

The Blueprint

News from the Fatherhood
Research & Practice Network

TANF and MOE Spending on Fatherhood in FY 2022 Remains Extremely Limited

A new [CPR/FRPN brief](#) shows that very little of the \$31.3 billion expenditures and transfers made by states for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 supported activities dealing with TANF priority 4, which deals with fatherhood and the formation and maintenance of two-parent families. Although FY 2022 expenditures for fatherhood (\$126,604,275) were 7.3% higher than they were in FY 2021 (\$118,017,254), they comprised only 0.4% of all money spent. Percentages of expenditures on fatherhood made by states ranged from 0-25.1% with 30 states and the District of Columbia spending nothing and 20 states spending at least something. Forty states and the District of Columbia ended FY 2022 with unobligated TANF balances of \$6.4 billion. Sixteen states ended the year with unobligated balances that exceeded their annual federal TANF awards.



NexGen Employment Services Grant Opportunity

The Federal Office of Child Support Services (OCSS) has released a [grant opportunity](#) to expand and enhance child support-led employment services for parents in the child support program. OCSS expects to make 5-year awards to 12 state and/or tribal child support programs. These recipients will be expected to partner with other agencies and programs to provide employment and training and other wraparound services. Grant awards range from \$350,000-\$2,102,941 over the 5-year project period. There is no match requirement.

Recent Resources

National Conference of State Legislatures. (2024). [***Targeting policies that help families stay afloat.***](#)

This report from the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) summarizes what NCSL staff forecast lawmakers will focus on in 2024: creating more affordable housing; reducing food insecurity; stabilizing childcare; and improving child welfare court processes.

Avellar, S., & Hennigar, A. (2023). [***Figuring it out: Serving young fathers in Responsible Fatherhood programs \(OPRE Report #2023-280\)***](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation.

This report focuses on better understanding young fathers (fathers under age 30) in Responsible Fatherhood (RF) programs. First, the young fathers who are currently enrolled in the 2020 cohort of RF grant recipients are described (for example, young fathers are more likely to live with their children compared to older fathers). Second, common challenges that RF programs face in recruiting and engaging young fathers are discussed (for example, young fathers tend to have urgent needs and competing priorities). Finally, potential strategies to overcome these challenges are identified (for example, tailor the recruitment message to appeal to what young fathers need most).

Conference Announcement

The 25th Annual Families and Fathers National-International Conference will be held on April 22-25, 2024, at the Hilton Los Angeles Airport Hotel. [**Register and review the conference agenda.**](#)

Contact Us to Learn More

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