

5 New Fatherhood Leadership Circle Sites in 2011



Alexandria
Chisago County
Moorhead
Park Rapids
Rochester



The Minnesota Fathers & Families Network is pleased to announce the selection of 5 new Fatherhood Leadership Circle sites for 2011. Fatherhood Leadership Circles are groups of local professionals committed to expanding father engagement in social services, education, health, and related fields. The Minnesota Fathers & Families Network will provide technical assistance, coaching, and training, over the course of 12 months, to guide each community group. Our first Leadership Circle sites in 2010 included Brainerd, Fergus Falls, and Grand Rapids. You can read about the success stories from this project online at: www.mnfathers.org/SuccessStories2010.pdf.

The Circles are being lead by existing initiatives or collaborative to provide greater community-wide support for healthy fatherhood. Here are the 2011 sites*:

- Alexandria: WINGS Family Supportive Services, Building Connections (ECI), Douglas County CAPC, Douglas County Public Health, and Douglas County Social Services. Contacts: Dorie Twist, Wings Family Supportive Services, Inc.; Linda Saari, Douglas County CAPC Coordinator; and April Larson, Building Connections.
- Chisago County: Chisago County Children's Collaborative, Chisago County Health and Human Services, and Citizen Review Panel. Contacts: Al Budde, Child Support Supervisor; and Ted Alliegro, Co-Chair, Citizen Review Panel.
- Moorhead: Clay County Collaborative/Moorhead Early Childhood Alliance. Contacts: Dawn Tommerdahl, Clay County Collaborative; and Barry Nelson, Metro Youth Partnership.
- Park Rapids: St. Joseph's Area Health Services, and Mahube Community Council. Contacts: Raeann Mayer, St. Joseph's Area Health Services; and Barb Martin, Mahube Community Council.
- Rochester: Rochester Fatherhood Network. Contacts: Michael Jerpbak, Crossroads College; and Gil Domally, Family Service Rochester.

*At each site, there may be other organizations and community agencies that are partnering with the lead agencies.

For more information, contact Pat Krauth, Leadership Circle Project Director for MFFN, at pkrauth@mnfathers.org. The trainings provided during the Leadership Circles are open to professionals who live or work in the selected communities. Please check your MFFN email and our webpage for more news about trainings in these communities.

Sector Analysis Project Underway!

In 2010 MFFN embarked on another new project—a Sector by Sector Analysis of Father Engagement. This project is looking in-depth at the ways in which different public sectors are engaging fathers, to confront the challenges experienced in engaging fathers and to provide examples of success that can inspire others. Our first publication focuses on the child welfare system in Minnesota. As a participant in the 2011 Fatherhood and Family Services Summit, please take several complimentary copies of *Linking Fathers: Child Welfare Sector Analysis* and share them with your colleagues.

The next sector analysis has begun, focused on father engagement in early childhood programs. For more information, contact Tom Fitzpatrick, the Project Director, at info@mnfathers.org.



www.mnfathers.org