

REALTIME FILE
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>> At this time we are assembling today's audience and do plan to be underway shortly. We do appreciate your patience. Please remain on the line. Good day and welcome to the virtual open house webinar. Today's conference is being recorded. At this time I would like to turn the conference over to Emily Appel-Newby. Please go ahead maa'

hello good afternoon or good morning depending where you are. Thank you everyone for joining us. We are staff from the office of family assistance national responsible fatherhood clearinghouse and we are excited to present to you today something that we have been working on for the past couple months to provide the resources for practitioners and fathers to engage with the NRFC and the brother fatherhood community and we're going to share with you the redesigned fatherhood.gov plies as well as the virtual collaborative community or VCC that exists for fatherhood practitioners through the national responsible fatherhood clearinghouse.

We are going to take a minute to go through each site, then answer any questions that you have about how you can use these tools to enhance your practice working with fathers, or if you are a father yourself on how you can get resources on being the best dad you can be. Thank you so much for joining us.

The office of family assistance at the administration for children and families provides funds to support fathers and families through the national responsible fatherhood clearinghouse. And the clearinghouse makes available resources for dads , fatherhood programs, researchers and policymakers which can be found on these two sites. Today we will hear from here about the redesigned fatherhood.gov, and the presentation will be from myself, I'm Emily Appel Newby senior manager at ICF part of the national responsible fatherhood team. Then you will hear about the virtual collaborative

community from Barbara Scarlette and Lawrence Wilbon from fathers incorporated. while we work for different organizations we are all part of the NRFC team and we have been working together closely to make sure the tools are awesome for you. with that I'm going to share my screen and I am going to walk you through the new redesigned fatherhood.gov.

Great. So it looks like you all can see my site. The redesigned fatherhood.gov offers improved usability and look and feel to create a seamless and integrated experience for fathers and practitioners. We knew from user research and interviews with people who have used the NRFC, the fatherhood clearinghouse site that people came to the site with a specific goal and in general they often could be overwhelmed with too much information. So we implement it several new solutions with a new site to address that. We are using audience-based navigation to help our primary audiences which are programs and dads to get to the content they are interested in. We know from interviews that fathers are generally only interested in a small subset of content and practitioners are interested in a broader range of the content that we put together. We have organized pages into clear categories and the use of headers and sub-headers and created topic pages to be one stop shops on a particular topic. For example child support, that comes up often and all pages feature related content that the practitioner or father might also be interested in. you will see we have the page that is organized with topics of interest

The coparenting topic comes up a lot when we are working with fathers. In terms of the calls and what we hear out in the road. So you can see there is an introduction to the topic of coparenting that is written in a way that the dads can understand. There are some tips and best practices for somebody who wants to find out really about how to grapple with this topic. Then we have listed all the NRFC resources that are available created by the NRFC they are related to this topic so you can see there is a tips page. There's a research spotlight about relationship quality and coparenting. and different resources that dads might be interested in. there is a spotlight on a blog post that's created --- whatever pages in this case coparenting you can see how we cross leveraged a lot of resources from across the site so that anybody interested in coparenting will be able to read more and if you click on read more it takes you to the blog post and it finally there is an FAQ section.

You can see this site provides a depth of information for dads about the topics they're interested in but breaks it out into bite-size chunks so they can take as little or as much of it as they want to. Definitely we think these are the domains and topics that are of interest to dads but if you can think of topics that would be of interest to them, then please reach out to us. Our email address is at the bottom of the site. Help at fatherhood.gov.info. That would be a great way to tell us what you want to see more of on the site. So be on the topics of interest for dads we have this list of activities for dads and kids, and we have always included it in NRFC newsletters but now they are available and searchable format on the website and you can see there's over 250 of

them. You can search through the, you can filter, I should say by the age of your child and so you can have it only show you the kinds of activities that are relevant because of something you do with a toddler is not something you do with a teen. So you can filter down for the age of the child that the father is working with. So that's a great way that you can share with dads if they are looking for something to do with their children.

Then finally these are classic dad jokes page. Which is something that we had, we have had for a long time. Whoops too big. Hmm. I'm not sure I can make it bigger. Sorry about that. We have the dad jokes page where, sorry, this has dad jokes that has been submitted over the years from our users and you can tell it to give you another joke or users can submit their own dad jokes.

So finally the last area we thought would be of interest to dads is if they are looking for fatherhood programs if they haven't already found fatherhood programs and they might be interested in finding one we are going to type in our address here in Virginia. And it gives the availability of programs within a 100 mile radius of fatherhood programs. Currently it has ones that are federally funded as well as human services and agencies that would be supporting fathers in all 50 states and the territories. So that was a way that fathers could be connected with programs because we know that the website is one way of providing information to fathers but it will be so much more impactful if they can connect with your organization. Now I'm going to move on to the four programs section. So it kind of mirrors the for dads pages in that it has topics of interest that are organized under a series of domains. And again, if you remember, if you were familiar with the fatherhood toolkit from the last version of the website, then you would see a lot of similar topics here. We have used many of the same topics here and kind of refreshed and updated the topics in a way that with more recent statistics and insights. And so the copy pages will have an introduction that will introduce practitioners to a topic. We know we need to go deeper into the topics because running fatherhood programs can be complex. So if they are associated subtopics under the main topics of domestic violence, then we have any sub pages we have included here. For example engaging allies in domestic violence protection is going to take you to another page that goes deeper into the sub topic. We have high-level tips and best practices and frequently asked questions again that help define the terms and give some quick answers. So this is a good way for program staff to learn about new areas of program development and new staff to learn about the core components of running a fatherhood program.

The next section we have available for programs is called program activities. These were pulled from the fatherhood toolkit but they are now all in one place and searchable by the skills that you want to build with fathers. So for example if you want to build communication skills. You can refine here on the left-hand side so that you see the three activities that are related to communication skills. And when you open them up you will see the materials needed and the pre-session procedures, what you need to do with prep, learning competencies and learning objectives and the step-by-step instructions for facilitating this in a group or one-on-one setting.

Now I should say that we have how many... I think we have about 20 of them? Yeah 20. We are definitely looking for more activity so if you have tried some tried and true activities that you would love to share with your peers how you would like to engage fathers in multiple ways to help them become better fathers and partners and if you would send it to us to the email address for the NRFC we will put it up on our website and we will link back your webpage to give you credit for the wonderful work that you're doing and sharing with your peers. The next area that we have under or I should say over here is the dad talk blog which is something that is a way that the NRFC can communicate with the field on a biweekly basis, that we can keep on top of, keeping communication with you about issues we see going on we at OFA see going on in the fatherhood field and we can provide an update about that. So these are meant to be light and easy ways for us to connect with you about topics.

The final program going to talk about is a fatherhood media campaign. So we have long worked, the ad Council is part of the national responsible fatherhood clearinghouse and they have over the years created some great media collateral for social media videos for posting to TB, like if you wanted to get a public service announcement on local TV stations or audio spots played on your, on local radio stations it's all about promoting fatherhood and overall and appreciation awareness of fatherhood or print pieces to go to local newspapers or on bus shelters for example. Those are all here. Those are all consolidated here under four programs, fatherhood media campaign PSA and then of course you will see the fourth one under there is the NRF C virtual collaborative community. And I'm going to hand it over to Barbara and Lawrence in just a minute to show you where that will take you. But the last thing that I wanted to show you through before I go is is the updated library enhanced print view and access to see what is in there. What has recently been added, still all the great ways that you can filter the content that is in there --- you can see there are a lot of facets into the fatherhood program. Research and whether webinar or issue brief or PSA, it is all in there. So that is a great, everything you see in the site [indiscernible] in the library basically. So we believe the redesigned website offers great content on responsible fatherhood that's more engaging and easier to explore. If you have questions about how to use the site, or ideas about ways to make it even better, please contact the NRFC at fatherhood helped out info and as I mentioned we are actively looking to build out the program activities. So if you have activities that you would like to share with your peers, please send them to us. With that I'm going to stop sharing my screen to see if we have any questions. I guess is what I will do. I see that someone asked if there was essentially the same functionality on mobile devices. That's a great question. And yes definitely content is consolidated horizontally. So it is be more of a column format and all the same content is there. What's great about the redesigned website is that it has the look and feel of modern websites in terms of the functionality usability that you are used to interacting with on your mobile phone and on your devices.

So with that I would like to turn it over to my friends and colleagues, Barbara and Lawrence, to speak with you a little bit about what we have put together with the virtual collaborative community. Thank you.

>> Good afternoon everyone, my name is Barbara Scarlette and as Emily mentioned I'm part of the virtual collaborative community as far as the director of our team and it is my privilege today to welcome you to a brand-new component of the NRC called the virtual collaborative community. As Emily mentioned earlier right here in the programs, there's a new link that says collaborative community and as many of you already know the NRFC is focused on strengthening families and spotters and engaging responsible fatherhood educators and practitioners and that ironically now more than ever, there is a need to connect and communicate in new ways while still working together to help families and in particular individuals who are working directly in the fields of families and fatherhood. And as such the NRFC virtual collaborative community is going to be a vital component that will allow fatherhood stakeholders to engage in online peer to peer learning and help practitioner such as yourselves collaborate, discuss common issues, challenges and to develop new strategies to resolve problems. So we are excited about that today. Before we go any further I would like to introduce Lawrence Wilbon, the virtual collaborative community administrator and he is going to talk to you about what we will go over in today's presentation then we will dive right into the walk-through. Lawrence?

>> Thank you, Barbara for the introduction. Again, this is Lawrence Wilbon I'm the virtual collaborative community administrator.

--- How to join including creating a new login and what is involved in the registration process. Third, how to access resources , communicate and engage and lastly how to contact the NRC VCC team with questions suggestions and ideas. And with that I will turn the presentation back over to Barbara.

>> All right great. Thank you so much, Lawrence. We will dive right into the walk-through. Starting with the first question, where to access the virtual collaborative community. Back here under programs there's a new link that says an RFC virtual collaborative community I will click here and it takes you directly to the log in or sign-up screen so you can join as I mentioned earlier you can join the VCC for programs and click on the link that will take you to the sign up or login screen.

If this is your first time as many of you this is your first time what he will do is click on the sign up button here and walk you through the process. And it's really simple. Takes actually less than a minute to create your login but what you will see on step one of two steps is just a brief welcome, and right underneath that is a disclaimer with basic NRFC guidelines and terms of use but simply all that is needed and required for logging in is your email address, password, first name and last name.

So I'm going to walk you through a brief demonstration here with a test email address. And then for security identify that you are a person and on the second step we like to

know little bit about yourself. So we would like you to please tell us who you are, if you are a practitioner, researcher, general interest or policymaker. And then we have a section for the NRFC internal team. So in this example I'm just going to put practitioner and right below that you see a section that says VCC interest area selection so from here we would like you to select from list below some topic areas that are of most interest to you and by doing so you will receive a notification email about similar resources webinars or events when they become available. So in this example I'm going to check all of them. I'm really interested in every part of fatherhood topics. And essentially that is it. So those two simple steps take me to the registration confirmation page and then right underneath that it tells you what you can expect. Your profile once it is submitted will go over to the NRFC internal team and I will turn this over to Lawrence in just a second to explain what happens in that process.

But in the meantime once you get to the step, please feel free to look at the welcome page. And the welcome page tells you a little bit more about the NRFC virtual collaborative community and what you can expect to see. And how really more importantly how you can engage and communicate with other practitioners across the country. And so with that, Lawrence I will turn it over to you if you can explain just a little bit about what happens when they go through the initial steps number one and two to create a profile.

>> Absolutely. Thank you, Barbara. Now that you have created your profile you will receive a message from the system administrator to confirm your participation. We ask that you will submit confirm and send them back to us and after that point it will be fully verified and you will have access to participate now in the virtual collaborative community.

>> Great.

>> Back to you Barbara

>> Thank you, Lawrence, so very simply after you go through that initial step and that process you will receive a confirmation email from the internal NRFC team and when that happens you can log back in so I will demonstrate what that looks like. The next time you come to the NRFC VCC, instead of signing up you will actually log in, so I will use the same email as before. And as you can see here my menu is brand-new now. I have the welcome page and I have resources. I have the webinar, sorry the group's members and that also now when you have received the verification email from from the team he will log back in.

First let's take a look at the resources area so you can see what you can expect to find here. In this area you will find a variety of articles and access to different research findings. You can find a program or policy resources. And more importantly and I will show you in just a minute, there will be an area here where you can actually contribute and add your own thoughts ideas and comments to the stories here. So I will just pick one out of the list here. I will pick bringing hope to children of incarcerated fathers.

And as you can see here, this is the resource that has been posted. You can scroll down and you can actually see the comments that are happening between two individuals back and forth between James and Eugene. And for those of you on the phone who want to jump right in and add your comments to this as well you can initiate new comments or you can simply hit the reply arrow right here on the right-hand side of the screen so that you can reply directly to James or you can start a brand-new thread.

And so in addition to that if I go back to the resources page you notice these four areas are very familiar. So if you can recall when I was first creating my login, I have selected a couple areas that were of most interest to me. So in this example I'm very interested in things that are special topics. So imagine is the virtual collaborative community starts to grow over the years we will have many different stories and resources that are posted here. So maybe not everything is of interest to me. Maybe I'm only interested in special topics. So what this does is kind of allows me to filter on this area here and looking at the special topics and I can jump into again one of these stories and again here is another story. This one doesn't have any comments yet. We are so eager for those of you on the line to join and just jump in and start commenting. And you notice also there is a follow-up button so if you are not ready to join the conversations and you want to follow some of the content you can click the follow button and what that will do is send you alerts as conversations begin to develop around some of these areas. So now we will actually go to the next area that I want to cover which are our groups. And groups, the groups section is something that we are very excited about because think of a group really as I know many of you are on social media. On social media anyway so you are familiar with the concept of like an online group, but in this instance this is a private group of those of you who have come through the secure login. You have gone through the vetting process and now you're able to jump into any of these groups. You notice there are only four. So we are very eager to get some of your feedback on different types of groups that we can start so that various ones of you can come together and really begin to collaborate and have dialogue around certain topics so I will jump right into the first one here on the left, positive reentry from incarceration.

And so simply it just takes one click to join a group. And join the group, but low and behold we've got folks that are already here. There are seven members here and there are two people [indiscernible] to comment back to say a simple hello here. The post there. And it says my name and we could go to the post message and start a brand-new thread. I know for many of you who have spent some time online, none of these concepts are new to you. I just wanted to walk you through how the process happens within the virtual collaborative community. Also if you notice here, there's another menu at the top of the page here where you can look at various resources. So if I go into group resources you will see another document here that you can load. This is important because many of you are specialists in your field and you may have a document or you may have a resource or white paper that you have written, something that is working very well on the East Coast that you want to share with folks on the West

Coast. This is the perfect place and a perfect opportunity for you to come in and to share that information.

Lastly, what I would like to mention as far as the groups are concerned is right inside the group you notice featured course. What we have done in a very strategic manner we have actually gone through some of the most popular webinars that were from the NRFC and actually built a group around those. So this group here called positive reentry from incarceration was actually an idea that came from a very popular webinar that was done some time ago called supporting fathers and families in incarceration. We realized from the onset that sometimes during a live webinar the cat is really only the tip of the iceberg in terms of the types of dialogue that can happen. And or that should happen around a particular topic.

And so the purpose of this is to really allow the conversation to continue around these various topics. So we can continue to dialogue not just within the chat, but now we can bring some of the ideas and topics right inside of this group and continue to have that dialogue.

With that I will go into the webinar section. And you can see we have got four courses, four webinars presented and many of you were part of the using virtual technology and fatherhood programs. So this is here if you want to rewatch it here but something that is unique in this sense, so if you click the begin button you can actually watch this video right from your computer or the platform responsive design so you can actually watch this from your mobile device, your smart phone or tablet. So you don't have to be, you don't have to be on your desktop to access the virtual collaborative community. One other thing is I mentioned from the beginning it's not just about kind of recycling content. We want to keep the dialogue and conversations happening around some of these very important and vital conversations that are happening today. So actually here you can provide feedback and comments and as you are re-watching the webinar you can take notes and email the notes to yourself. So there's no rush and you are not under the pressure of having to get through webinar because you can take your time, here you can watch it on your phone or tablet and kind of go through and take a deeper dive into the resources and the content.

Lastly I want to go right to the member section which I will save the best for last. The last but not least here in this section is the ability for you to connect with other practitioners that are in the fatherhood space. I will give you an example I'm at a conference, I can't remember Kevin's last name but I know he is a part of the NRFC in some way so I would come here and maybe type in Kevin. I'm just making up a name, I hit enter... And lo and behold, hey, there is a Kevin. This is the same person that I may have met at a conference or a workshop. The great thing about this is I can click on Kevin's profile and read a little bit about his information. You can see here, there's kind of a built-in twitter feed from, his organization is built kind of right into his page. And I can simply click this direct message button and send out a message and say, hey Kevin I met you at the conference. I couldn't remember your last name but I'm so glad I found

you on the virtual collaborative community. So right then and there in a very dynamic manner you're able to share, or to engage with someone. The last thing I want to mention when this happens this is kind of like a direct message function. So those of you familiar with those of you familiar with the platforms you get a message via email and the next time you login you will have a message waiting. So if I go to my internal inbox, again, this is the private internal inbox for the virtual collaborative community I can see I've got a message waiting for me from Tracy, who I have not seen, maybe have not talked to in some time but she found me on the virtual collaborative community and she says I'm looking forward to continuing our conversations regarding women and fatherhood programs and I'm just going to say me too. And reply. So Tracy will get a message and so you can see very simply Tracy and I are able to go back and forth in a conversation and really engage and kind of pick back up where we left off, and again as we are kind of in the space here where we are having to put more distance between ourselves the virtual collaborative community is really a place that we can come close and come back to kind of the important dialogues and some of the important topics.

I know I have covered a lot, and I'm sure I've got some questions coming in, but but I've gone through actually there is one more thing I almost forgot.

In here if you notice I go back to the members page you notice that some of the individuals have a brief bio. This is important. It gives an idea as to kind of the space you are working in so the way you go in is to edit profile and right here under who am I you would select type in a quick short bio and so I could say I am a policymaker. And then I quick say changes right at the bottom. That would be posted to my profile. So then anyone who comes to my profile can find out a little bit more information about who I am, where I am, the kind of space that I'm working in and things of that nature. Again we are really looking forward to those of you on the phone who are practitioners jumping in and engaging so excited to be able to offer this to you as a resource. Before we go into the queue and they I will turn it back over to Lawrence to give you a couple of important information on how you can contact us because we want to hear from you and to know your thoughts. Lawrence?

>> Thank you Barbara, what a great presentation. Now we want to hear from you. If you have great ideas you could reach out to us by going to the hyperlink at the bottom of the screen where it says contact us. You're able to submit questions or ideas you want to share with us by clicking the link, or at the bottom of the screen as you seek there there's also a box where it says help. If you click the help box there it will allow you to submit your questions, your concerns. But then it also allows you to upload information to be approved to share within the community. So this is your community. We want you to take advantage of it and enjoy being a part of this father focused community. Thank you Barbara.

>> Thank you Lawrence. I click the help button while you were talking so I wanted to make sure everyone saw it. Again on the bottom where you are on the VCC in the bottom right-hand corner there's a help button so here's where, you may not necessarily

need help but maybe there is an idea, you got an idea for a new group or topic or something of that nature. You can just type that here. Maybe you can attach the file that you want to share with us. Similar to the website team, we will be vetting that content. And we will get back to you with our thoughts and feedback. So with that said I'm actually going to leave my screen up and I think there may be some questions coming in and Enzo or the moderator I will let you tell me how you want to proceed with the Q&A section.

>> Hey Barbara this is Emily. I can read those out for you. One question we had for login accessing the VCC I would use my name and what would be my password?

>> Oh you can come up with any password that you would like great question. I'm going to log out. And if you go here I'm going to put my demo but essentially oh, not here. Let me go on the site. Let me start from the question that's a great time I want to go make sure I have time to answer that one. It's a great question.

When you come to... I think I am lost. I forgot to log out earlier. So when you come here you will type in your email address. Now your password does have a couple of security points in it, so if you don't it has to have one N1n one special character so make sure it has one of those things are those three criteria and you will be good to go so that was a great question. You can come up with your own password it just can't be a really simple one like 12345. Try to stay away from those and pick something that is more secure and you will be fine. Great question.

>> Great. Another question we got for you says it appears the profile picture function isn't working. Does the larger picture similar to a cover photo in Facebook

>> Yes great question. We actually anticipated that question so we've already got an answer. Actually we have a question into the folks over at OFA to make sure that it is okay to share the profile picture so we are waiting to hear information on that. If you pardon it right now you can upload a background photo, and so with the background photo you can maybe put a little bit of information about maybe where you are from or something of that nature but the head shots we are waiting for a little bit of feedback on to make sure that that is okay and hopefully we will send a message out to everyone on that. Everyone who is a part of the virtual collaborative community we will let you know when it is approved to upload a headshot. Great question. We anticipated that one to come today so thank you for asking.

>> We got some feedback from Olga in Massachusetts who said what an easy site to use. I will be able to sign up and work on my profile. Thank you very much for a comprehensive presentation thank you Barbara and Lawrence. Good job.

>> Great. Any other questions?

>> No. The last question that we had was kind of general for all of us and it was fatherhood programs, they are redesigning a program as well and they would like to include fatherhood.gov as a resource link. Would that be okay? in the answer is of

course it would. We would love that if you would hyperlink to fatherhood.gov to the VCC, to any of the pages that we offer that are out there. It's definitely available for your use. And we look forward to hearing, we would love to hear how you use it actually and what people thought of it. Thank you everybody for your great questions.

[Both speaking]

>>... I'm sorry Emily I have one... I'm sorry, I did not mean to cut you off. I wanted to encourage those of you who are practitioners especially we are looking forward to you joining the virtual collaborative community. I want to thank you personally for your time and we are looking forward to seeing you over on the community side. So I wanted to thank the practitioners especially for those of us who plan on joining us as soon as possible.

>> I agree, we are looking for some robust conversations on the virtual collaborative community. If you want to see the PowerPoint from today's presentation, it's downloadable on the left-hand side of your screen from the files pod to underneath the chat. As always we will post a recording of this virtual open house webinar presentation to fatherhood.gov in a couple days. So if you need a refresher about how to get into the VCC or what the different resources were, you can always listen through this again like Barbara said, take it at your own pace. Or if you have questions you can always reach out to us at help@fatherhoodgov.info. Again, that is fatherhoodgov.info. Thank you everyone and have great afternoons.

>> This concludes today's call. Thank you for your participation. You may now disconnect.

[Music]