

# The Blueprint

News from the Fatherhood  
Research & Practice Network

## New Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood (HMRF) Grants

Three HMRF grant opportunities from the federal Office of Family Assistance (OFA) are estimated to be posted soon – see the forecasts linked below to monitor their release!

- [\*\*Family, Opportunity, Resilience, Grit, Engagement – Fatherhood \(FORGE Fatherhood\)\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Helping Every Area of Relationships Thrive - Adults \(HEART\)\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Relationships, Education, Advancement, and Development for Youth for Life \(READY4Life\)\*\*](#)



Did you know that FRPN developed and validated a set of short, free research [measures](#), available in both English and Spanish, that can be used to assess fathers' engagement, fathers' coparenting relationships, and other fatherhood program outcomes?

The FRPN Father Engagement Scale was designed to assess fathers' engagement with their children at different ages. Click for the [scales](#), its [validation study](#), and an example of its [use in research](#).

The FRPN Coparenting Relationship Scale was designed to assess fathers' coparenting relationships with the mother of their non-residential children. Click for the [scales](#), its [validation study](#), and an example of its [use in research](#).

Other FRPN validated measures deal with [barriers to father engagement](#), [father decision making responsibility](#), [father-child contact](#), and [father-child relationship quality](#).

Please reach out to [rwildfeuer@centerforpolicyresearch.org](mailto:rwildfeuer@centerforpolicyresearch.org) if you have used any FRPN measures in your research or program assessments and/or if you have any questions!

## Policy and Research Updates

North Carolina's House Bill 780, known as the "Good Dad Act," is set to take effect on July 1, 2025. Key provisions include grants to programs and services that support fatherhood, parenting education, case management services, and domestic violence safeguards. For more information, visit the [Good Dad Act Committee website](#). North Carolina was one of 11 states that received an [FRPN planning grant](#) to build support for father engagement in 2019.

[Fathers Matter ATL](#), a grassroots fatherhood initiative backed by 40 partner organizations, just released an [Impact Report](#). It highlights events, activities, training and policies that have occurred over the past three years in this community-wide effort to strengthen support for fathers and their engagement with their families.

Dr. Jennifer Bellamy and colleagues recently released [a new qualitative study](#) focused on the engagement of Black fathers in early childhood home visiting services (ECHS). It finds that while Black fathers are generally open to receiving parenting support through ECHS, they are often unaware of these services, and some are skeptical about the programs' intentions. Engagement could improve with culturally tailored approaches, especially by involving other Black fathers in the process. Dr. Bellamy previously led FRPN-funded [research](#) on home visitors' attitudes and expectations about working with fathers.

## Upcoming Webinar

National Fatherhood Initiative® (NFI) is hosting a webinar on May 6th, from 2-3pm EDT, on their new edition of [24:7 Dad®](#). In this webinar, attendees will learn more about why and how NFI created the 4th edition, as well as how it improves upon the previous curricula, tools and resources. [Register here!](#)

## Contact Us to Learn More

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