case managers, supervisors, and program managers. Nearly two-thirds of grant recipients (66 percent) had employment specialists. The yearly average number of grant recipients responding to the items in this graphic was 54.

Clients' perceptions of programs' helpfulness

Exhibit 6. Percentage of community fathers served by Fatherhood FIRE grant recipients that rated the program as helpful overall



Source: Responsible Fatherhood Community Fathers exit surveys completed from May 11, 2021, to September 29, 2022. N = 8,109.

Note: The percentages in this graphic are of clients who rated the overall helpfulness of their program in the exit survey. Clients used a scale of 1 (not at all helpful) to 5 (extremely helpful). A rating of 4 or 5 means the client found the program helpful, and a rating of 1, 2, or 3 means the client did not find the program helpful. The exit survey was completed by 8,109 community fathers, or 58 percent of clients who enrolled.

Data

This snapshot includes information from a set of standardized performance measures that grant recipients collect and report through the Information, Family Outcomes, Reporting, and Management (nFORM) 2.0 management information system. The performance measures data in nFORM include client services, client characteristics and outcomes, and program operations entered by grant recipients. Grant recipients enter client services information on an ongoing basis and provide data on program operations by completing quarterly program operations surveys. Clients provide information on their characteristics at enrollment by completing applicant characteristics surveys. Clients provide information on outcomes at their first and last workshops by completing entrance and exit surveys, respectively. For shorter programs, clients complete exit surveys at least 14 days after the entrance survey.

For more information about the Building Usage, Improvement, and Learning with Data in Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood Programs (BUILD HMRP) project, please visit the [project web page](#).

This brief was written by Sarah Avellar, Joanne Lee, and Lauren Murphy of Mathematica, 1100 1st St NE, Washington, DC 20002, under contract with OPRE, ACF, DHHS (#HHSP233201500035I). OPRE Project Officers: Katie Pahigiannis, Pooja Curtin, Rebecca Hjelm, and Harmanpreet Bhatti. Mathematica Project Director: Grace Roemer.

This brief is in the public domain. Permission to reproduce is not necessary. **Suggested citation:** Avellar, Sarah, Joanne Lee, and Lauren Murphy. "Snapshot of Responsible Fatherhood Grant Recipients Serving Community Fathers: Characteristics and Progress During the First Two Grant Years." OPRE Report #2023-314. Washington, DC: Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2024.

Connect with OPRE



Follow us     mathematica.org