**NRFC Webinar Series**

**The National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse: Your Resource for Strengthening Fathers and Families in 2013**

**January 24, 2013**

**Webinar Transcript (Provided by PGi Global)**

**Moderator:**
- Patrick Patterson

**Presenters:**
- Lisa Washington-Thomas, NRFC COTR, Office of Family Assistance
- Matt Crews - Clearinghouse Task Lead, NRFC
- Edward Lawson Jr. - Community Outreach Task Lead, NRFC
- Donna Linder - Clearinghouse Team, NRFC
- Jen McHenry - Website Task Lead, NRFC
- David Miller - Community Outreach Team, NRFC
- Nigel Vann - Product Development Task Lead, NRFC

Operator: Good day and welcome to the National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse January 2013 Webinar.

Today’s conference is being recorded. At this time I would like to turn the conference over to Patrick Patterson. Please go ahead sir.

Patrick Patterson: Thank you so much, good afternoon Happy New Year and welcome to the National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse’s January 2013 Webinar entitled the National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse, Your Resource for Strengthening Fathers and Families in 2013.

We’re delighted to have you guys join us today. We spent some time from last fiscal year to this fiscal year planning for today. And we’re looking forward to giving you guys an update on where the Clearinghouse is and also our new resources that we’re going to be sharing with the field moving forward.

As the moderator said my name is Patrick Patterson. I’m the manager for the Clearinghouse and I will facilitate today’s Webinar.

I will invite you to one of our newest features. I mentioned this last year as we got going but also just want to remind folks that we are now online on Facebook and also Twitter.

So if you are tweeting today I would encourage you to tweet about today’s Webinar using the hash tag fatherhoodgov. And you can find us on Facebook at fatherhoodgov as well.

Before we get started I want to invite our dear friend, dear colleague but also our Office of Family Assistance Project Officer, Lisa Washington-Thomas to provide us with some welcome comments. Lisa?
Lisa Washington-Thomas: Thank you so much Patrick. I just wanted to thank everyone. We’re excited to present the Clearinghouse. We have several Webinars but we wanted to take time to let you know all the services that we provide.

Our purpose is to help fathers and their families establish and enhance their relationship as well as to increase the awareness of the importance of fathers and the fatherhood fields.

What we’ve learned over the years and especially through a May 2012 survey by the ad council and CNR research is that 97% of dads agree that the day their child was born was one of their best days of their lives.

They also, 86% of dads want to say they spend more time with their children than their fathers did. But even with this progress from one generation awareness of fathers to another our fathers today still are feeling pressure.

Eight out of ten dads or 81% feel financial pressure because they are dads. And 70% of dads feel that they could use parenting tips.

So what are we doing about that? Some of our strategies to support dads and practitioners in the fatherhood fields is to provide opportunities for community-based organizations and committed individuals to create local fatherhood promotion efforts where those efforts do not exist.

We also provide training and technical assistance to the field. We create resources both online and hard copies for fathers.

We support the fatherhood field through Webinars and conference engagement. And we work with researchers and policymakers to develop and use evidence-based models and strategies to support the responsible fatherhood field.

So today we’re going to talk about the different aspects of the fatherhood field as well as a new feature because we are partnered with Child Find of America who can help dads who call our 1-800 number, our toll-free number.

So thank you for participating and I hope that you use our resources for the remainder of the year and in the future. Patrick?

Patrick Patterson: Thank you Lisa. And thank you for those welcome comments. Thank you for the latest in research but also just really giving some context to why this work is so important.

For today as Lisa mentioned and as our title suggests our objective is really very clear. It’s to provide a detailed overview of the Clearinghouse and the available resources and supports that we’re offering to fathers, families and the father field.

We spent significant time last year talking to folks at conferences, at events but also via phone and email finding out what the field has been asking for what they need. And our desire is to continue to meet that need. So you’re going to hear some exciting things today during today’s Webinar.

A few housekeeping notes for those of you that have been a part of these Webinars you know this but for those that are joining us for the first time we are recording today’s Webinar.
For those of you that are taking notes the recording, all the presentation materials and a frequently asked questions document we will actually post on our website fatherhood.gov within seven to nine business days after today.

You can - you’re allowed to - you’re able to submit questions using the Webinar technology. And to do so I want to ask Matt Crews to walk us through a brief one on one on how you submit a question using Webinar technology, Matt?

Matt Crews: All right thank you guys. If you look at your screen you should see a page that says how to ask a question?

Right in your upper hand left corner of the screen if you click on the Q&A box it will open and you’ll be able to type your question inside of that box.

After you’ve done so just simply click on the Ask to Submit Your Question to the Moderator and we will address all of those questions at the very end of today’s presentation.

Next slide please. Now for technical issues if your screen is too small hit F5. It will enlarge it. However you cannot ask a question as I just presented while the screen is enlarged. Simply push F5 again to bring the screen back down.

Also if you’re interested in a copy of today’s presentation email us info@fatherhood.gov and we’ll send you a PDF file.

If there are any other questions please feel free to submit them through the Q&A tool. Thank you so much.

Patrick Patterson: Thanks Matt. We’ll try to do a reminder on this effort as well as we conclude the presentations. But as a reminder at the end of all of our presentations we generally have a Q&A session and today it will be the same.

We’ll do a Q&A session following this, allow folks to for the question that we receive to be asked and responded to. So feel free to submit questions as you hear things during today’s Webinar.

I’m excited about our presenters for today because I get a chance to work with them every day on this project. But I also know many of them for a number of years. We’ve all known each other for a number of years.

I’m going to go through real quickly who our presenters are and the role that they play on the Clearinghouse project and then you’ll be hearing more from them as we begin today’s Webinar.

Not in order but just by Clearinghouse titles our first presenter that you will hear from - our presenter that you’ll hear from is Matt Crews. He’s our Clearinghouse Task Lead for the Clearinghouse. So you’ll hear more about the exciting things we’re doing including as Lisa mentioned the increased use of our call Center Number 4 for dads directly.

Edward Lawson, he’s our Community Outreach Task Lead. You’ll hear more of what we’ve done in the community but also nationally from Ed and also David Miller.

Donna Linder, she’s on the Clearinghouse team. She will be having a hand directly involved in how we respond to questions directly from fathers using a specific number that we’re going to talk about in a moment.
Jen McHenry, she’s our website task lead. You’ll hear more about our website but also the features that we have there but also how the information that you’re sharing can be added to our website so that not only do your folks in the community know about it but the national field knows about it at large.

David Miller, he’s also on our Community Outreach Team. You’ll hear about the work that David is doing along with Ed but also Donna in terms of outreach. And so you’ll hear more about it from David.

And last but not least you’ll hear from Nigel Vann, our Product Development Task Lead. He’s going to talk about the actual written materials and products that we develop in hopes to continue to increase the capacity of those that are serving fathers and their families and those that are interested in serving fathers and their families.

So you’re in for a power pack hour. If you’ve been in the field for a while or if you’re new to the field one or more of these names you know because these folks have been doing this work for a very long time.

Next slide, as I kick off today’s Webinar I’m going to just provide you a very high level overview and orientation to the Clearinghouse.

By virtue of introductions for those that are not familiar with the Clearinghouse is an Office of Family Assistance funded project.

So many of the federal grantees that will receive either Fatherhood or Healthy Marriage funds we’re funded in the same manner through HHS’s Office of Family Assistance.

Our goal is to provide resources for fathers, practitioners, programs federal grantees states and the public at large who are serving or interested in serving fathers and their families.

We were led by a well-known name but also a guy who’s done the work on the ground but also nationally, Kenneth Braswell, Senior.

I’ve listed not only Kenneth’s name but his email as well. So if folks really want to share resource information or ask questions we want to make sure that we’re available and accessible by those who are looking at their website but also working with us hand in hand.

So Kenneth’s name is there. He’s our Director. We’ve been in operation now for a year. We’re in our second year. And I play the role of manager.

And so my email address is next to my name as well for those that want to access us either with questions or suggestions that we can do to improve what we provide to the field.

Next slide, by virtue of our goals and how we’ve been funded we have a couple things we try to work on. And I’ll go through our goals but also the different elements, features and aspects of the Clearinghouse and how we operate.

Our goals are to provide and facilitate disseminate current research proven and innovative strategies that will encourage and strengthen fathers and families and providers of service via the following priorities. And there are a number of those I’m going to talk through at a high level but you’ll hear more detail a little bit later.

Our main interface with the public is via our website. It’s available 24 hours a day. We try to make sure that it’s reflective of the current needs but also the current data research and best practice in the field.
We consider our website to never be a finished product. Our goal is as the field evolves so should our website. And we count on not only our research talking to folks but also you sending us information.

But our main purpose is to make this a one-stop shop for anybody doing the work or interested in doing the work around fathers and their families.

And so our website is fatherhood.gov. You’ll hear more about that from Jen as she presents a little bit later.

A second element of the Clearinghouse that’s very important to us is our annual media campaign.

Every year we work really hard to make sure that Father’s Day what we do equate to being our Super Bowl each year is celebrated not only on the ground but also with media that continues to raise the profile of this important work but also the work that many fathers are doing whether they be married, engaged, dating, divorced, single. We really want to just give light to the work that many fathers are doing with their families.

And so every year we celebrate fatherhood during the month of June with an annual media campaign.

Last year we did some amazing things and I’ll have Ed share about that in just a moment.

But generally speaking we release PSAs that continue to raise their profile. If you’ve been around for a little while if you’ve seen some of this you probably have seen either the cheerleader ad. That was highly successful.

We’ve also done a couple of ads, one with a military focus which is captured here. And then last but not least there’s an image here of a father getting his nails painted. So all the elements of fatherhood we tried to raise the profile of with our annual media campaign.

During last year for the first time beyond just national media and press we engaged to go a little bit deeper. And so we engaged in an effort called Fatherhood Buzz that was wildly successful last year.

And so I’ll have Ed and David shared just a moment more about what we did last year around Fatherhood Buzz. Ed?

Edward Lawson: Thank you Patrick and it is a pleasure to be on the line with you all.

Fatherhood Buzz, it was a tremendous opportunity for us to penetrate areas of the fatherhood movement that we had not been able to penetrate before.

We were able to identify barbershops across eight cities throughout the country and go into those barbershops to share and disseminate information about responsible fatherhood.

It was wildly successful as Patrick mentioned because we know that in those barbershops men are having organic conversations oftentimes around politics, families and things that are involving their lives.

And we wanted to arm their barbers with information to almost serve as fatherhood ambassadors to be able to share information with the men that they come in contact with.

And the unique band of - that we also engaged in was to identify relevant community-based organizations who were also engaged in the work of responsible fatherhood and allow them to align themselves and provide resources to those barbers and those men in their respective communities.
So we took a community partnership approach and allowed those neighborhood trusted resources, those barbershops to be able to share information on the ground with fathers in real-time so that they might be able to receive the resources and information that they needed.

Oftentimes men do not access services the same way that women do. So we thought how better to get information to men and to disseminate information to man but to go to where they trust the resources that they’re receiving information from, those being barbershops.

And as was already stated we were wildly successful because men were able to receive the information, digest it and receive it in a place where they could trust it and allow their community resources to be able to be utilized.

The community-based organizations also benefited because they were able to now sort of recruit from those barbershops to get the information to men where their programs may have been lacking some men in their - the actual halls.

So it was a tremendous success and I’ll ask David to share if he has anything to add with respect to Fatherhood Buzz.

Donna Linder: Thanks Ed and Patrick. Fatherhood Buzz was a very grass roots centered project. And it really allowed us an opportunity as Ed said to work with over 100 community barbershops across the country from as far south as Atlanta, Georgia to as far west as Los Angeles, California.

And it really allowed us an opportunity to really have really important conversations with men about a whole host of issues that men seldom talk about.

And some of the topic areas that really gleaned from some of those conversations in the barbershop were issues related to health, legal issues and parenting.

And so as Patrick and Ed both indicated Fatherhood Buzz was a major success. And you guys will be hearing additional information as we move forward about other Fatherhood Buzz related initiatives.

Patrick Patterson: Thanks David. Thanks Ed. So this is wildly successful. Our plans are to continue with our grassroots outreach effort to complement the media campaign nationally.

As I mentioned earlier we did a series of PSAs and I will share it anything beyond that there are a few more great PSAs that we’ve just created that in the course of this year you guys are going to be exposed to that’s hopefully going to continue to raise the bar.

So stay tuned on that front because those things are going to be reaching all of our outlets from our website to our Facebook to our Twitter console.

Thanks so much on that. I’ll mention one other thing around the media campaign last year. We did about 25 interviews nationally with not only local media but also national media including CNN, Michael Baisden. It was Russ Parr, Patty Jackson in Philadelphia. There were several media outlets that took to our Fatherhood Buzz effort during Father’s Day last year. And so our goal is to continue to raise the bar on that.

I would be remiss if I didn’t invite you if you are interested and are working with or near barbershops in your community and think you want to be a part of this effort in this coming year please feel free to email either Kenneth -- you’ve got his email address on the first page of the slide -- or myself your information. And we’ll be able to send you some information, more information about what we plan to do in the coming year.
Back to other elements of the Clearinghouse I’ll go through these pretty quickly so our expert presenters can share.

We also have social media engagement. As I mentioned to you guys we’re on Facebook and Twitter. They are very important tools for us. I’ll go in the line that Lisa’s thinking.

We looked at PEW Research last year and it showed that about 85% of men regardless of income are online via Facebook, Twitter, Flickr and all the social network and outlets.

And so we found this useful to communicate directly with dads beyond going through any kind of other resource. And so we’re on Facebook, we’re on Twitter. And these are both first-time efforts to really engage not only with practitioners but also with fathers.

Thirdly we’ve developed and disseminate new research and information to the field. Again our goal is to continue to provide capacity to those providing services. But also but also work with fathers and families. So this is very important. You’ll hear more about that from Nigel as he presents a little bit later.

Our outreach training and presentations. Every year we do a series of conferences and events so we can actually share new information with the field around how to best do this work.

For some of you you’ve seen us at your conferences, or other conferences. We generally have the constraint of a budget. And so we can’t go to everything. But our goal is to reach as many folks as we can when we do do our outreach during the course of the year.

We have a call center. You’re going to hear more about how we actually work with both practitioners and fathers. But the number that I’ll share with you guys that you already know is our 877-FOR-DADS 411 number.

We encourage anybody who has a question around fatherhood whether you’re a father or practitioner to use this number because it’s available to you guys five days a week eight hours.

The last two priorities that that I’ll mention and then I’ll turn it over to my colleagues is our participation in the President’s Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiative.

It is a way that the President has really looked to engage and connect the world of fatherhood with mentors.

As we know every child is not raised with both parents and so mentorship fills in the gap between those children who don’t have their fathers present with them.

And so by virtue of the President and his leadership we’re looking to engage around the President’s Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiative.

Each year we engage by virtue of outreach and signing folks up to the initiative but also disseminating information that comes either through the White House or through our Clearinghouse as well.

When you go on our website you’re able to find pretty quickly a link that then links you to the President’s fatherhood and mentoring initiative. But it’s also one of our main priorities as we do our work.

And then last but not least we know that everybody can’t travel to receive information. And so we try our best to do our virtual training for folks vis-à-vis Webinars like today’s Webinar.
And so that’s the overview of who the Clearinghouse is. We’re available to you. Our goal is to reflect you in the field at large. And we invite you to just listen out for the good work we’re doing moving forward.

With that said I’m going to now turn it over to our team to share with you in more detail the resources that we’re providing but also looking to introduce to you during the course of the year.

Remember you can ask a question anytime by using the Q&A feature the Matt showed us earlier. With that I’m going to turn it over to Jen to talk us through fatherhood.gov, our favorite website. Jen?

Jen McHenry: Thanks Patrick. And thank you everybody for joining us. I’m pretty excited to just quickly walk you through a website that I imagine many of you have visited if you ended up here and let you know a little bit about what we have on fatherhood.gov and some highlights.

If you’ve been online you’ve noticed that we’ve got quite a number of sections and quite a number of features so I’m just going to call attention to a couple.

And the first is going to be our For Dads section. So this is the section where we have different quick and accessible tips for dads.

It doesn’t go into a lot of specifics on personal issues so you’re not going to be a dad and be able to find all of the answers to your custody issues here. But you will be able to find tips on ways to be involved when you spend time with your kids for different families are looking for information on, you know, how to get involved with different homework help -- those sorts of things.

So one of the features of that section that I’d like to highlight is our activity of the week. You can see here you - can get to it from the Home Page.

You can also get to it from the For Dad section. And this is one of those sort of quick tips, things that you can do that are low cost to no cost that dads can do when they’re around their children.

So making a haiku, taking a hike, we have tips on taking a virtual trip together by going to the library and looking up different books on a country -- so those sorts of things to make it quick and easy to sort of take time to be a dad today sort of tie it all back together.

For practitioners and for programs our section includes different highlights and resources on program support for things to help you run your program, promising practices, collaboration strategies.

Later on Nigel is going to talk about a resource we’re developing which is a practitioner toolkit to help you sort of keep things going and get started if you haven’t started already.

And also issues that your program participants, your fathers may be facing. Certainly not an exhaustive list but again as Patrick mentioned is sort of a one-stop shop and a resource center we like to be a first step for people.

So if you come across an issue hopefully this is the first step where you can find more in-depth information to help the dads and the families in your program.

Our next section is our library. We have an online library which is pretty extensive in terms of both seminal research and the responsible fatherhood field and also contemporary research, different references on curriculum, different references on some of the work that’s happening out there.
Again like the library you might go to in person. Some of it is reference, some of it is available to download.

We also have a librarian and on staff. And she is wonderful and great. So if you are looking for something, you think it exists, you browse our library, you’re just not finding it you can always email us at info@fatherhood.gov and that’s something we can help you track down.

You may also have written something or have found something that you’d like to share with us to be able to share with the rest of the field.

You can do that with our Submit a Resource section which is highlighted here. We go through all the outlines of what our policy is and how to submit guide information to us.

And then we also feature a resource, so every about two weeks we pull something that we think is interesting, things that are new that have come up and kind of highlight those a little bit.

Just so that, you know, if you don’t have a lot of time doing the good work that you’re doing and this is a way to sort of showcase to you what’s going on in the field around you to keep you up to date.

Another great way to stay up to date is our events calendar. This is sort of two ways to get to it from footer and our header.

And this is where we like to showcase different events that are going on nationally and regionally in our responsible fatherhood.

If you have an event that you think you want to share with sort of the fatherhood world through our website we would love to be able to do that with you.

We have a events calendar posting policy available online so you can see sort of what we’re looking for and you can get to it in the Submit an Event button on this page.

And the last feature I’m going to point out are our email updates. So you’re connecting, you’re checking the website, you’re looking at the events and you want to get a little reminder about what we have going on and different things that are being highlighted in those very extensive sections, the email update is the way to do it.

You can find us online, provide us your email address and about every two weeks we’ll send out a little update for you.

So again that’s kind of the high level overview of what we have available on our website. We do invite you to check it out.

If there is something that you see that you love, tell us. If there’s something you see that you don’t love tell us.

We’re here to help you do your work better so that we can all help make the lives of the fathers and the families but especially the children in our communities better. And we only do that when we work together.

And one of the ways we are connecting to work together in a step beyond the website is through our social media. And so I’m going to turn it over now to David Miller who’s going to talk a little bit more about that. Thank you.
David Miller: Well once again you guys we’re super excited that we have been able to roll out a social media platform.

Our social media priorities are to increase the audience and relevance of the Clearinghouse as a vital resource to the responsible fatherhood field and to individual fathers in the community as well as expanding the reach of the Clearinghouse through social media and the use of social media tools as a method for increasing and maintaining connectivity between the Clearinghouse activities which are Webinars, conferences, new products and reaching the broader community.

Next slide, some of our priority social media priorities for the 2013 year are to increase Facebook likes.

So for those of you that have access to Facebook you can go to Facebook - I’m sorry our Facebook handle is actually fatherhoodgov. And our goal is to increase Facebook likes as well as Twitter followers. Our Twitter handle is @fatherhoodgov as well as increasing email updates out to our members.

Our overarching goal is to raise awareness about the Clearinghouse, the wonderful event that we do as well as some of the critical services that we provide to fathers and communities as well as professionals and practitioners.

One of our other major goals is to engage the general public through replies, retweets and reposts.

If you go to our Twitter page and also our Facebook page you will see that we provide a robust level of content, everything from relevant news and media articles that we might find about responsible fatherhood or parenting. We try to post those articles and information on a timely basis.

Our next goal is to increase engagement on - of our social media platforms throughout the OSA regions. But we definitely want to make sure that we get greater participation from OSA regions, staff and other members who are working in communities to increase awareness around responsible fatherhood.

We definitely need staff to participate and join both Facebook and Twitter.

Last but not least to raise awareness of OSA program highlights news and other regional spotlights there is some tremendous work being done in the field. And we want to make sure that we can uplift all of the great work that’s being done across the country.

Next slide, this particular slide gives you an actual example of a Facebook post. And this particular Facebook post is really around increasing father involvement in schools.

We did a Webinar a couple of months ago where we had some professionals come on and talk about strategies to increase fatherhood involvement as it relates to joining PTAs and being involved in schools. And so this is an actual post.

One of the things that we try to do is also provide very rich photographs of fathers engaged with their children.

And so if you look down you can actually see some of the comments from folks from individual fathers, from families who are really excited about some of the content that we post.

And so you’ll see this particular post is a live example, a real example of some of the content we - that we post. But we strongly encourage you guys to join our social media platforms.
Next slide, this is an actual page grab of our Twitter page at fatherhoodgov. And you see that this provides you again with a pretty good example of some of the content.

If you look on your right side you’ll see that some of the kinds of tweets that we send out. But once again we definitely encourage each and every one of you to get involved in our social media platforms.

And at this point I’m going to turn it over to Ed. He wanted to make a another brief comment related to our social media platform.

Edward Lawson: Thanks so much David. Just David mentioned something about engagements so I wanted to be a little bit more specific about how you might be able to help us help this field.

So when we say engagement what we’re looking for is just stories. We’re looking for spotlights on dads. We’re looking for spotlights on programs that are successfully engaging dads so that we might be able to share them over our social media platforms.

This is how we engage in conversation. So as the Clearinghouse goals we want to gather and disseminate information over our websites.

But thankfully we are now at a situation where we can share information not only over our website but through our social media platforms and to the various events and efforts that we’re engaged in outside in the community.

So David showed you a post around the education initiative that we had started. So what was interesting about that was not only did we do a Webinar but we also had a Fatherhood Buzz effort that was tied to that back in September around the start of school for most of the schools.

And we were able to again engage and disseminate information in those respective communities across several platforms raising the level of conversation about this important issue of responsible fatherhood.

And we want to encourage you also. You have heard our email addresses, you’ve heard our Twitter handles and Facebook pages.

But we now want to encourage you to get in touch with us, let us know what’s going on in your respective programs, highlight special fathers that have gone through your programs and have had success.

Because this way we’ll be able to encourage other men and fathers and individuals and stakeholders who are interested in developing programs and initiatives to address this important issue of responsible fatherhood to get involved.

And it’s going to be a positive result for all of the children and families that we engage. With that said I’ll turn it back over to Patrick.

Patrick Patterson: Thanks Ed. Next up we’ll have an overview of the call center and all-star community events by Matt and Donna. Matt?

Matt Crews: Thank you Patrick. The number that you can reach us at is 877-4DAD-S411. This line operates Monday through Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM excluding most federal holidays.
You can call this number for almost any reason in relation to our workaround fatherhood and speak with a live NRC staff member.

The line was previously very practitioner friendly but after a volume of calls from actual dads we realized that we needed to broaden our services on this front.

So over the past year we’ve partnered with Child Find of America’s Parent Helpline, an organization based in New York that serves a national audience as well.

I’ll let Child Find CEO, Donna Lindner tell you more about the work that they do with us. Donna?

Donna Lindner: Thank you Matt and hello everybody. Since 1980 Child Fund of America has worked to bring missing children home and to prevent and resolve parental child abduction and denied access.

We work to promote healthy access between parents and children and to keep everybody in a safe and legal environment.

We know from our work and experience that high conflict relationships, divorce, custody battles put kids at risk of abuse and abduction. And family discord is a key reason kids run away from home.

We also know as you do that kids do better when they have both parents in their lives.

Over the past seven years parent help has served responsible fatherhood grantees and families across the nation. Each year Child Fund receives more than 15,000 calls for assistance.

Parent Help offers free confidential telephone-based problem-solving for dads and moms living apart with disputes over child support, parenting and co-parenting relationships, denied visitation and access, court proceedings and legal issues and other challenges families in crisis may face.

Next slide please. About half of our callers are fathers and about half are mothers. The callers want the other parent out of their lives. They want the other parent more involved in their lives.

They want to tie child support to access. They deny or are denied visitation. And primarily they’re overwhelmed and confused by family and child support courts and systems and they want to improve their fragile and broken family situations.

Other Parent Help callers are guardians and caregivers and grandparents, extended family members, friends, stepparents and other agencies.

Parent Help has a three stage intake process. When a dad first calls we gather information about the initial reason for the call, the presenting problem which is often a crisis situation.

Then we discussed what else is going on in their lives and usually learn that there are multiple issues complicating the situation.

The slide that you are looking at right now is a snapshot of about 1000 parent help cases. And you’ll see that legal issues and parenting issues and in custody orders and child support our really high in the count.

But most people call with multiple issues. And over the seven years we’ve been doing this program those - the higher occurring issues are the same as what you see on the chart.
Finally when the caller works with his case manager they work together to determine what he wants to work on and to develop a service plan.

At this point I also want to note that we do offer services in Spanish.

Next slide please. As you look through the slides that are going to outline our services it’s important for you to remember that Parent Help is not intended to replace the services of your program or the things that you already provide.

Rather Parent Help can be an auxiliary to service to your own providing your case managers with specialized case consultation and your clients with specialized assistance that your program may not offer.

Dads can call us on their own. They don’t need a referral from a program to call us but many times dad and his program case manager will call us together.

Next slide please. Parent Help Services have helped parents and fathers enrolled in economic stability programs, prison reentry, and parole programs, the military, parenting classes and healthy marriages and responsible fatherhood support groups.

Our case managers have provided case consultation to case managers from other programs who may not have the mandate or the expertise or the time to deal with complex situations involving long distance conflict resolution, mediation, interpersonal communication and the legal and child support systems.

Parent Help’s telephone-based services can be especially helpful when a noncustodial father needs to reach out to the custodial mother.

We’ve been very successful reconnecting parents and helping them to start talking to each other again. But we are also very mindful of domestic violence concerns and have a comprehensive domestic violence screening mechanisms and protocols in place.

Next slide, Parent Help can be particularly useful when cases are involved complicating scenarios and when a parent is unwilling to participate or unable to participate or attend a program during your office hours, when an individual’s issues are too time-consuming or inappropriate for group programs, when one party is out of the country or out of the state and if the situation requires legal advocacy assistance navigating interstate systems or the location of a missing party.

We are very excited to offer Child Find’s Parent Help program nationwide in partnership with the National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse.

Given these difficult economic times we also expect more families in crisis will need Parent Help and the Clearinghouse and more professionals like you will need assistance serving an increased caseload.

We look forward to working with you and your fathers and families. Matt?

Matt Crews: All right thank you so much Donna. The next thing I’m going to cover -- next slide please -- is our outreach schedule. It’s very extensive.

We attend at least 25 conferences and events per fiscal year and at these events we have different levels of involvement.
And some will have representatives from our team speak and hand out resources in exhibit hall and others will do presentations and workshops that which we’ll hear more about in a few.

And sometimes we’re just simply there to support or collect new subject matter to take back to the Clearinghouse.

The picture you see on the screen, this is myself showing an onlooking audience, some of the features of our website at a conference.

While out on the road it’s important for us to not only talk about the work that we’re doing but give inquiring minds a sense of usability with all of our products and take back constructive criticism as well.

As a matter of fact the website visits before you today is not what we originally started without years ago. We went to a few cities and did usability tests with volunteering participants consisting of professionals and actual fathers.

We can’t keep up the good work that we’re doing without being in tune with what’s going on out in the field and with dads, mothers, children and families all across United States.

Next slide please. All right now when we speak of exhibiting there are four main things that we need to accomplish while we’re on site while we’re having physical representation, a display or a banner in a conference or events designated exhibition hall.

Bullet 2, the NRC staff present to educate audiences on the nature of our work. The members of our team that you see on site are not only aware of the work that we produce on fatherhood.gov but also of an array of social programs, funding opportunities events, et cetera, whether its federal non-federal, father specific, non-father specific you can expect our team members on-site to connect the dots for whatever concerns you may have.

Bullet 3, distributing NRC materials and promotional items to not only educate but resonate with the intended audience.

Anything that we have on-site with us can also be downloaded for free from the online library on fatherhood.gov that Jen actually mentioned earlier.

On Bullet 4 connecting with professionals and/or families to broaden our network and potentially create future joint endeavors in a variety of capacities.

Next slide please. For conference participation and presentations here are some of the fronts you may catch us all when presenting.

We may be a key note speech workshop for other scheduled speaking engagements held by an NRFC staff member for purposes of educating the intended audience and the nature of the NRC’s work, delivering pertinent fatherhood subject matter to an audience at an (expert content) and facilitation to a group with the intention of collecting valuable criticism or feedback on the NRC’s work and services.

Also Bullet 2, NRC staff member developing original content to be presented or delivering information from a standard NRC presentation.
All of the materials are created in-house. So when you see us you won’t be attending the same workshop that you might have at another conference. It happens but I will also have materials on hand from the website that relate to the content (deliverables).

Next slide please. These are some of the presentations that we actually did in the first quarter of fiscal year 2013.

Both - most of these were executed by Nigel Vann who you’re going to hear from in a little bit. But we did working with dads to enhance parenting skills, fatherhood engagement and children’s education, group facilitation skills for fatherhood practitioners and selecting and effectively using curricula.

And also our Director, Kenneth Braswell was on-site for these as well. And we got great response. And these are just a couple of the things that we have out of the large majority of presentations that we’re doing across United States.

Next slide please. This map right here, this is a few examples of the types of places we may go. This is over fiscal year 2012 and where we’ve been so far in 2013.

Sometimes we go to White House events. We worked very closely with the White House off of the faith-based and neighborhood partnerships to promote responsible fatherhood and healthy families over the years.

Patrick mentioned this earlier. We may attend conferences themed around workforce development, others focused on education and early childhood development such as the PPA conference or the National Head Start Association.

Psychology for example, the American Psychology Association’s annual conference that takes, place as many of you know on social work in general it’s very important to understand the human mind.

And not lastly but the last I’ll mention some, of the conferences that we attend are just geared toward certain populations in general.

For instance the National Council of ((inaudible)) Annual Conference and Expo which addresses a number of social issues in the Hispanic community.

As you can see on the map there are a number of states we haven’t been to over the past year in the quarter. If you have anything going on in your area feel free to email me and let me know. I oversee our conference event outreach. My email is Matt M-A-T-T.crews C-R-E-W-S@icfi.com or you could also email info@fatherhood.gov and address it to myself.

Thank you all for your time. You’ll now hear from Nigel Vann will tell you more in detail about some of the products you can expect to see from NRC.

Nigel Vann: Thank you very much Matt. As you’ll see on the screen here we’re looking at this new Responsible Fatherhood Toolkit and this is the main thing I’m going to talk about here.

Part of the content for this actually comes from some of the conference presentations that Matt mentioned. You know, all of those are designed to facilitate sharing and discussion of best practices for engaging and working with dads.
And really what we’re trying to do with this resource guide as the title indicates it’s from the field. So as in a lot of the work that we’ve done over the years with, you know, green tips and ideas and strategies and resources from those of you out there doing the work successfully.

And so in putting together this toolkit we actually some formal interviews with a number of experienced practitioners but we’ve also pulled on the various lessons and tips that we picked up from you, you know, from a lot of you folk out there over the years.

And the idea is that these are resources for not just new practitioners but experienced practitioners too. Certainly in terms of new practitioners coming to the field there is no need to totally reinvent the wheel. You know, you have to sort of create your own niche and place and how you work with the dads in your specific community.

But there’s a lot that you can learn from people who’ve gone before. And what we’re trying to do here is really capture a lot of that knowledge.

But there’s also I think going to be a lot of useful stuff here for those of you who have been doing this work for a while.

We sort of see it as really a forum where you can share what’s worked for you and, you know, invite input from other people.

So it sort of builds on a lot of the other work that you’ve been hearing from that that Clearinghouse is doing particularly for social media but it puts it all in one place.

So this is going to be an online document and it’s going to be available by June. And as you’ll see at the bottom we really are inviting input.

So as you see the first volume when it comes up when it comes up we really do want feedback and ideas for ways we can enhance what’s already there.

So as you’ve heard before you can always contact us info@fatherhood.gov. You can also contact me at my email address there with any specific input for the toolkit.

If we can go to the next slide now please. And this shows you essentially what’s going to be in the first volume of the toolkits. So we’re going to have a section where we really talk about what’s gone before.

So going back to the work of the 70s and 80s, you know, starting with (Charles Bowed) and a lot of the just real small level community work that was going on in the 70s and 80s.

You know, there’s a lot more fatherhood work going on than a lot of people realize particularly people who are just getting started in the last few years.

This is not come out of nowhere. You know, it started initially by just people in their communities seeing that, you know, dads weren’t as involved as they used to be. And couples weren’t staying together as much as they used to. And kids were suffering. And it was just people really trying to strengthen their community. And so we want to build on that legacy and share some of those lessons.

And then there’ll be a section on, you know, just things to think about as you get started with your program.
Certainly had to deal with some of the challenges of letting the community know that you there, doing outreach and then directly recruiting dads and then some of the issues that come up as you work with dads one on one and in groups.

And there’s going to be a lot of hands-on activities in here. We’ve got activities from most if not all of the curricula that are widely used out there.

And the curriculum develops as graciously allowed us to use a number of activities from their curricula. So you’ll be able to go online and download those.

So, you know, if you’re getting ready to do an evening group and say you had a guest speaker who just told you they can’t come and you’re thinking oh what am I going to do tonight? You can come into the toolkit and have a look around and see well is there something I can just pull down?

Because you’ll be able to click on any of these things, there’ll be resources there. You’ll be able to quick download, print, take it to class. You know, you can print handouts for the dads.

And there will be some materials here focused specifically on dads that you’ll be able to just download print and hand out to the dads to make a particular point.

And if you do go to the toolkit after it’s up there with a particular issue, you know, say you’ve got a recruitment challenge or you want to do some staff training with some new staff or maybe with staff at a partner agency to make them, help them be a bit more father friendly.

If you can’t find an answer to a question you go in there for again email us and let us know that or pick the phone up and call us because if it’s not there we want it to be there. And if you see something that you’re doing that’s not there we want to hear that so we can add it in.

If we can go to the next slide please, and this shows you what we’re starting to work on for Volume 2.

So we, you know, we’re already working on this. We’ve already got some material here. But particularly, you know, we really do want to address domestic violence. It’s an issue that took the fatherhood field a while to acknowledge and embrace. But I think everybody in the field now understands that we have to talk about this.

You know, we have to protect our kids. So a fatherhood program has contact with many in the community. So he can do a number of things. You know, it can certainly flag issues where there may be domestic violence.

I think that perhaps the more important thing that a fatherhood program does is it engages men in conversation about this. And men can go out and be ambassadors in their communities and, you know, talk to their friends, talk to the neighbors, talk to their family.

And if someone is doing something that’s not appropriate, you know, call on it, have a conversation about it. So there will be some tips for how programs have been approaching those issues.

And while all dads face universal issues there are some culture specific issues or some culture specific ways that you can perhaps engage with dads, you know, African-American dads as opposed to Latino dads possibly.

So we’re putting together some tips from practitioners who work with specific groups. And again if you work with a specific group of dads and you have something that really works for you let us know. If we don’t know that yet we’ll stick it in there. And we’ll also be focusing on specific populations as we indicate there.
You know, certainly one of the major areas our country’s faced with is the number of parents, particularly dads who are incarcerated.

You know, a lot of them maybe shouldn’t be there in the first place. But they are there so they’re not connected with their kids on the same levels.

So what can we do to work with those dads while they are incarcerated? And how can we help them as they prepare to come back to the community and reconnect with their families whether or not they’re going to be in the family? But we want to help people be good co-parents.

Dads of special needs children face a whole set of issues too. So again if you’ve got work that you do in any of these populations and we haven’t heard from you yet then talk to us.

And next slide please. So this is just a few of the other things. And you’ve heard all about a lot of these from Jen and others in the earlier part of the Webinar here.

But this just sum up some of the resources we have on the website.

And there’s a profile for every state. We’re in the process is updating this at the moment. But you go to your state and see what resources are there for dads, what state resources, what kind of programs are available.

At the moment we only list programs that are the federally funded. But the resources to get a little more information on other programs there.

As Jen pointed out there’s a lot of tips for dads. We really want to encourage more dads to come to the website. There’s regular blogs.

And then we have we have a very extensive library of research to practice briefs where we try to sum up what some of the good research on father programs has to say. And we have a lot of promising practices idea there.

And we pulled out a lot of those research to practice and promising practices briefs as part of the toolkit but there’s some good stuff there is well aside from the toolkit.

And at the bottom of the screen there you’ll see those are the sections of the fatherhood.gov website where you’ll find some of these things.

And we do hear from some folks and their like I wasn’t sure exactly where this was. Well, you know, go to those sections and if you can’t find it as Jen said send us an e-mail at info@fatherhood.gov.

Let me move on and talk a little bit about our Webinars if we can go to the next slide. And we’ve been doing these through the Clearinghouse since 2007.

The general idea is that we’ve put stuff out there to help strengthen the field. And we, you know, we feature people who are doing successful work in the field, people who have done good jobs at documenting this on the research side, people who are dealing with policy issues, and federal issues and federal officials who can really point you in the direction of how you can connect regionally and locally to resources and programs that can help the families you work with.
And if you’ve missed any of these that website at the bottom is the link on the actual fatherhood.gov website where you’ll find the podcast of the previous Webinars that have transcripts, the slides, the audio.

We don’t have the audio up there for some of the older ones but certainly for the more recent ones you can read the transcripts.

So you just go to the fatherhood.gov website, go to the for program section, click down the resources and click other Webinars and you can choose whichever one you want.

Next slide please.

So this shows you the last three Webinars we did. Back in August of last year we did one as kids were getting ready to go back to school. We did one on strategies for increasing father involvement in schools. You know, the research is very clear that kids do better in school if they have both parents involved, not just in their home life but in school life.

And so we had a very interesting discussion with people involved in the school work and the PTA work to help dads be more involved and to, you know, try to convince some school administrators and teachers to reach out to dads more.

And we did one on working with fathers returning from prison, as I said a very important topic. And also, you know, perhaps the most important thing in terms of working with low income fathers which is certainly the clientele for a lot of fatherhood programs, not a lot of jobs out there anymore. And if they are they don’t pay enough to support a family.

So what do you do as a practitioner to help dads successfully connect to jobs and get the job skills to be able to function in this new economy, this changing economy. So certainly encourage you to take a look at that one.

And our next slide? And on the next slide we have just a few of the things that we have featured in previous years. And there’s been a lot of promising practices that we’ve talked about in terms of how you run your programs quite a few Webinars as well on documentation and evaluation. We cover this in the toolkit as well.

But, you know, a lot of programs have shied away from really correcting data and taking a look at it. It’s becomes a chore for some people when you’re trying to do the real work obviously working with dads.

But it’s so important to document that work so you can not only tell the story about what your program’s doing but you can see what’s working and what’s not and how you can tinker with things.

And then again working with fathers in facing all sorts of different situations, we’ve had Webinars on all these kind of topics.

We’ve talked about how you integrate healthy marriage skills with responsible fatherhood programs. You know, you can’t really do a fatherhood program without talking about communication skills, helping dads be connected to the mother no matter what their relationship is.

You know, if you’re trying to be a good parent you got to be a good co-parent. Kids do better when both parents are involved and getting along together.
We’ve done some stuff on ways to use one media. You know, I was in a workshop at a conference a couple of years ago and someone was saying, you know, I just can’t get the hang of this Facebook and Twitter stuff.

And there is a young man in the audience who piped up and said well, you know, if you can’t do that you can’t talk to me.

So we have to get on board with this new stuff. And that’s why it’s exciting what Ed and David are doing for us on the social media front.

And then one more slide so let’s go to my next slide. And this slide just shows you what we’ve got planned for the rest of this federal fiscal year in terms of Webinars.

And these Webinars will all be on the fourth Thursday of the month. And you’ll receive information about them closer to the date as long as you are on our email listserv. Anyway if you’re not make sure you get on there and.

In March we’ll be talking about child support. We will be looking at some examples of effective strategies for working with child support.

You know, it’s perhaps the number one issue that brings or at least after getting jobs that brings a lot of men to a fatherhood program.

Well how are you going to help them manage that child support issue? You know, you’ve got to do that by working with your local child support people.

And then in May we’ll be focusing on domestic violence again looking at ways to ensure family and child safety.

And in July we’ll be looking at ways to work with fathers of special needs children and offering some important resources.

And in September we’ll be coming up with a topic to meet whatever is important at the time. So that’s all for me for now and let me pass it over to Patrick and he’s going to do some Q&A with you all.

Patrick Patterson:  Thank you Nigel. Thank you team. As you can hear there’s several things that we’ve actually covered and are planning to cover with the Clearinghouse.

And our aim is to really make this as useful and reflective of the field as you guys are doing the work.

And so it’s very important that this is not viewed as our website, our clearing house but your Clearinghouse which is somewhat of the purpose of today’s Webinar.

We received a number of questions. I’m going to try to do a speed round of questions. But I also want to invite Matt if you would to just reorient folks to how you submit a question if there are others who may have joined us after we get started. Matt?

Matt Crews:  Sure, thank you Patrick. Again if you look at that screen clicking your upper left-hand corner on Q&A a box should drop down.

Type in your question in the box and then click on Ask to submit your question and we will address it.
Also if you’re joining us online or on Facebook or Twitter you can hit us there at fatherhoodgov on both of those. And we’re using hashtag nrscWebinar for today’s presentation. So you can join us here and ask questions or you can join us online or Twitter and Facebook and ask questions as well.

Patrick Patterson: Thanks Matt. A couple things, Matt mentioned real quickly Facebook and Twitter. Since we’ve been on the phone we’ve had a number of folks who joined us who have liked us on Facebook and who began following us on Twitter which is very important.

The other thing that I want to just raise and I think in one of our slides you saw a visual of where the Clearinghouse has been and our plans for the year. And so this is very important. We really, really see ourselves as a national resource.

And we find out about conferences and events either by our own contacts and information or by things that are shared with us.

And so I just really want to reemphasize we want to be where you are. We are guided to a budget which kind of control some of that but we need to know, we’d like to know where there are other events or conferences that are going on.

It’s not for us physically being there. We want to add on to our calendar on our website. And so as you can see the map that’s posted there’s numerous areas where we’ve not been yet. And we just want to make sure that we have a chance to connect but also be a part of what’s going on in those communities.

So if you’re on the line and your state and or your city is not represented by either of these pinpoint markers please feel free to email us at any point in the year and let us know about an event, a conference or some type of fatherhood activity that’s going on because we really want to reflect all of America, all the work that’s going on across the country in terms of fatherhood.

I’m going to get into the questions. I’ll start with a question that was raised for Donna.

One of the first questions Donna was can Child Find help incarcerated parents? Can Child Find help incarcerated parents?

Donna Linder: Yes. We have had some success working with the Osborne foundation here in New York state with dealing with incarcerated parents. But we have to do it through their caseworker within the prison.

We don’t directly talk to the parent but we will talk with the case manager who then can bring the parent online with us and hammer out some stuff.

We’ve been especially able to reconnect again with the custodial mother for dad to be able to prepare when he’s going to be released how will that re-unification or contact be initiated.

So we can but it’s very, very specific and you need the buy-in of each individual prison setting.

Patrick Patterson: Okay thanks so much. Jen a question for you regarding the website, do we have any resources on the website that are in Spanish? Do we have any resources that are on the website that are in Spanish?

Jen McHenry: Thanks. We do actually have some resources in Spanish. At the sort of bottom and I also believe at the top of our page we have a link that says In Español.
And we do have a couple of things that are written specifically in Spanish. But it’s something that we’re aware that we have a great capacity to grow in and what we have available.

And so I would say that if you are looking for something specific and you are not finding it please let us know. We will go on a hunt for that specific resource or informational direction to be able to add it to share with you and for others.

And also if you found something that you’ve used with a Spanish-speaking population or an individual that you think would be great for someone else to use and you think that it should be available through our website let us know about that as well.

Patrick Patterson: Thanks Jen. A question for Nigel, there are actually couple of questions for Nigel.

Does the toolkit and in what angle does the toolkit focus on integrating domestic violence and responsible fatherhood?

Nigel Vann: Sorry I was just un-muting the phone. To those things that integrate domestic violence and fatherhood?

Patrick Patterson: Yes. Is there any area of the toolkit of the touches on domestic violence in the fatherhood (contact)?

Nigel Vann: That’s yes that’s going to be in Volume 2. It’s not going to be in the one that comes out online in June.

So if anybody does have input on that, you know, we’d certainly welcome it. But we have started putting that section together.

Patrick Patterson: Okay excellent, excellent. Question for Matt. How would you distinguish - just to reiterate how would you distinguish that use of the 877 Clearinghouse number and the Child Fund number How would you direct folks to use both of these numbers? Matt?

Matt Crews: Great question actually. For the 877-4DAD-411 I would call if I were a practitioner or somebody working in the field or even a dad that is just navigating the website and has technical concerns, trouble finding a resource call us there or email us.

You can have a live representative either way who will help you navigate your way through the website and general questions around the work that we do.

However if you are looking, if you’re a father or someone in need of help call the parent helpline. We’re going to make sure that when we talk to you we just don’t send you to a dead end.

Donna and her staff they hear what your concerns are no matter what part of the United States. And they take it on as their own and try our best to help you.

So again if you’re a father in need of assistance call the parent helpline. Please refer the NRC when you do. But if you’re just a practitioner or a father on the website looking for different resources call us at 877-4DAD-411.

But either way if should you call the wrong one we can navigate you in the right direction.

Patrick Patterson: Thanks Matt. Donna would you like to add anything to kind of areas that Child Find and the phone number can help fathers?
Donna Linder: I think we’re most valuable if it’s a crisis situation because we can help deflate the crisis. And that’s a good thing to have if you’re a practitioner who has a dad who’s having a crisis outside of your area of expertise. That’s when practitioners and the dad call us together and that works out very well.

But I just want to reiterate what Matt says. We will refer appropriate calls back and forth to each other so that - so it will be seamless.

Patrick Patterson: Excellent, excellent. Second question for Nigel, is if we have topical suggestions for you all to develop new products where should we send those? If we have topical suggestions for you to develop new products where should we send those?

Nigel Vann: You can send those to info@fatherhood.gov. That’s the best place or if you want to contact me directly you can do it at nigel.vann@icfi.com.

Patrick Patterson: Okay, excellent, excellent. David and Ed there were a couple of questions around Fatherhood Buzz and our outreach efforts.

If I want to join in on the Fatherhood Buzz effort in the coming year who do I contact?

Edward Lawson: I can answer.

David Miller: Go ahead Ed. I’m sorry.

Edward Lawson: You can reach out to the info.fatherhood - info@fatherhood.gov website at our email address. You can also contact me at elarson@fathersincorporated.com if you are interested in engaging in any Fatherhood Buzz activities.

Patrick Patterson: Okay. David were you going to say something?

David Miller: Yes I was going to add that we’re definitely looking for more partners because we believe that Fatherhood Buzz and working in these barbershops is just an innovative way to engage dads. So just shoot us an email and we’ll follow-up with you.

Patrick Patterson: Excellent, excellent and if you are interested in joining also you can go to fatherhood.gov our website there’s a special page that we’ve created for Fatherhood Buzz based on the effort that we did last year.

And you’ll be able to click on but also view the number of barbershops and cities that participated. We started out as Ed and David mentioned with eight targeted market cities. But it expanded by virtue of just the good news being spread until we had a number of other cities that participated.

And even as we move forward with this year’s plan we hope to do the same thing to continue to go beyond our numbers.

I do believe last year we started out with the goal of no more than about 25 or so Barber shops, just tried to keep it manageable. And by the end of our effort in last June we were up to about 110 barbershops across the country.

So that was I think a monumental task, a monumental lift but it had a great return as we were able to not only talk to community folks but to really put some resource information directly in the hands of fathers which I think that’s what we all want to see happen, not just helping the field but help in the fathers and their families.
There are two other questions Lisa. And I’ll raise it. I could add or respond or you could add or respond.

Does the research center - does the Clearinghouse have a similar collaboration with the national domestic violence group or expert?

And so I can respond real quick. We do have under subject matter expert contracts two experts that are on I would say on call to develop materials. But also if we get a call or if there’s a need for that person to actually respond based on their area of expertise we can do that.

The two people that we have are Dr. (David Pate) who I’m sure many of you know from around the country and also Anna Menard who works for the National Domestic Violence Resource Center in Pennsylvania. Lisa do you want to add anything that?

Lisa Washington-Thomas: The - and on the federal level we coordinate with our federal partners at the Federal Youth Services Bureau and meet regularly and work on ways to partner.

Patrick Patterson: Okay.

Lisa Washington-Thomas: So we have it on two different ways to partner with the DB community.

Patrick Patterson: Excellent, excellent. The last question I think what resources do you offer gay or transgender dads? What resources do you offer gay and transgender dads? And I’ll ask - I’ll respond first Lisa and you can follow-up.

But we generally speaking try our best to make sure our materials and information is applicable to all dads.

For the person that asked the question if there are materials that you think when you’re going on-site that we do not have again we open the invitation to sending materials for review and approval if they’re fitting.

So we offer all of our materials to dads regardless of where they are in their stage. Lisa anything to add to that?

Lisa Washington-Thomas: No I don’t Patrick. We like you said we offer information to dads, dads in general and that we are - although we have on your I think Nigel mentioned a set of special populations that we are targeting this year it doesn’t mean that we might not target different populations next year.

You know, as we were talking about the African-American and Native American dads with special needs, military dads.

So that was our focus this year and we haven’t set our focus for our final year of the Clearinghouse.

Patrick Patterson: All right well thanks so much. At this point we’d love to hear from you about this Webinar. And so in the next few minutes we’re going to go through a couple of slides to get your feedback on how well we did.

Our next set of slides will help us to know whether you liked or things - if there are things that we can improve for our future Webinars. The answers you provide will only be viewed by you.

We’re going to pose for questions. Once you vote you can change your vote as long as the page in the slot is still up.

Once the page has gone of course you cannot cast your ballot of the time. I’ll start with our first question.
All right next question. Next question.

Matt Crews: All right and the final question everyone and we’re going to go back through these one more time just to make sure that everybody had an opportunity to vote.

But also if you’re not joining us online just looking at the PowerPoint slides are available online we want your feedback as well. So we’re going to read them out loud this time for those of you that may just be joining us only via phone.

So if we can go back to that first poll question. That first one was I had a better understanding of the work and priorities of the National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse.

If you’re online you can click on Strongly Agree, Agree, Unsure, Disagree or Strongly Disagree and we will receive your results.

For the second one the information presented on the fatherhood.gov website telephone services for dads and other NRC resources were helpful?

Thirdly, I will use some of the NRC resources in my work with fathers and families and/or refer fathers to the website or phone number?

And for our last question in general I received good information that I can use in my work with fathers and families?

And again if you’re doing this online choose from any of the six options from Strongly Agree to No Vote.

And if you are only joining us on the phone please send us your feedback at info@fatherhood.gov Twitter Facebook and the phone lines as well. We’re assessable through all of them.

I’m going to give it back to Patrick now. Thank you.

Patrick Patterson: Thanks Matt. As a couple quick reminders, today’s Webinar was being recorded so shortly after today’s Webinar’s concluded we’re going to gather the notes but also the information that was shared. We’re going to post on our website not only the recording but the slides that we went through today in about seven to nine days.

Again I’d offer you to like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. But also please if you haven’t been to our website recently please take a look at our website.

Again if you see things that are there we want to hear about that. And as Jen mentioned if you see things that are not there that can be added you want to suggest resources we invite you to submit them.

Our website is only as good as we get info and feedback from the field.

And so we thank you so much for joining us. We look forward to our next Webinar and I would say I bid you farewell. Have a great afternoon everybody.

Operator: Thank you. That does conclude our conference you may now disconnect.

END