



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Administration for Children and Families  
Office of Family Assistance

National  
Responsible  
Fatherhood Clearinghouse



## NRFC Webinar – March 16, 2016

### *Working with Fathers in Rural Areas and Small Communities*

#### Presenter Bios

##### **Mindy E. Scott, Ph.D., Senior Research Scientist, Child Trends, Bethesda, MD.**

Mindy is a leading expert on fatherhood and healthy relationships for federal agencies, researchers, practitioners, and the media. Her research focuses on issues such as the impact of father involvement for parents and children. She leads Child Trends' work with the National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse (NRFC) and is currently working on a number of new NRFC products, including an infographic describing characteristics of men and fathers in rural areas. Mindy is the principle investigator on an OPRE-funded project on Youth Education and Relationship Services (YEARS), aimed at building the knowledge base around healthy-relationship programming for young people. In addition to leading research and evaluation projects, she is regularly invited to present findings for policy, research, and practitioner audiences and her work has been featured in The New York Times, USA Today, The Washington Times, and other leading publications. She has also co-authored multiple peer-reviewed papers published in the Journal of Marriage and Family, Parenting: Science and Practice, and other leading journals.

##### **Sean Brotherson, Ph.D., Professor and Extension Family Science Specialist, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND.**

Sean is the state extension family life specialist at North Dakota State University in Fargo, North Dakota. He is responsible for conducting research and designing educational programs related to children and families. He has presented the findings of this research at conferences regionally and nationally; published articles on fathering, family policy, family life education, and how parents respond to the challenges of stress and grief; and conducted seminars on topics including fathers and family life, marriage, parenting, building strong families, families and work, rural families and stress, stress management, and family influences on youth risk behavior. He also conducts research on the development and implementation of family policy at the local, state, federal, and international level related to marriage, children and youth rights, and parenting. He holds master's and doctoral degrees in family science from Brigham Young University and Oregon State University. He is married to Kristen Walch and they have five beautiful children. He enjoys serving in the Church, reading good biographies, fishing and horseback riding, and playing with his children.

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**Derrick Dease, MA, Executive Director, Man 2 Man Fatherhood Initiative, Bennettsville, SC.**

Derrick was born and raised in Marlboro County, where he is the Executive Director of the Man 2 Man Fatherhood Initiative. Man 2 Man combats “fatherlessness” by helping men to recognize and understand their roles as fathers, accept the challenges of society, and learn skills necessary to be a positive role model for their children. The agency is affiliated with the South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families and has office locations in Florence and Bennettsville, providing services to Marlboro, Dillon, Chesterfield, Darlington and Florence counties. Since 2000, the program has served 2141 fathers and has had an impact on 3,758 children. Derrick trained in Family Mediation, is a Certified Family Group Conference Facilitator, and provides technical assistance to the Darlington County First Steps Teen Pregnancy Prevention Task Force for implementation of the Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) Grant. He has served on various committees, boards, and as a presenter in statewide forums and conferences addressing community issues and strengthening fragile families. Derrick is married and the father of four children. He is a graduate of Gardner-Webb University with a Bachelor’s of Science in Human Services and a Master’s in Professional Counseling from South University in Columbia, S.C.