

THE ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION

SUPPORTING YOUNG FATHERS OF COLOR

Lessons From the Field

Center for Economic Opportunity
Two-Generation Strategies

August 12, 2020



Moderator



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The Annie E. Casey Foundation

Agenda

- I. Welcome and introductions
- II. Session overview
- III. Discussion: Supporting Young Fathers of Color
- IV. Q&A
- V. Upcoming Casey projects
- VI. Closing comments

Our Panel



Joseph Jones
Founder and CEO
Center for Urban Families



Charles Daniels
Founder and CEO
Fathers' Uplift



Sheldon Smith
Founder and Director
The Dovetail Project

Session Overview

In this webinar, participants will learn about:

- a new Center for Urban Families report about young fathers;
- strategies that several organizations have adopted to boost opportunities for young families; and
- the Casey Foundation's investments in solutions for issues facing young fathers.

**DISCUSSION:
SUPPORTING YOUNG FATHERS OF COLOR**

Publication Background

The Center for Urban Families:

- identified 10 organizations that serve fathers ages 18–24;
- conducted interviews with participating organizations; and
- hosted a two-part virtual roundtable.



Strengths of Young Fathers



- Young fathers and their children are in different, but critical, periods of brain development.
- Young fathers are motivated to improve their circumstances, including by entering educational and employment pathways and improving parenting skills.

Key Challenges



Institutional biases and stigma



Unfair targeting by the criminal justice system



High rates of mental distress and trauma



Financial insecurity



Lack of stable housing

Promising Approaches



Targeted outreach and recruitment strategies



Activities and tangible goods to support young men in their roles as fathers



Culturally relevant programs and curriculum



Education and advocacy for young fathers as they navigate systems and policies

Recommendations

- Build connections among existing young fatherhood practitioners
- Design research to improve program models and build evidence base
- Identify and remove policies that penalize and exclude fathers
- Expand funding for promising approaches and community-led organizations

Q&A



Find at: <https://www.cfuf.org/publications/>

Forthcoming Casey Projects

United for Young Fathers

- A peer-learning network of practitioners that will explore promising innovations, evidence and systems changes.
- Contact Quanic Fullard (qfullard@aecf.org) for more information.

Co-Parenting Network Study for Young Fathers

- An academic study on the social support networks that fathers rely on to successfully parent.
- Contact Allison Holmes (aholmes@aecf.org) for more information.

Additional Resources

- Reports:
 - “Reaching their Full Potential: Strategies for Supporting Young Fathers of Color” (Find at: <https://www.cfuf.org/publications/>)
 - “KIDS COUNT Policy Report: Opening Doors for Young Parents” (Find at: <https://www.aecf.org/resources/opening-doors-for-young-parents>)
- Blog: “Resources to Help Young Parents Thrive” (Find at: <https://www.aecf.org/blog/resources-to-help-young-parents-thrive/>)

Contact Our Panelists



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*Developing solutions to build a brighter future
for children, families and communities*

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