



# Male Socialization: Building Fathers of the Future

A conference for professionals

## 6th Annual Minnesota Fatherhood Summit

January 12-13, 2009

St. Cloud Civic Center / 10 Fourth Avenue South / St. Cloud, Minnesota

### Agenda at a Glance

#### Monday, January 12, 2009

12:00 noon-1:15 PM - Stockinger Suite  
Luncheon Keynote, Dr. Christopher Kilmartin

1:30-3:00 PM  
Concurrent Sessions I

3:30-5:00 PM  
Concurrent Sessions II

5:30-7:30 PM - Stockinger Suite  
Policy Keynote and Awards Dinner, Judge Bruce Peterson

7:45-9:00 PM  
Evening Gatherings in a Relaxing Setting



#### Tuesday, January 13, 2009

7:30-8:30 AM - Stockinger Suite  
Breakfast / Exhibits / Networking

8:30-9:45 AM - Herberger Suite  
Morning Keynote, Dr. Leola Johnson and Joe Kelly

9:45-10:15 AM - Stockinger Suite  
Exhibits / Refreshments / Networking

10:15-11:45 AM  
Concurrent Sessions III

11:45-1:00 PM - Herberger Suite  
Luncheon Keynote, Dr. Christopher Kilmartin

1:30-2:45 PM  
Concurrent Sessions IV

3:00-4:30 PM - Herberger Suite  
Closing Keynote, Dr. Michael Obsatz



**Brought to you by the  
Minnesota Fathers &  
Families Network**

**Our mission:**

MFFN enhances healthy father-child relationships by promoting initiatives that inform public policy and further develop the field of fatherhood practitioners statewide.

**[www.mnfathers.org](http://www.mnfathers.org)**

## Thank You

### **2009 Summit Presenters, Moderators and Exhibitors**

Listed on the following pages and in the conference registration packet.

### **2009 MFFN Board of Directors**

Terri Allen, Face to Face Health and Counseling Service, St. Paul (Metro)  
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Jan Hayne, Dads Make a Difference, St. Paul (Metro)  
Michael Jerpbak, Crossroads College, Rochester (Southeast)  
Lowell Johnson, Brainerd Lakes Early Childhood Coalition, Brainerd (Central)  
Gar Kellom, Center for Men's Leadership & Service, St. John's Univ., Collegetown (Central)  
Joe Kelly, thedadman.com, St. Paul (Metro)  
Brad Kramer, Southwest Initiative Foundation, Hutchinson (Southwest)  
Lori Lofrano, Minn. Department of Corrections, St. Cloud (Central)  
Ellie McCann, University of Minnesota Extension, Moorhead (Northwest / West Central)  
Sam Simmons, Samuel Simmons Consulting, Minneapolis (Metro)  
Dwayne Simms, Twin Cities RISE!, Minneapolis (Metro)  
John Stark, St. Louis County Child Support, Duluth (Northeast)  
Brian Thorbjornsen, Fond du Lac Social Services, Cloquet (Northeast)

### **2008 – 2009 Fatherhood Summit Contributors and MFFN Supporters**

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**Thank you to all MFFN members!**

Together we are leading Minnesota's campaign for healthy fatherhood.



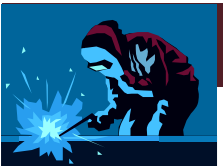
**Luncheon Keynote**  
12:00 noon – 1:15 PM

**Daddy in the Kitchen: Past, Present and Future of Gender in the Family and the Workplace**  
(Stockinger Suite, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

**Dr. Christopher Kilmartin, Ph.D.,**  
Professor of Psychology, University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, Virginia

Introduction: Dr. Gar Kellom, MFFN Board of Directors

Dr. Christopher Kilmartin is a college professor, author, stand-up comedian, actor, playwright, consultant and professional psychologist. Dr. Kilmartin is the author of *The Masculine Self* and co-wrote *The Pain Behind the Mask: Overcoming Masculine Depression*. His keynote focuses on how male socialization impacts changing roles for men and women in the family and workplace.



**Workshops—First Round**  
1:30 – 3:00 PM

**Military Service and Male Socialization: Helping Veterans Reintegrate into Families** (Weidner

Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor ) This session will provide a general overview of the reintegration challenges that military personnel encounter while transitioning back into civilian life and how traditional male-coping mechanisms may help or hinder this process. Presenters will describe strategies and resources for working with military personnel after service, and various ways to work with the Veteran's Administration to collaborate, gain information, and offer support between the VA and community organizations. This is an interactive session that will include time for discussion. **Presenters:** **Karen Seeger** and **Laurie Terhune**, Military Family Life Consultants.

**Housing for Fathers Across the Spectrum: From Supportive Housing to Homeownership** (Alexander Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor) Programs that stabilize housing for fathers are able to improve parenting skills and outcomes for children. With this premise in mind, presenters will describe a continuum of services from supportive and rental housing to first-time homeownership. Presenters will share program successes and challenges for a rental housing program directed at fathers aged 18-25 who do not have physical custody of their children. Presenters will also discuss the current housing market, the foreclosure crisis, and the impact on low-income home buyers, including opportunities available through the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency. Achieving successful homeownership

can play a key role in the financial wellbeing of Minnesota families. **Presenters:** **Paul Houdek**, Community Neighborhood Housing Services, St. Paul; **Patrick Morley**, Project for Pride in Living, Minneapolis.

**Reaching Fathers and Families Through Your Local Schools** (Clarke Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor) By working with local schools and Head Start programs, local agencies can reach the fathers and families they are trying to impact. Strong Fathers-Strong Families has worked with thousands of fathers and children by partnering with local schools and Head Starts. This workshop will demonstrate proven methods of working effectively with both schools and families in those schools. **Presenter:** **J. Michael Hall**, Strong Fathers-Strong Families, Fort Worth, Texas.

**Strategies for Working with Young & Expectant Fathers** (Bell Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor) In this interactive, practical session presenters will cover strategies for recruiting young (and expectant!) fathers into parenting programs, teaching child development and pregnancy prevention, and establishing good interpersonal relationships with young men. Also addressed will be how to work with young moms to engage young fathers, and working with young couples in a way that keeps fathers engaged. Presenters work in various settings addressing the needs of high risk males and young fathers. Join this conversation about what works, ask questions, and share ideas about serving young fathers. **Presenters:** **JP Rennquist** and **Nate Kesti**, Boyz II Dadz, Duluth; **Colin Moore** and **Tom Anderson**, Catholic Charities, St. Paul; **John Jackson**, TAPP Program, Broadway Arts & Tech High School, Minneapolis.

**Men's Work that Leads to Showing Up for Kids: An Experiential Session for Men and Women** (First American Room, 2nd Floor)  
1:30—5:00 PM  
Come to this workshop for reflection and challenge through a shared journey into cultivating male clarity and strength. Using highly refined circle processes, men and women will explore their own socialization by practicing simple tools to illuminate patterns and return consciousness into our beliefs about manhood. We'll watch an abridged version of the documentary "Journeyman" as a way to enter a conversation on male intergenerational healing. We'll practice a process for gaining and communicating clarity and accountability in a powerful male way. Finally, we'll talk about the role of eldership and practice blessing each other as an essential part of becoming whole. **Presenters:** **Charlie Borden**, Boys to Men Mentoring Network of Minnesota and MirrorMan Films (Producer of *Journeyman* Film), St. Paul; **Dr. Michael Ob-satz**, Author, Professor and Co-Producer of *Journeyman* Film, St. Paul; **Jon Harper**, Adventures in Fathering and MFFN Past President.



**Workshops—Second Round**  
3:30 – 5:00 PM

**Beyond the Bars: Incarcerated Fathers and Child Support's Changing Culture** (Alexander Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor) Much

has changed in how child support cases are handled since Minnesota's policy for arrears prevention and management began in 2007. At the state level, a Child Support Liaison works with the Department of Corrections to address barriers and offer support. Meanwhile, many counties have developed their own creative, often father-friendly, policies to help low-income families and incarcerated parents. This session examines strategies to help strengthen families: setting realistic orders, responding to changing circumstances & debt forgiveness. **Presenters: Lori Lofrano**, Dept. of Corrections, St. Cloud; **Pat Krauth** and **Mike Caris**, Dept. of Human Services, St. Paul.

**Promoting and Impacting Healthier Lives of African American Men** (Weidner Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor) Project Imani facilitates the education and empowerment of African-American males. Through this discussion, African-American males are challenged to confront the never-ending journey of manhood and responsibility of creating lives by design, not default. Indulging into questions for stakeholders interested in reducing pathologies which exist among African-American males: (1) When will we create solutions to reduce the likelihood our boys will grow up to be "absent fathers"? (2) What are the short-term and long-term implications of more African-American males going to prison vs. college? (3) How many African-American males will be killed before we begin to implement community-based solutions? **Presenters: LaRone Greer, Darin McGowan**, and **Deonta Perry**, Project Imani, Otsego.

**Afraid to Truly Love, Addressing Relationship Challenges in Fatherless Children** (Clarke Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor) "Why did Daddy leave me?" This is a prevalent question for millions of children struggling with fear of abandonment, a real and growing mental health concern. Adults who grew up in fatherless households may struggle in relationships and marriages due to inner wounds and trapped emotions which may cause men and women to overindulge in everything from alcohol to sex, develop personality traits that drive people away, or become inattentive at home. Fear of abandonment can result in physical and emotional abuse and affects the development of healthy relationships between men & women or fathers & their children. Learn how to discuss these issues in education groups and fatherhood programs. **Presenter: Dr. Randell Turner**, ICF International, Red Lion, PA.

**Co-Parenting for Never-Married Families** (Bell Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor) Almost 40 percent of children are born outside of marriage in the U.S., and many of these families go through the family court system. Yet most family courts and court services are geared to divorced parents. Learn about Hennepin County's plan to create a Co-Parent Court

for unmarried parents using the "problem solving court" model. Hear about a co-parent education program designed for unmarried parents as part of this project, and *lessons learned* in the first pilot of this material. **Presenters: Judge Bruce Peterson**, Hennepin Co. District Court; **Rose Allen**, University of Minnesota Extension, Farmington; **T.J. Jones** and **Nekeisia Booyer**, Gateway Project, Minneapolis.

**Policy Keynote & Awards Dinner**  
5:30 – 7:30 PM

**The Evolution of Consciousness in Family Policy** (Stockinger Suite)

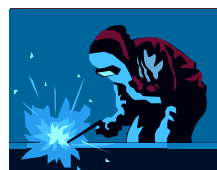


**Judge Bruce Peterson**, Hennepin County Family Court

Introduction: Dr. Glen Palm, Past President MFFN Board

Judge Peterson has worked extensively with community groups on issues of co-parenting, healthy fatherhood, and the Recognition of Parentage. He previously served as presiding judge of family court and served in both civil and criminal court. His keynote will explore the role of courts in making decisions that affect families.

**Excellence in Fatherhood Policy and Practice Awards Ceremony:** Awards Presenters: Jan Hayne and Dwaine Simms, MFFN Board of Directors



**Evening Gatherings**  
*in a Relaxed Setting*  
7:45 – 9:00 PM

**Story Circles: Tapping the Power of Personal Storytelling** (Clarke

Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor) This interactive session will offer an opportunity to participate in the powerful experience of telling our own stories. Through sharing of experiences of one's father, being a father, or being fathered, you will experience the power of each narrative. Presenters will share stories to illustrate the policy and educational issues that touch our lives. It will be an opportunity for participants to reach a level of interaction that is both respectful and fulfilling—providing energy to sustain us in this challenging work. Confidentiality is expected.

**Presenters: DeeAnn Gieseke**, Qigong Practitioner, Sleepy Eye; **Dr. John Wallace**, University of Minnesota

**Open Conversation on Raising Healthy Men** (First American Room, Floor) Join this open conversation in a comfortable, relaxed setting. View excerpts from the PBS documentary "Raising Cain, Boys in Focus," which explores the emotional development of boys in America today. Come with your ideas, insights or just your ears, and be part of an open dialogue on how we can all be proactive in raising healthy men. **Facilitators: Clarence Jones**, Q Health Services; **Jan Hayne**, Dads Make A Difference



**Networking Breakfast/Exhibits**  
7:30 – 8:30 AM

Stockinger Suite, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Plan to arrive early to have time to register, enjoy a continental breakfast, and browse the Fatherhood Services Resource Tables. These exhibitors offer valuable information for fatherhood & family service practitioners and advocates across Minnesota. The exhibits will be open until 3:00 PM today.



**Concurrent Sessions III**  
10:15 – 11:45 AM

**Male Socialization 101** (First American Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor) Boys are typically exposed to a number of socialization

influences at an early age: parents and other adults, peers, and media. Some of these influences are positive (e.g., role models of adults who are capable of task orientation and emotional awareness), some are benign (e.g., some aspects of sports culture), and some are toxic (e.g., those that encourage violence or disrespect of women). In this workshop, we describe the effects of socialization on boys and explore strategies for inoculating them against toxic social influences. **Presenter: Dr. Christopher Kilmartin**, University of Mary Washington, Virginia.

**Morning Keynote**  
8:30 – 9:45 AM



**It's Hard Out Here for a Pop: Stereotypes, Silence & The Socialization of Future Fathers** (Herberger Suite, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)



**Dr. Leola Johnson**, Associate Professor and Chair of Humanities and Media and Cultural Studies, Macalester College, St. Paul, MN

**Joe Kelly**, Author, *Dads & Daughters* and *Idiot's Guide to Being A New Dad*

Playing off the Oscar-winning song "It's hard out here for a pimp," the presentation identifies deeply entrenched cultural values and expectations (like father-silence) that leave boys and men un- or under-prepared to be effective dads, stepdads and social fathers. Mainstream media sound & image will help illustrate the impact that "hip-hop" culture and "pseudo-sexualization" messages have on current and future fathers.



**System Navigation and Case Management for Non-custodial Parents: How Do You Get a Horse to Drink After You Have Led Him to Water?** (Bell Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor) Child support is not an endearing term for many noncustodial parents. The legislature, government agencies and courts can legislate, mandate, obligate, and withhold funds for child support payments. But is there another approach? Is there some way of giving hope to those who see no hope for changing their situations? Many noncustodial parents express the belief that county agencies only care about the parent's money. In this session, learn how communities are working to change the face of child support. Chisago County's novel approach employs a social worker for noncustodial parents to help them navigate the child support system and the county's interrelated systems of services and support. Come learn their ideas, procedures, and results helping noncustodial parents drink from the water of success. **Presenters: Elizabeth Dodge** and **Elvin Brauman**, Chisago County Social Services; **Chisago County Case Participants**.

**Fathers Impacting Infant Health and Safety** (Alexander Room, 1st Floor) Research increasingly points to the important role of fathers in supporting healthy maternal and infant health. Both during prenatal and neonatal development, men have an important role to play in supporting the mothers of their children, encouraging full-family health, and role modeling supportive behaviors. In this session, presenters will share strategies for encouraging father involvement at this critical stage of development and for changing the language around "maternal and child health" to be more father-friendly.



**Networking, Snack, Exhibits**  
9:45 – 10:15 AM

Stockinger Suite, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

**Conference evaluations are now available online.**



Please complete the evaluation by January 30, 2009. Online here:  
[www.mnfathers.org/2009SummitEvaluation.html](http://www.mnfathers.org/2009SummitEvaluation.html)

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- 10:15—11:45 AM -

### Helping Sons Heal the Effects of Their Fathers' Shame Wounds

(Weidner Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor) Many men carry in their hearts and souls the unhealed wounds of their fathers. If Dad was abused, neglected, abandoned, or shamed, his internal pain may be transmitted viscerally to his son. The son often unknowingly acts out father-wound pain through drug abuse, addiction, depression, violence, and other self-sabotaging behaviors. Through the processes of identification and internalization, unhealed father wounds become a son's legacy. Using video, visualization, writing and discussion, this session will explore the wounds of our fathers, and how they may have been transmitted to us and the men in our programs. Attendees will discover that sons do not need to live out their fathers' personal woundedness. **Presenter: Dr. Michael Obsatz**, Macalester College (Emeritus), St. Paul.

### The Importance of Father Involvement in His Child's ADD/ADHD Therapy

(Clarke Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor) Millions of children are diagnosed with Attention-Deficit Disorder (ADD) or Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). Yet many parents and teachers don't understand how ADD/ADHD affects children. Attendees will discuss how ADD/ADHD affects boys and girls differently and the latest research regarding effective treatment. Plus, learn the benefits of having ADD/ADHD! Research and experience have discovered that there are unique gifts and abilities that come as a result of having ADD/ADHD. Participants will discuss how fathers can help children discover and make use of these gifts. The different parenting styles of mothers and fathers have a profound effect on nurturing ADD/ADHD children. **Presenter: Dr. Randell Turner**, Senior Associate Child & Family Therapist, ICF International, Red Lion, Pennsylvania.

### Keynote Luncheon 11:45 – 1:00 PM

### Guy-Fi: The Fictions that Rule Men's Lives

(Stockinger Suite, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

**Dr. Christopher Kilmartin**, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology, University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, Virginia

Dr. Christopher Kilmartin is a college professor, author, stand-up comedian, actor, playwright, consultant and professional psychologist. During lunch we will experience a story-telling/lecture hybrid on the fictions that rule men's lives.



### Concurrent Sessions IV 1:30 – 2:45 PM



### How the 5 Protective Factors Promote Gender Balanced Parenting

(Alexander Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor) Fathers' roles as parents are often portrayed as being external in terms of support to their children. Yet, dads play a significant role in upholding the five protective factors that contribute to child wellbeing. This workshop is designed to promote and clarify nurturing, concrete roles for fathers in families. In this workshop, presenters will use a combination of hands-on activities, presentation, discussion, and stories so that participants will: Understand what the five protective factors are and how fathers can use these to promote healthy child development; Learn how to facilitate gender balance in parenting; Learn how Circle of Parents® can support fathers. **Presenter: Trina Levin**, Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota, St. Paul.

### Stress Reducing Techniques that Can Work for You and Your Clients

(First American Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor) How do you and/or men you work with as clients respond to stress? What you are thinking and the words you speak have a profound effect on yourself, others and the world around you. The good news: you already have the tools to make a difference! In this workshop you will have an opportunity to visually see that your words and thoughts have energy. You will participate in breathing exercises that restore energy to your body, reduce stress and promote peace and harmony within and become aware of the healing power of your breath. Wear comfortable clothes. You may sit or recline. **Presenter: DeeAnn Gieseke**, Qigong Practitioner, Sleepy Eye.

### Community Prevention: Coaching Boys Into Men

(Weidner Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor) How do we get people in our community aware and tuned into the messages about violence prevention? How do we let the boys in our community know what constitutes a healthy relationship? This workshop will provide participants with one organization's plan to get these issues in the public eye. Participants will learn about a national public awareness campaign, researched and developed by the Family Violence Prevention Fund, and currently being utilized by the Domestic Violence Council of Anoka County and their community partners. Discussion will address how the campaign has been implemented, learn about the three-year plan to re-enforce these messages, and engage in discussion as to how this effort may be implemented in other communities. **Presenter: Donna McDonald**, Violence Prevention Coordinator, Anoka County Community Health & Environmental Services.

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- 1:30—2:45 PM -

**Nurturing the Fathers of the Future: How American Religious Discourse Socializes Men** (Bell Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor) Today's youth will become tomorrow's fathers. As they journey toward becoming fathers, they are faced with many contradictory messages in culture, tradition, academia, and the church about what it means to be a father and what a father's priorities should be in relation to his family – especially his children. What do American cultural norms, traditional gender roles, current academic research, and religious expression teach us about the father's role in his family, particularly as it relates to parenting and child development? How do we make sense of the contradictions and empower tomorrow's fathers to live confidently in their roles as involved and nurturing parents? **Presenter: Dr. Gar Kellom**, Men's Center, Saint John's University, Collegeville.

**Getting Dads Through the Door – Realistic Father Involvement** (Clarke Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor) Many programs are interested in working with fathers but aren't sure how to effectively work with them or even "get a hold" of them. Learn how to bring fathers into your programs and what to do with them once they come through the door. Participants will learn how to build their own effective program without having to buy expensive curricula that don't always fit their needs. This fun, interactive workshop will show you how to effectively involve fathers in their child's education in order to improve their educational and social outcomes. **Presenter: J. Michael Hall**, Strong Fathers-Strong Families, Fort Worth, Texas.

**Networking / Snacks / Exhibits**  
2:45 – 3:00 PM

Stockinger Suite, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor



**Afternoon Keynote**  
3:00 – 4:30 PM

**Mission Critical: Raising Healthy, Nonviolent Boys and Men** (Herberger Suite, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

**Dr. Michael Obsatz**, Professor Emeritus, Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota

**Opening Remarks: Joanne Mooney**, Children's Trust Fund

Introductions: Jon Harper, MFFN Board

Dr. Michael Obsatz is a well-known author and speaker on issues such as male socialization and shame-based masculinity, anger and bullying in kids, and coping with grief and loss. His keynote will focus on the connection between male socialization and male violence, and provide us with some practical tips for helping to raise healthy, nonviolent boys and men.

### Evaluate This Conference



Please help us determine the success of the 2009 Minnesota Fatherhood Summit. Complete the **conference evaluation** online by January 30, 2009.

Online here: [www.mnfathers.org/2009SummitEvaluation.html](http://www.mnfathers.org/2009SummitEvaluation.html)

### As an attendee, you are a new MFFN member for 2009!

All attendees of the Minnesota Fatherhood Summit receive **one-year of membership** with the Minnesota Fathers & Families Network. Watch for our monthly email and our quarterly print-copy newsletter to learn about upcoming events and resources about working with fathers. Also, as a member you will be listed in our 2009 annual report. If you would like to opt out of any

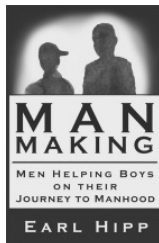
of these resources / listings, or if you would like to change your contact information, please contact MFFN at [info@mnfathers.org](mailto:info@mnfathers.org) or (651) 222-7432.

Thank you for supporting MFFN as we work to further develop the field of fatherhood practitioners state-wide!



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***Man Making: Men Helping Boys on Their Journey to Manhood***



Right now, there are boys around you who need the benefit of your wisdom and support to grow into responsible and self-assured men. Purchase this book to learn how you can make a difference in the lives of young adolescent boys. **\$15 contribution.** Limited copies available.



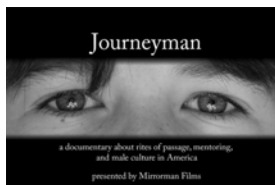
***The Daddy Book***

A workbook to guide new fathers through the important stages of infant development. **Contribution: \$2.50 per copy.** (After the

conference, copies purchased by mail will cost \$4.25 including shipping and handling.)

***Journeyman (DVD)***

This hour-long documentary film is about rites of passage, mentoring, and male culture in America, by



Mirrorman Films. Limited copies available. **\$15.00 contribution.**



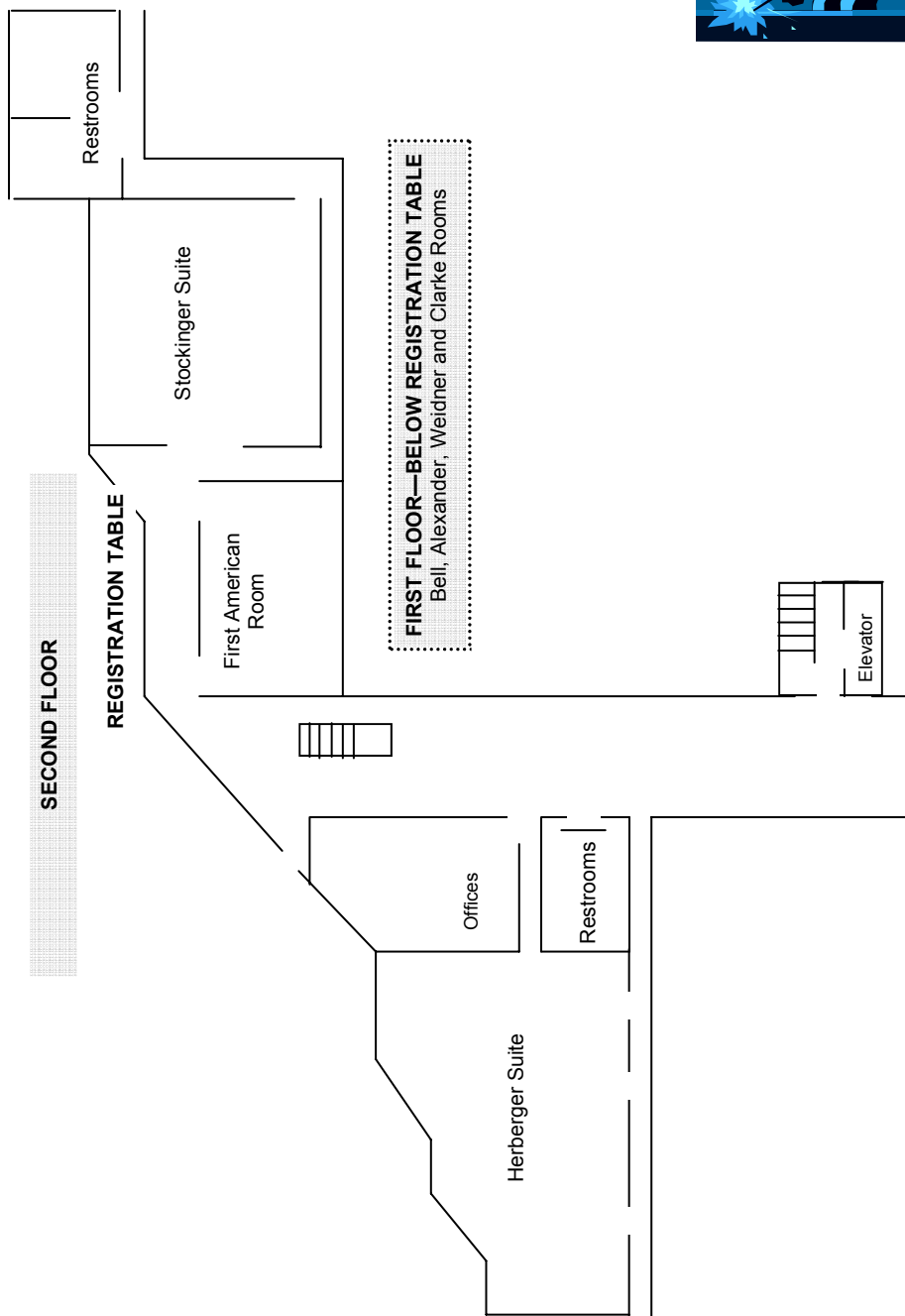
***Unmarried Fathers' Guide to Paternity, Custody, Parenting Time and Child Support in Minnesota***

A first-class resource for the men in your

program who are struggling to navigate the legal system.

**Contribution: nine copies for \$10.00.**

**St. Cloud Civic Center  
 Second Floor**



**Contact MFFN**



Paul Masiarchin, Executive Director  
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