

# The Blueprint

News from the Fatherhood  
Research & Practice Network

## Policies and Programs Affecting Fathers - *A State-by-State Report*

Jessica Pearson, PhD, co-director of the FRPN and the Center for Policy Research (CPR), along with CPR research analyst and PhD candidate, Rachel Wildfeuer, have authored a 12-chapter compilation of policies and programs that support the engagement of fathers with their children in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

This groundbreaking report covers ten areas of public life: child support, child welfare, criminal justice, early childhood, education, employment, family law, food and housing, health and mental health, and responsible fatherhood. In each area, the authors present state-by-state information on the adoption of a variety of policies and programs that have the potential to support parent-child contact and/or remove barriers to parent-child contact that low-income, nonresident fathers face. The report creates a baseline against which future change might be assessed and a guide to supportive state policy options. Three chapters of this state-by-state report are now available for download on the FRPN website:

- [Chapter 1: Introduction](#)
- [Chapter 2: Child Support](#)
- [Chapter 3: Child Welfare](#)

Future chapters will be introduced in the FRPN Blueprint over the next few months.



## FRPN Webinar: Tracking State Policies on Fathers to Improve Policy Development and Equity

This webinar will introduce **Policies and Programs Affecting Fathers: A State-by-State Report**, a new compilation prepared by the Center for Policy Research (CPR) and the Fatherhood Research & Practice Network (FRPN). Father policies and programs in areas of child support, child welfare, and criminal justice will be presented. Hear from policymakers and stakeholders on the status of state policy on fathers in these areas and how practitioners can use state-by-state information to better serve fathers and improve state legislation, programs, and policy.

Webinar participants include:

- Jessica Pearson, Director, Center for Policy Research and Director, Fatherhood Research & Practice Network
- Shaneen Moore, Deputy Assistant Commissioner and Director, Children and Family Services, Child Support Division, Minnesota Department of Human Services
- Derrick "David" Bryant, Youth and Family Program Specialist, Prevention and Early Intervention, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
- Christopher A. Brown, President, National Fatherhood Initiative

**Date: Thursday, February 24, 2022; 12:00-1:00 p.m. EST.**

Register for the webinar [here](#).

## Findings from Building Bridges and Bonds Study

The Building Bridges and Bonds Study (B3), funded by the Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, rigorously tested three new and promising ways to help fathers with low income work toward economic stability and stronger relationships with their children. Implemented in existing fatherhood programs, the three interventions in the B3 study were:

- **Just Beginning**
- **Dadtime**
- **Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Justice-Involved Individuals Seeking Employment (CBI-Emp)**

**Just Beginning** aimed to improve fathers' relationships with their young children by teaching them a new simple parenting technique and giving them opportunities to practice with their child and reflect with staff. [Read the report.](#)

**Dadtime** was a smartphone app designed to improve father attendance at Just Beginning sessions. [Read the report.](#)

**Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Justice-Involved Individuals Seeking Employment (CBI-Emp)** was a 20 session workshop for fathers who had been involved with the criminal justice system and were at medium to high risk of rearrest. [Read the report.](#)

[Read a roundup](#) of findings from all three components of the Building Bridges and Bonds Evaluation.

## Contact Us to Learn More

FRPN Co-Director [Jessica Pearson, PhD](#) | [Director, Center for Policy Research](#)



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