

The Blueprint

News from the Fatherhood
Research & Practice Network

Update on FRPN Planning Grants

The following is an update on recent fatherhood activities and accomplishments in some of the 11 states that received FRPN planning grants of \$10,000 in 2019 to enhance father inclusion. Fatherhood activities and accomplishments in states that did not receive an FRPN planning grant will be highlighted in the next Blueprint.

Colorado: Under the FRPN Planning Grant, Colorado grew the [Colorado Fatherhood Network](#) (CFN) to over 100 individuals who register for convenings, best-practice webinars, in-person events in five regions of the state, peer learning sessions, and participant committees to promote fatherhood at the local, regional, and state levels. CFN disseminates a monthly e-newsletter and has created a multi-year strategic plan for 2023-2025.

Kentucky: Kentucky created the [Commonwealth Center for Fathers and Families](#) (CCFF) which received its 501(c)(3) designation in February 2022. To support fathers, CCFF co-sponsors the annual Kentucky Fatherhood Summit (October 17-18, 2023) and makes mini-awards to organizations and individuals throughout the state (14 in 2022 with 2023 awards forthcoming).

Michigan: Michigan created the [Michigan Action Plan for Father Involvement \(MAP-FI\)](#) which recently received a three-year grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to expand the capacity of father-serving programs in the state. The group plans to establish the Michigan Father Practitioner Network (MFPN) which will become an independent non-profit, statewide membership organization to provide training and technical assistance and address key policy issues.

Pennsylvania: [The Strong Families Commission](#) of Pennsylvania achieved legislative passage of the Greater Father Involvement Act (P.L. 1747) on November 3, 2022. Since then, the Pennsylvania Joint State Government Commission has established an advisory committee to report on fatherhood to the Governor and General assembly. To promote fatherhood services throughout the state it, the Commission has launched the

Commonwealth Citizens Council (CCC) which will have members from all 67 counties, established six Fatherhood Regional Centers, and will co-sponsor the 7th annual [Statewide Symposium on Fatherhood](#) November 15-16, 2023.

Washington: Washington expanded its [Washington Fatherhood Council](#) to improve statewide services, engage and connect fathers to services, and cultivate father-supportive policies. Activities include workshops for fatherhood service providers, community cafes for fathers across the state, a resource map of fatherhood services, and an annual fatherhood summit. It recently commissioned the [WA Fatherhood: State of the State study](#), which will include a landscape of current policies, funding, programs and experiences of fathers in the state and be used to inform strategic planning and policy recommendations.



Recent Resource

Heckstall, I., & Collins, C. (2023). [Expand access to affordable high-quality childcare to better serve Black student fathers](#). Center for Law and Social Policy.

This brief highlights disproportionate educational and financial outcomes for Black student fathers, 72% of whom leave college without earning a degree or other credential. One reason is their lack of access to childcare assistance through public benefit and grant programs like the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) and the Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) programs, respectively. Both programs are underfunded with the House's FY 2024 appropriation bill eliminating the highly effective CCAMPIS program altogether. State-by-state information on higher education efforts aimed at adult learners and helping student parents can be found in FRPN's report, *Policies and programs affecting fathers: A state-by-state report* ([Chapter 6, Table 4](#)).

Contact Us to Learn More

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