



Introducing...

The Fatherhood Research and Practice Network

Funded through the US Administration for Children and Families, Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, the Fatherhood Research and Practice Network (FRPN) seeks to:

- 1** Promote rigorous evaluation of fatherhood programs that serve low-income populations. FRPN will fund the evaluation of programs that aim to increase paternal engagement and parenting skills; improve fathers' ability to provide economic support; and increase parenting time, father-child contact, positive co-parenting and healthy relationships.
- 2** Expand the number of fatherhood researchers and increase the number of practitioners who use evaluation research in their programs through in-person and virtual trainings.
- 3** Disseminate information, including new evaluation findings, that leads to effective fatherhood practice and evaluation research.

This five-year national project will be led by Jay Fagan, PhD, professor of social work at Temple University and founding editor of the journal *Fathering*, and Jessica Pearson, PhD, director of the Center for Policy Research in Denver, Colorado. FRPN also includes a steering committee and four workgroups consisting of 40 leading national fatherhood researchers and practitioners who will help guide the direction of the project.

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Over the next five years, the FRPN will:

- **Engage** leading researchers and practitioners to identify research gaps in the fatherhood field.
- **Solicit** proposals from researcher-practitioner teams to conduct rigorous evaluation that addresses research gaps identified in the fatherhood field.
- **Fund, conduct and support** rigorous evaluation of fatherhood programs.
- **Mentor and train** researchers and practitioners to facilitate rigorous evaluation of fatherhood programs.
- **Launch** a comprehensive website to serve as a platform for FRPN to link researchers and practitioners as well as inform audiences of program evaluations and other resources. The FRPN website will launch at www.frpn.org in April 2014.
- **Translate and disseminate** FRPN and other evaluation research findings to practitioners, researchers, policymakers and funders.
- **Expand** the number of researchers conducting evaluations of fatherhood programs and increase awareness and use of evidence-based research practices among practitioners.
- **Identify** and expand the use of validated outcome measures across fatherhood programs, when appropriate.

To learn more about FRPN please contact Dr. Jay Fagan at jfagan@temple.edu.

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