

SECTION THREE - NEXT STEPS



EMERGING THEMES AND FUTURE WORK

In this final section we summarise briefly, some of the issues relating to young fatherhood that emerged from our research. In doing so, we also outline a number of ways in which support for young fathers can be developed further.

Summarising promising practice

In this guide we have presented thematically, examples of promising work based around the issues practitioners have told us are important in working with young fathers. In doing so, we have raised a number key issues for discussion and debate. For instance, in *'Getting Started'* we drew attention to some of the issues involved in setting-up or starting work with young fathers. Specifically, we highlighted how work with young fathers does not necessarily need to rely on large amounts of money, nor does it always need to be startlingly innovative. Instead, evidence from our research showed that dedication, careful thought, and consideration about how best to meet young fathers' needs was much more important.

In *'Reaching and Engaging Young Fathers'*, we stressed that young fathers are perhaps not as difficult to 'reach' as many professionals may believe. Although significant barriers do exist that can make engagement particularly problematical (e.g. cultural issues, beliefs about fatherhood, poor referral systems etc), these can almost certainly be overcome as many projects and services we spoke to have demonstrated. In *'Being Strategic'* we outlined the need for projects and agencies to adopt a planned approach to their work. In particular, we presented two aspects of being strategic (consulting and developing integrated approaches) that practitioners have told us are especially important in meeting the needs of young fathers.

For those wanting to develop services for young fathers but are perhaps not really sure what 'young fathers work' actually entails, *'Examples of Young Fathers Work'* provides concrete illustrations of promising practice with young fathers. In the subsequent section, *'Individual, Group, and Mixed Approaches'*, we illustrate some of the different approaches projects and agencies have used in delivering such support for young fathers. In this way, and through other parts of the guide, we hope we have managed to de-mystify young fathers work for the less experienced practitioner, and for more experienced practitioners, offered some interesting 'food-for-thought'. The section, *'Young Fathers Workers'* offers a brief overview of some of the current debates around the importance of gender and ethnicity in delivering young fathers work. We also challenge the notion that fathers workers must be male, and caution against the blaming of women regarding the supposed 'feminisation' of mainstream support services. Lastly in this section, we have explored some of the skills and training those working with young fathers may need.

In *'Working with Other Organisations'* we outlined the importance of networking and developing partnerships with other agencies and organisations, and in doing so, have presented examples of promising practice that show the positive benefits of multi-agency working.

Finally, in *'Thinking About Your Work'* we have drawn attention to the need for projects and agencies to be critical and reflective when looking at provision for young fathers. We argue that although such evaluative processes do not always have to be formalised, it is important that they do happen in order that services are able to meet young men's needs more fully.

Next steps

During the fieldwork for this research, it was apparent that a number of projects and agencies sometimes involved young fathers directly in the planning and delivery of services (e.g. T-BAG in Halifax). Moreover, it was also clear that young fathers are sometimes encouraged to provide peer support to other young fathers. However, we were left with more of an 'impression' that both participation and peer support were probably occurring in some areas rather than with a concrete picture of how it is happening. There are many positive benefits to be gained from involving young people in such ways, and there are a number of examples of this taking place in other arenas (e.g. work with young mothers, bullying, and the delivery of sex and relationship education in schools; see Cowie and Naylor, 2000; Strange *et al.*, 2002; Wiggins *et al.*, 2005). We suspect that both participation and peer support in young fathers work is probably occurring but that their existence and benefits are not widely publicised. Moreover, it seems likely that the use of interchangeable terminology (e.g. peer support, peer education, peer participation etc.) may also be obscuring our view of what is currently happening. Consequently, we suggest that participation and peer support work with young fathers would benefit from being developed more formally. This will of course have various implications (e.g. funding, training, service planning) for both projects and agencies, and the peer supporters actually delivering the work.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, one particularly persistent theme emerging from our research was the lack of sustained funding for work with young fathers. This is a controversial topic as some argue that the funding does exist inasmuch as it is available to support 'parents'. However, because work with fathers is not firmly established universally, the reality is that many agencies see working with fathers as diverting activities from the 'core business' of supporting mothers and children. In the *National Evaluation of Sure Start Plus*, Wiggins *et al.*, (2005) note that a lack of funds was the primary reason for many programmes choosing not to deliver services to young fathers. As we discussed earlier, other complex factors are at play here as well. Difficulties for professionals and services in defining who the client is or should be, particularly in circumstances where the father is not involved, only compounds such debates about funding and the provisions of services for young fathers.

In our research, some projects and services have been very creative in order to support young fathers without access to additional funds, demonstrating that young fathers work does not need to cost a lot of money. However, increasing coverage of work with young fathers and young fathers-to-be clearly requires sustained funding in the same way more secure resources are currently available for young mothers. To bring about such change, it is likely that there will need

to be a more formal recognition of how issues related to young fatherhood are relevant to the core business of different government departments and agencies.

Future research

In section one of this guide, we drew attention to a number of significant gaps in the literature relating to various aspects of fatherhood (e.g. see Ashley *et al.*, 2006; Lewis and Lamb, in press). In particular, the lack of research relating to young fathers, and specifically, teenage and/or adolescent fathers is striking. Encouragingly (and as noted in the introduction) recent research has demonstrated the importance of fathers to their children's development including both positive and negative impacts (e.g. Cawson *et al.*, 2000; Flouri, 2005; Lloyd *et al.*, 2003), and has also highlighted the need to support young and vulnerable fathers in the involvement with their children (e.g. Mordaunt, 2005).

However, more research is needed to appreciate more fully the diversity of young fatherhood including those from different ethnic, social, and geographical backgrounds. A research focus on young fathers' perceptions, expectations, support needs, and day-to-day realities of fatherhood is needed to identify and understand more fully, the barriers many young men face in meeting their expectations and aspirations of fatherhood. Such research is particularly required around school-age fathers, the group often perceived by many service providers and practitioners as being particularly 'hard to reach'. Greater understanding of the complex support needs of this and other vulnerable groups of young fathers (e.g. those in custody, those with learning disabilities, and young fathers with mental health difficulties) is required to help better inform policy and practice.

And finally...

The need to engage and work with young fathers is becoming a more central theme in practice, policy, and research. Section two of this guide provides vivid illustration of what is happening to support young fathers 'on the ground' and such examples are clearly encouraging. But there is much more to be done, with a great deal of scope for increasing the coverage of support for young fathers.

Teenage Pregnancy: Accelerating the Strategy to 2010 sets out the government's plans for meeting the target of halving conceptions to young women aged under 18 years by the year 2010. Forthcoming DfES guidance will cover a range of issues including ways in which services for teenage parents can better meet the needs of young fathers. Such guidance is welcome and reflects the government's desire to place fathers more centre stage. The translation of policy into practice takes time, especially when attitudinal change is required. Learning from promising practice is one way of helping increase the pace of this work and we hope this guide will play a part in extending support to young fathers and their families.

LIST OF CONTACTS

This section provides an annotated list of the projects, services, and agencies/organisations that were included as part of the case-study evidence for this guide. You might want to contact some of these projects to share examples of promising practice and perhaps explore opportunities for joint working.

A Dad's Point of View, Taunton

This project involved working with individual young fathers using photography as a medium for them to explore their experiences of fatherhood. The work was published into a booklet to highlight their thoughts, feelings, and experiences on what it means to be a young father.

Contact: Julie Husband
(Teenage Pregnancy Coordinator)
Address:
Somerset County Council
County Hall, Block B2
Taunton, TA1 4DY
Tel: +44 (0)1823 357 988
E-mail: Jhusband@somerset.gov.uk

Barrow Dads' Group, Barrow-in-Furness

Aimed at fathers of all ages, Barrow Dads' Group(s) meet weekly in five locations in Barrow. Activities and projects for fathers and their children are numerous and varied (e.g. cooking, fishing, parenting courses etc.). Barrow Dads' Group also offer the opportunity for estranged fathers to see their children within the groups.

Contact: Dave Morrison
(Community Support Manager)
Address:
Burlington House
Michaelson Road
Barrow, LA14 2RJ
Tel: +44 (0)1229 871 480
E-mail: dave.morrison@surestart-barrow.nhs.uk

Base 25, Wolverhampton

This young fathers project has established itself as a service to provide young fathers with practical support regardless of their status or situation. It works on a one-to-one and group basis, taking a person centered approach and placing emphasis on building positive relationships. Base 25 offer a free telephone help-line for those unable to attend in person.

Contact: Jason Dudley (Young Dad's Project Coordinator)
Address:
Base 25
Castle House
Wheeler's Fold
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ST
Tel: +44 (0)1902 572 044
E-mail: info@base25.info
Website: www.base25.info

Boys2MEN (b2M), London

An experiential group work programme of music, arts and life-experience and sports for boys, young people, and fathers and their families. b2M aims to assist males who are considered vulnerable, challenging, and hard to reach, to rediscover their potential and to successfully make the transition from childhood to adulthood.

Contact: Melvyn Davis (Project Manager)
Address:
Providence House
26 Kilburn Lane
London, NW6 4QD
Tel: +44 (0)20 7604 5960
E-mail: melvyn@coram-b2m.org.uk
Website: www.coram.org.uk

B2b+ Project and the Y-Not Project, Sunderland

A multi-agency initiative that provides support for teenage mums, dads, and their children. This is achieved by improving learning and health, strengthening families and communities particularly in relation to the involvement of fathers, and improving the social and emotional well-being of teenage mothers, fathers and their children.

Y-Not? Project (an extension of B2b+), provides a wide range of services to young people in care, care leavers, and young mothers and young fathers. All young parents who attend B2b+ are able to access the services provided by Y-Not?

Contact: Charles Thompson (Young Fathers Worker) or Alison Horrox (Manager, The Place)

Address:

The Place
Hendon Health Centre
Meaburn Terrace
Hendon
Sunderland, SR1 2LR

Tel: +44 (0)191 553 2381

E-mail: alison.horrox@sunderland.gov.uk

Website: www.ynotproject.com

Brighton and Hove Young Fathers Project (BHYFP)

A project that offers weekly group support, information, and practical skills development for young fathers between 13-25yrs whatever their situation or relationship with their baby or baby's mother. BHYF also offers one-to-one support for those who are likely to benefit from more direct work, and for whom group sessions are not appropriate.

Contact: Alan Seabrook (Young Men's and Young Fathers Worker)

Address:

c/o Youth Advice Centre
65 Blatchington Road
Hove, BN3 3YJ

Tel: +44 (0)1273 889 292

E-mail: alan.seabrook@hoveymca.org.uk

DeVeloping Dads (DVD), Rotherham

Currently not running due to a lack of funding, the project aimed to encourage young fathers (16-25yrs) to play a greater role in the lives of their children by raising their awareness of the crucial part they can play in their child's upbringing. By lessening the feelings of isolation, recognising them as fathers, and building self-esteem, DVD helped young men to improve their self-image as men and fathers, and helped them to take on the identity of 'father'.

Contact: David Sargent (Chief Executive)

Address:

Chantry YMCA
Office 3
Downs Row
Rotherham, S60 2HD

Tel: +44 (0)1709 720 040

Website: www.rotherhamymca.org.uk

Fathers First, Isle of Wight

A project developed in partnership with the Isle of Wight Youth Service, local midwives, and Connexions, after a need was identified through a consultation process with agencies and young people. Fathers First provide a holistic, flexible, approach that is adaptable to individual needs and offers intensive individual support to young fathers. The service runs every Thursday in an environment of the young man's choosing.

Contact: Dee Makin (Senior Youth and Community Worker)

Address:

MY-1 Office c/o Ventnor Youth Centre
Victoria Street, Ventnor
Isle of Wight, PO38 1 ET

Tel: +44 (0)1983 856 640

E-mail: mobileyouth@iow.gov.uk

Website: www.iowyouthservice.org.uk

Fathers Plus, Newcastle

Fathers Plus is a project of Children North East. The project aim is to ensure that the role of the father is valued, supported and included in all approaches to work with children and families. Through infrastructure projects such as the Fatherhood Resource Centre, the North East Father Work Forum and the online knowledge bank (www.includingmen.com), Fathers Plus continues to help build capacity and support organisations to include (young) men.

Contact: Roger Olley (Project Manager)

Address:

89 Denhill Park
Newcastle, NE15 6QE

Tel: +44 (0)191 256 2444

E-mail: roger.olley@children-ne.org

Website: www.children-ne.org

Great Yarmouth Young Men's Project (GYMP)

The GYMP delivers sex and relationship education (SRE) to boys in a number of schools in Great Yarmouth. Support involves issues around parenthood, relationships, and sexual health. Boys not in mainstream education can access the project through the Youth Offending Team (YOT) and the Youth Service. The project also works with young men over sixteen in colleges and other training venues.

Contact: Chris Simmons (Young Men's Project Worker)

Address:
Kittywitches Centre
156 King Street
Great Yarmouth
Norfolk
NR30 2PA
Tel: +44 (0)1493 331948
E-mail: simmons@fsmail.net

Hartcliffe and Withywood Teenage Parents Project (TPP), Bristol

The TPP provides support for teenage parents, teenage parents-to-be, and their children in a deprived area of Bristol. Open five days a week, the work with young fathers is supported by a grant from the Big Lottery Fund. The TPP has a number of core aims including working in partnership with local schools to reduce teenage pregnancy, create safe environments for young parents to meet and build support networks, raising young parents confidence and self-esteem, and social skills development. Crèche facilities are provided.

Contact: Mark Newman (Fathers Development Worker)

Address:
Hartcliffe and Withywood Teenage Parents Project
Tenants Centre
Gatehouse Way
Withywood
Bristol, BS13 9AN
Tel: +44 (0)117 978 4401
Website: www.hwtp.org.uk

Health Initiatives Team, Leeds

The Health Initiatives Team at Education Leeds works with schools and other agencies to ensure that school-age parents (mothers and fathers) are able to access appropriate education, and ensure that educational achievement is not disadvantaged by pregnancy or parenthood. The team works with pregnant pupils, fathers-to-be, and young parents (mothers and fathers) who are of compulsory school-age or who are 6th form pupils or Year 11 leavers making the transition to post-16 provision.

Contact: Jenny Midwinter (Sexual Health Initiatives Coordinator)

Address:
Health Initiatives Team
Education Leeds
Blenheim Centre
6 Crowther Place
Leeds, LS6 2ST
Tel: +44 (0)113 395 1215
E-mail: jenny.midwinter@educationleeds.co.uk

Ladz 2 Dadz, Northamptonshire

A service offered by the Teenage Parent Support Team in Northamptonshire for young fathers and young fathers-to-be aged between 14-21yrs. Ladz 2 Dadz aims to provide a service that helps young fathers to meet their own, and their babies/children's basic physical, social and emotional needs. Work is varied, individually tailored, and focuses on issues such as employment, education and training, parenting skills, legal/welfare rights, housing and benefits.

Contact: Heather Frick (Teenage Parents Support Team Manager)

Address:
Teenage Parents Support Team
43-45 Sanders Road
Wellingborough, NN8 4NL
Tel: +44 (0)1933 231 050
E-mail: hfrick@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Lewisham's Young Fathers project

The multi-agency Teenage Pregnancy 'Virtual' Team based in South London works to provide holistic and integrated support packages for teenage parents and parents-to-be (mothers and fathers). The Young Fathers Project was created to help local young fathers acknowledge the importance of being a dad and develop self-confidence as people and as fathers. Support to help improve outcomes with the young father's child is flexible and wide-ranging including mediation work with families, sex and relationship education, parenting skills, and other advice as required.

Contact: Owen Thomas (Young Fathers Worker)

Address:

Working with Men
Unit K401
Tower bridge business complex
100 Clements road
London, SE16 4DG
Tel: +44 (0)207 237 5353
E-mail: o.thomas@workingwithmen.org
Website: www.young-fathers.org.uk

Luton YMCA Consultation Event, Luton

Although not working directly with young fathers, YMCA Luton have conducted a consultation event with African-Caribbean young fathers. The event was intended to explore young fathers support needs and experiences (e.g. medical aspects of the pregnancy, attitudes of others, contact situation etc). The YMCA is currently exploring ways in which these needs can be met.

Contact: Deniece Dobson (Service Manager)

Address:

YMCA Drop in Centre
Alma Street
Luton, LU1 2PL
Tel: +44 (0)1582 505 700 or +44 (0)1582 402 571
E-mail: ymca.luton@btconnect.com

Mancroft Advice Project (M.A.P.), Norwich

A free independent information, advice, and counselling service for young people aged between 11-25yrs. Provision includes a drop-in for young fathers, practical advice and information, skills development, and support for issues relating to being young men as well as young fathers. Other services include advice on housing, benefits and advocacy, a children and young peoples rights worker, a young fathers worker, free pregnancy testing, free condoms, and a Connexions drop-in.

Contact: Andy Wood (Young Fathers Project Worker)

Address:

MAP (Mancroft Advice Project)
The Risebrow Centre
Chantry Road
Norwich, NR2 1RF
Tel: +44 (0)1603 766 994
Website: www.map11-25.org

Milton Keynes, Young Fathers Project

Offers one-to-one and group support, providing advice and information for young fathers, and young fathers-to-be under the age of 25yrs. Support includes advice and information on parenting skills, housing and benefits, social and communication skills, independent living, sexual health, and counselling. The service is available for young fathers regardless of the status of their relationship with the mother and/or child.

Contact: Hayden Tennant (Young Fathers Co-ordinator)

Address:

c/o Brook Advisory Centre
Acorn House
355 Midsummer Boulevard
Milton Keynes, MK9 3HP
Tel: +44 (0)1908 606 561
E-mail: hayden.tennant@brookmk.org.uk

NEWPIN, South East London

NEWPIN works with parents and other primary carers of children who are in need of support in their role as parents. The Fathers Project (based in Peckham) supports fathers in their efforts to develop positive and emotionally sensitive relationships with their children.

Contact: Geoff Leslie (Fathers Project Coordinator)

Address:

163 Commercial Way
Peckham
London, SE15 1AU
Tel: +44 (0)20 7252 8283
E-mail: info@newpin.org.uk
Website: www.newpin.org.uk

Pro-Thinc Drama, Merton

The Merton Teenage Pregnancy Partnership in South London recognised support for young fathers needed to be addressed urgently. Through research and a drama-based consultation event, the partnership developed an in-depth knowledge of young fathers needs in the local area. The partnership is currently working to meet these needs.

Contact: Kate Jezernik (Teenage Pregnancy Coordinator)

Address:

Merton Teenage Pregnancy Partnership (Sutton and Merton PCT)
The Wilson Hospital
Cranmer Road
Mitcham, CR4 4TP
Tel: +44 (0)208 687 4733
E-mail: kate.jezernik@smpctnurses.nhs.uk

Sure Start, Berwick-upon-Tweed

Midwife run classes for fathers-to-be in rural Northumberland. The Sure Start Borough outreach team is co-located at Wooler Fire Station but also operates out of a number of satellite venues across the borough. Sessions are held in the evening to accommodate working hours, and held at the local maternity department. Personal invitations to fathers-to-be are given during ante-natal home visits to engage fathers early in the process.

Contact: Jan Marshall (Midwife)

Address:

Sure Start Berwick Borough
Wooler Fire Station
South Road, Wooler
Northumberland, NE71 6SN
Tel: +44 (0)1668 283 372
Website: www.surestartberwickborough.org.uk

Teens-Babies Advice Group (T-BAG), Halifax

The Information Shop for Young people has encouraged and supported a group of young parents (mums and dads) to get together to form their own support and advice group for teenage parents living in Calderdale. The service offers a wide range of information available including advice on health, education and training, money and benefits, sexual health, housing and jobs.

Contact: Olinda Olekeswycz (Project Manager)

Address:

The Information Shop for Young People
Halifax Connexions Centre
Halifax Careers Centre
16 Alexandra Street
Halifax, HX1 1BS
Tel: +44 (0)1422 330 033
Website: www.connexionswestyorkshire.co.uk

Teenage Pregnancy Support Service (TPSS), Hull

The TPSS is a centrally based team comprised of a coordinator and four teenage pregnancy advisers with different specialisms including school-age parents, pregnancy and child health, housing, and young fathers. One-to-one support and advice on a range of issues is available for young parents (mothers and fathers). Work with young fathers is fully integrated into mainstream support services for young parents.

Contact: Rob Elkin (Young Fathers Worker) or Susan Reddington (TPSS Manager)

Address:

Teenage Pregnancy Support Service
First Floor, Conifer House
32-36 Prospect Street
Hull, HU2 8PX
Tel: +44 (0)1482 336 380
E-mail: rob.elkin@hullcc.gov.uk

UKdadsposse and the Potential Project, Oxford

Relying on a small group of paid workers and volunteers, the UKdadsposse and the Potential Project work to provide support, training, information and advice to fathers, male carers, young men and boys in schools. It provides a safe environment for young men to meet and share their experiences with others and gain support.

Contact: Carlton Gabbidon (Project Manager) or Christine Etheridge (Teenage Pregnancy Coordinator, Oxfordshire)

Address:
26 Kingfishers Green
Greater Leys
Oxford, OX4 7BX
Tel: +44 (0)1865 779 298
E-mail: ukdadsposse@yahoo.co.uk

Upfront Teenage Pregnancy Team, Bradford

The Upfront team are currently developing services for Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) young fathers in Bradford based on research recently undertaken by a member of the team. Positive links with Sure Start (Manningham and West Bowling), mean the team has developed considerable expertise in engaging with BME teenage fathers.

Contact: Nicola Corrigan (Teenage Pregnancy Advisor)

Address:
Upfront Teenage Pregnancy Team
C/O Bradford Youth Service
1 City Road
Bradford, BD8 8ER
Tel: +44 (0)1274 432 445
E-mail: enquiries@upfontonline.info

WILD Young Fathers Programme, Cornwall

The WILD young fathers programme was created to help local young fathers acknowledge the importance of being a dad and develop self-confidence as people and as fathers. Not currently running because of a lack of funding, WILD provided young fathers with a safe place to be with their children; and helps them meet with other fathers (under 25) for fun, to share concerns, and for mutual advice and support.

Contact: Jo Davies (Project Manager)

Address:
WILD Young Parents Project
Wesley Buildings
Wesley Street
Redruth
Cornwall, TR15 2EG
Tel: +44 (0)1209 210 077
E-mail: wild_online@btconnect.com

Young Fathers Outreach Project, Gloucestershire

A multi-agency initiative targeting young fathers and young fathers-to-be in a 3 stage support project. In stage one, a Gloucestershire-specific resource (*You've Scored!*) has been developed for use by workers, young fathers, and young fathers-to-be. In stage two, the project will train professionals so that they can offer support, advice and information on issues that may affect young fathers, their partners and their children. Stage three will involve the development of a targeted support service for young fathers.

Contact: Paul Hopkins (Health Promotion Specialist - Boys and Young Men)

Address:
Cotswold and Vale NHS PCT
Corinium House
Cirencester Hospital
Tetbury Road
Cirencester, GL7 1UX
Tel: +44 (0)8454 222 718
E-mail: paul.hopkins@glos.nhs.uk

USEFUL ORGANISATIONS

Children North East, Regional Resource Centre for Fatherhood – Provides advice and information to organisations and agencies that are developing their fatherhood work as well as to individual fathers and fathers' groups.

Tel: +44 (0)845 880 0707

Website: www.children-ne.org/sherburn_child_main.htm

Connexions – A government support service for all young people aged 13-19 in England. Brings together all the services and support young people need during their teenage years offering differentiated and integrated support to young people.

Website: www.connexions.gov.uk

ContinYou - A registered charity that works with a range of professional people, organisations, and agencies to enhance what they do to change lives through learning.

Tel: +44 (0)20 8709 9900

Website: www.continyou.org.uk

Child Support Agency (CSA) – General information and advice about the assessment, collection, and payment of child support maintenance.

Tel: +44 (0)8457 133 133 (national enquiry line)

Website: www.dss.gov.uk/csa

Citizens' Advice Bureaux (CAB) – An excellent free, independent, and confidential advice service. A UK registered charity that is reliant on trained volunteers to help people resolve a wide range of problems.

Website: www.nacab.org.uk

Families Need Fathers - A based charity offering volunteer-based help for parents (mostly fathers) to maintain child-parent relationships around family breakdown.

Tel helpline: +44 (0)8707 607 496 (between 6pm and 10pm).

Website: www.fnf.org.uk

Fathers Direct – A registered charity that provides up-to-date news, training information, policy updates, research summaries, and guides for supporting fathers and their families.

Tel: +44 (0)845 634 1328

Website: www.fathersdirect.com

Gingerbread - A lone parents' website (fathers and mothers) offering practical and emotional support, including benefits, education, and housing. Offers free advice line.

Tel: +44 (0)800 018 4318 (Mon–Fri 10 until 4 pm)

Website: www.gingerbread.org.uk

National Family and Parenting Institute – An independent charity working to support parents in bringing up their children, to promote the wellbeing of families, and to make society more family friendly.

Tel: +44 (0)20 7424 3460

Website: www.nfpi.org

Parentline Plus - Free national helpline (phone and text) for anyone concerned about children that they are looking after.

Tel. helpline: +44 (0)808 800 2222

Website: www.parentlineplus.org.uk

E-mail helpline: <https://secure.synergy-communications.co.uk/parentline/contact/contact-form.php>

Parenting Education and Support Forum (PESF) - An A-Z listing of parenting programmes for those working with parents.

Tel: +44 (0)20 7284 8370

Website: www.parenting-forum.org.uk

Sure Start - Information about every service a parent could need in the local area including child-care, drop-ins, tax credits, toddler education, details of local educational programmes etc.

Tel: +44 (0)870 000 2288 (National Enquiry Line)

E-mail: info.surestart@dfes.gsi.gov.uk

Website: www.surestart.gov.uk

Teenage Pregnancy Unit (TPU) – A Government Unit located within the Department for Education and Skills (DfES). Website contains useful information about the Government's Teenage Pregnancy Strategy, and various relevant publications from other Government Departments.

Website: www.dfes.gov.uk/teenagepregnancy

Trust for the Study of Adolescence (TSA) – A registered charity and applied research and training organisation with a primary commitment to improve the lives of young people.

Tel: +44 (0)1273 693 311

Website: www.tsa.uk.com

U-Too – Is a community not-for-profit business that runs programmes for young parents (mothers and fathers) and young parents-to-be in the Wiltshire and Swindon areas. U-Too also undertakes research and development for organisations working with young people.

Tel: +44 (0)1793 465 409

Working With Men (WWM) – A not-for-profit organisation that supports the development of work with men through projects, resources, publications, training, and consultancy.

Tel: +44 (0)20 7732 9409

Website: www.workingwithmen.org

FATHERHOOD RESOURCES

This section provides an annotated list of resources that may be useful for practitioners working (or thinking about working) with young fathers. It is not meant to be comprehensive, rather to offer some ideas and background information to assist in the development and continuation of valuable work with young fathers.

A Dads Point of View - An excellent booklet of photography and words by young Somerset fathers.

Availability: Contact Julie Husband, Tel: +44 (0)1823 357 988 or e-mail: jhusband@somerset.gov.uk

A Game of Two Halves – A resource for working with young people in settings such as schools to raise awareness about fatherhood and parenting. Developed by the Rotherham DVD project as a way of engaging young fathers in peer education.

Availability: Contact Chantry YMCA on Tel: +44 (0)1709 720 040 or visit the YMCA Website: www.rotherhamymca.org.uk

Dads Matter - A full colour 8-page A5 booklet highlighting the importance of fathers and male carers in their children's lives.

Availability: Working With Fathers (Website: www.workingwithfathers.com)

I'm a Better Dad Now – A report including details and instructions of two games that were developed as part of ContinYou's Supporting Young Dads projects. The 'Life Planning Game' can be used to help structure weekly sessions with fathers. The 'Game of Two Halves' is a resource that can be used to raise awareness of the issues involved in fatherhood and parenting more generally.

Availability: ContinYou (Website: www.continyou.org.uk)

Free Workers' Helpline – A free telephone (up to 15 minutes per call) and e-mail advice service. Intended for workers and managers trying to engage with fathers, or attempting to make their organisation or service father-inclusive.

Availability: E-mail: workershelpline@fathersdirect.com
or Tel: +44 (0)845 634 1328.

You've Scored – A football style programme of information for young fathers. Provides useful information for fathers and fathers-to-be in an interesting and engaging way. Although the football focus may not appeal to all.

Availability: Free to download from Fathers in Gloucestershire (FiG) website: www.figlos.org.uk

Working With Fathers (Adrienne Burgess and David Bartlett) - This guide is aimed at 'everyone working with families', and provides information and discussion on how to develop father-friendly practice.

Availability: Fathers Direct (Website: www.fathersdirect.com)



Working With Men – WWM have a variety of fatherhood resources in addition to the ones listed in this section. See below and website for further details.

Availability: Working With Men (Website: www.workingwithmen.org/resources)

Fatherhood Pack and Game – Various games and curriculum based exercises aimed at individuals delivering fatherhood related programmes in formal and informal educational settings.

Fatherhood is a Serious Business - Set of A2 posters useful for helping to create a ‘father-friendly’ environment. Reflects African, Caribbean, Asian, and European fathers.

What Works with Fathers? (Trefor Lloyd) – A report detailing 10 established fathers projects drawing out common themes to identify why they have been successful.

REFERENCES

- Amato, P.R. and Gilbreth, J.G. (1999) Non-Resident Fathers and Children's Well-Being: A Meta-Analysis. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 61(3), 557-573.
- Ashley C., Featherstone, B., Roskill, C., Ryan, M., and White, S. (2006) *Fathers Matter: Research Findings on Fathers and Their Involvement with Social Care Services*, London, Family Rights Group.
- Brandth, B. and Kvande, E. (1998) Masculinity and Child Care: The Reconstruction of Fathering, *Sociological Review*, 46(2), 293-313.
- Burgess, A. (2006a) Young Fathers, *Working With Young Men*, 5(2), 13-17.
- Burgess, A. (2006b) Fathers and Public Services, *ChildRIGHT*, No 229, 18-22.
- Burgess, A., and Bartlett, D. (2004) *Working With Fathers: A Guide for Everyone Working With Families*, Fathers Direct.
- Burghes, L., Clarke, L., and Cronin, N. (1997) *Fathers and Fatherhood in Britain*, London, Family Policy Studies Centre.
- Cawson, P., Wattam, C., Brooker, S., and Kelly, G. (2000) *Child Maltreatment in the UK*, London, NSPCC.
- Coleman, J. and Dennison, C. (1998) Research Review: Teenage Parenthood, *Children and Society*, 12, 306-314.
- ContinYou (2005a) *I'm a Better Dad Now*, Coventry, ContinYou.
- ContinYou (2005b) *Top Dads: Working with Young Fathers*, Coventry, ContinYou.
- Cowie, H. and Naylor, P. (2000) *Peer Support Challenges Bullying in Schools*, University of Surrey Roehampton: Centre for Family and Organisational Relationships.
- Department for Education and Skills (2003) *Every Child Matters*, DfES.
- Department for Education and Skills (2005) *Sure Start Children's Centre: Practice Guidance*, DfES.
- Department for Education and Skills (2006) *Teenage Pregnancy: Accelerating the Strategy to 2010*, DfES.
- Department for Education and Skills/Department of Health (2004) *National Service Framework for Children, Young People, and Maternity Services*, DfES.
- Doherty, W.J. (1991) Beyond Reactivity and the Deficit Model of Manhood: A Commentary on Articles by Napier, Pittman, and Gottman, *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*, 17, 29-32.

- Featherstone, B. (no-date) *What Works with Fathers?* Briefing Paper for Sure Start.
- Featherstone, B. (2001) Putting Fathers on the Child Welfare Agenda: A Research Review, *Journal of Child and Family Social Work*, 6(2), 179-186.
- Ferguson, H. and Hogan, F. (2004) *Strengthening Families Through Fathers - Developing Policy and Practice in Relation to Vulnerable Fathers and Their Families*, Family Support Agency.
- Flouri, E. (2005) *Fathering and Child Outcomes*, Chichester, Wiley.
- Ghate, D., Shaw, C., and Hazel, N. (2000) *Fathers and Family Centres: Engaging Fathers in Preventative Services*, York, Joseph Rowntree Foundation.
- Goldman, R. (2005) *Fathers' Involvement in their Children's Education*, National Family and Parenting Institute.
- Lamb, M.E. (2004). *The Role of The Father in Child Development* (4th Ed.), New York, Wiley.
- Lamb, M.E. and Lewis, C. (2004) The Development and Significance of Father-Child Relationships in Two-Parent Families, In Lamb, M.E (Ed.) *The Role of the Father in Child Development*, New York, Wiley.
- Lewis, E. (2006) Involving Young People in *Teenage Pregnancy and Sexual Health Work: A Practical Guide*, London, National Children's Bureau.
- Lewis, C. and Lamb, M.E. (in press) *Fatherhood: Connecting the Strands of Diversity Across Time and Space*, Joseph Rowntree Foundation.
- Lloyd, T. (2001) *What Works with Fathers?* London, Working With Men.
- Lloyd, N., O'Brien, M., and Lewis, C. (2003) *Fathers in Sure Start Local Programmes*, DfES.
- Lowe, K. (2006) Young Fathers, *Working With Young Men*, 5(2), 18-20.
- McKie, L., Barlow, J., and Gaunt-Richardson, P. (2002) *The Evaluation Journey: An Evaluation Resource Pack for Community Groups*, Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) Scotland (www.ashscotland.org.uk).
- Mordaunt, E. (2005) *Young Fathers Project Evaluation Report*, Brighton, TSA.
- Pollock, S., Trew, R., and Jones, K. (2005) *Young Black Fathers and Maternity Services*, School of Policy Studies, University of Bristol.

REFERENCES

- Quinton, D., Pollock, S., and Golding, J. (2002) *The Transition to Fatherhood in Young Men: Influences on Commitment*. Report to the Economic and Social Research Council.
- Rolph, J. (1999) *Young, Unemployed, Unmarried: Fathers Talking*, London, Working With Men.
- Rouch, G. (2005) *Boys Raising Babies: Adolescent Fatherhood in New Zealand*, Wellington, FAIR Centre of Barnardos New Zealand.
- Ryan, M. (2000) *Working with Fathers*, Department of Health.
- Social Exclusion Unit (2005) *Transitions: Young Adults with Complex Needs*, London, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.
- Speak, S., Cameron, S., and Gilroy, R. (1997) *Young Single Fathers: Participation in Fatherhood – Barriers and Bridges*, London, Family Policy Study Centre.
- Strange, V., Forrest, S., Oakley, A. and the RIPPLE team (2002) Peer-Led Sex Education - Characteristics of Peer Educators and Their Perceptions of the Impact on Them of Participation in a Peer Education Programme, *Health Education Research: Theory and Practice*, 17(3), 339-350.
- Swann, C., Bowe, K., McCormick, G., and Kosmin, M. (2003) *Teenage Pregnancy and Parenthood: A Review of Reviews - Evidence Briefing*, Health Development Agency.
- UNICEF (2001) *A League Table of Teenage Births in Rich Nations*, Innocenti Report Card No 3, Florence, UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre.
- Ward, L. (2005) *Appeal to Parents on Teenage Births*, Society Guardian, 26th May 2005.
- Warin, J., Solomon, Y., Lewis, C., and Langford, W. (1999) *Fathers, Work, and Family Life...*, London, Family Policy Studies Centre.
- Welsh, E., Buchanan, A., Flouri, E., and Lewis, C. (2004) *Involved Fathering and Child Well-Being: Fathers' Involvement with Secondary School Age Children*, London, National Children's Bureau.
- Wiggins, M., Rostato, M., Austerberry, H., Sawtell, M., and Oliver, S. (2005) *National Evaluation of Sure Start Plus: Final Report*, London, Social Science Unit Report, Institute of Education.