

# FATHERHOOD SUMMIT

Minnesota

January 22-23, 2007  
St. Cloud Civic Center  
Saint Cloud, Minnesota

**Minnesota Fathers & Families Network**  
Phone: 651-222-7432  
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## Agenda-at-a-Glance

### Monday, January 22, 2007

1:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Concurrent Training Seminars

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.  
Networking Dinner and Keynote,  
Gov. Al Quie

### Tuesday, January 23, 2007

7:30—8:30 a.m.  
Registration / Continental Breakfast /  
Exhibit Tables

8:30—9:45 a.m.  
Morning Keynote, Adrienne Burgess

9:45 – 10:15 a.m.  
Refreshment Break and Exhibits

10:15 – 11:45 a.m.  
Morning Workshops

11:45 – 1:00 p.m.  
Awards Luncheon

1:15 – 2:45 p.m.  
Afternoon Workshops

2:45 – 3:00 p.m.  
Refreshment Break and Exhibits

3:00 – 4:30 p.m.  
Afternoon Keynote, Tom Klaus

messages & messengers

FOR HEALTHY FATHERHOOD



The mission of the Minnesota Fathers & Families Network is to initiate, promote and support effective programs and to educate on public policy to enhance the responsible involvement of fathers in the lives of children, families and the community.

## Thank You

### 4th Annual Fatherhood Summit Presenters, Moderators & Exhibitors

Thank you to each of the presenters, moderators, and exhibitors listed on the following pages and in the conference registration packet.

#### 2007 MFFN Board of Directors

Rebecca Ahlstrand, Carlton County Child Support, Carlton  
Jayne Anderson, Nicollet County Social Services, St. Peter  
Mary Anderson, Fatherhood Advocate, Perham  
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Jon Harper, Adventures in Fathering, Crystal  
Jan Hayne, Dads Make a Difference, St. Paul  
Michael Jerpbak, Crossroads College, Rochester  
R. Clarence Jones, Southside Community Health Services, Minneapolis  
Gar Kellom, St. John's University, Collegeville  
Joe Kelly, Dads and Daughters, St. Paul  
Joyce Lussier, Bemidji  
Nancy Norbie, Kandiyohi County Family Services, Willmar  
Glen Palm, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud  
Velura Peterson, Social Services, Virginia  
Tamy Reese, Morris Early Childhood Family Education, Morris  
Jack Sharp, Fatherhood Advocate, St. Cloud  
Dwayne Simms, Twin Cities RISE!, Minneapolis  
Enrique Soto, Banta Corporation, Long Prairie  
Neil Tift, Dads and Families Center, Stillwater  
Laura Turner, Employment / Fatherhood Advocate, St. Paul  
Tina Welsh, Boyz II Dadz, Duluth

#### 4th Annual Fatherhood Summit Contributors and MFFN Supporters for 2006-2007

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Southwest Initiative Foundation  
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Our major conference sponsors:



Minnesota Department of **Human Services**

THE MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION

[www.mcknight.org](http://www.mcknight.org)

**Thank you to all MFFN members.**  
Together we are leading Minnesota's campaign for healthy fatherhood.

## Concurrent Training Sessions • 1:00-4:00 • Monday

### **Fathering the Special Needs Child** First American Room—Second Floor

In a fragmenting and emerging society the role of father is challenging, even in the most healthy family settings. When one fathers a child with special needs, however, the challenge is further nuanced. In what ways is the role of father distinct as well as complimentary in parenting a special needs child? This workshop will identify the challenges of fathering a special needs child, explore helpful strategies for engaging the challenge and offer suggested next steps for fathers (and those who work with fathers) whose lives include a child or children with special needs. Presenter: Rev. Bart A. Fletcher, Belgrade Avenue United Methodist Church, North Mankato

### **Incarcerated Families** Mitchell Room—Second Floor

Many of the families you work with probably have a family member in prison. What unique challenges and situations do these families face? How can human service, family education, and corrections engage more intentionally with families in this situation? This workshop will describe work and research with incarcerated fathers and their families—and we'll discuss our work and experiences in this area. Purpose of workshop: Identify why it is

important to know about and respond to the unique challenges faced by incarcerated families; provide options about ways to engage respectfully and knowledgeably with these families; and identify ways participants and their organizations can take action with this topic. Presenters: Glen Palm, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud; Lance Handy, Council on Crime and Justice, Minneapolis; Michael Bischoff, Council on Crime and Justice, Minneapolis; and Andy Sagvold, Council on Crime and Justice, Minneapolis

### **Child Support and the New Laws: Understanding the Affects on Families** Swisshelm Room—Second Floor

In this session, presenters will discuss the Minnesota Child Support Program and information that we need to know in order to best serve our participants and highlight changes to the Minnesota Child Support guidelines which begin to take effect in 2007. Presenters will discuss services provided by the state's county-based child support offices and will discuss the implementation of a new program, Strategies to Help Low Income Families. Presenters: Pat Krauth, Minnesota Department of Human Services; Carol Taggart, Minnesota Department of Human Services; Jaci Carufel, Minnesota Department of Human Services; Mark Ponsolle, Office of the Ramsey County Attorney, St. Paul

## Networking Dinner • 5:00—7:00 pm • Monday

### **Parents are Important; That Means Fathers Too** Swisshelm Room—Second Floor

Keynote presentation: **Al Quie**, Governor of Minnesota 1979—1983, Minnetonka  
Introductory words: R. Clarence Jones, Southside Community Health Services

Former Minnesota Governor Al Quie is a strong advocate for early childhood education and is an active volunteer for a prison ministry program. The former Republican governor, 1979-1983, is a supporter of bi-partisan initiatives for Minnesota's children and families. Before becoming Minnesota's 35th Governor, Mr. Quie served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, worked as a dairy farmer, was a member of the Minnesota state senate, and was elected to Congress as the U.S. Representative from Minnesota's 1st District. During this session, Governor Quie will discuss a variety of public policy topics related to Minnesota's fathers, families, and children.



Please help us to meet your needs!  
Complete the conference evaluation by February 2, 2007.  
Online here: [www.mnfathers.org/2007SummitEvaluation.html](http://www.mnfathers.org/2007SummitEvaluation.html)

## Continental Breakfast • 7:30—8:30 am • Tuesday

Stockinger Suite: Plan to arrive early to have time to register, enjoy breakfast, and browse the **Fatherhood Services Resource Tables**. These exhibitors offer valuable information for fatherhood and family services practitioners and advocates across Minnesota. The exhibits will be available until 3:00 p.m.

## Morning Plenary Session • 8:30—9:45 am • Tuesday

### **Why Support Work with Fathers: New Perspectives from London for Policy and Practice** Herberger Suite—Second Floor

Keynote presentation: **Adrienne Burgess**, Director of Policy and Research,  
FathersDirect, London, England  
Introductory words: Glen Palm, St. Cloud State University

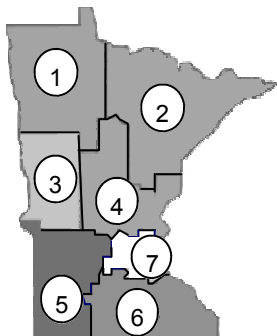
During this session, attendees will learn about the innovative three-pronged approach for promoting fatherhood public policy in England. This approach, promoted by Fathers Direct, the British national fatherhood clearinghouse, includes advancing the field of fatherhood by simultaneously addressing the issues of child welfare, gender equity, and men's development.

Adrienne Burgess is currently Policy Advisor to Fathers Direct, the UK information centre for fathers set up with initial funding from the Department of Health and the Home Office. She also contributes to family policy in the Lord Chancellor's Department, the Cabinet Office and Number 10 Downing Street, and has given presentations and workshops on fatherhood in the US, Australia, Europe, the UK and the Republic of Ireland. Adrienne recently finished her second book about couple relationships, "Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow?". Ms. Burgess is the author of "Fatherhood Reclaimed: the making of the modern father", newspaper columns, and broadcast stories. Ms. Burgess, born and raised in Australia, now lives in London, England, with her husband and daughter.



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## Refreshment Break • 9:45—10:15 am • Tuesday



Stockinger Suite: Browse the exhibit booths and refresh your coffee before heading to a workshop session.

### **Nametag Geography**

The Minnesota regions, indicated on each nametag, correspond to this map.  
Have you met someone from every region?  
Have you found other attendees from your own region?

## Morning Workshops • 10:15—11:45 am • Tuesday

### **Women Working with Fathers** Clarke Room—First Floor

In Minnesota, women comprise nearly two-thirds of all professionals who work in programs with fathers. In this workshop session, keynote presenter Adrienne Burgess will continue to talk about lessons learned in England – and how British work with fathers can inform advances in Minnesota. During this session, Ms. Burgess will focus on the challenges and attributes that women can bring to their work with fathers. Presenter: Adrienne Burgess, Fathers Direct, London, England

### **Improving Outcomes for Parents with Alcohol and Other Drug Problems in the Child Protection System** Alexander Room—First Floor

The Children's Justice Initiative Alcohol and Other Drug Project (CJI-AOD) seeks to ensure that abused and neglected children involved in the juvenile protection court system have safe, stable, permanent families by improving parental and family recovery from alcohol or other drug problems. The session will focus on the project's successes including the results of statewide multi-cultural parent focus groups, a parent partner handbook that assists counties in developing this model, a tool kit which provides an interactive resource for implementing best practices in an AOD child welfare population and a state-wide training plan. The role of fathers was a salient issue in all aspects of the CJI-AOD project. Presenters: Dan Griffin, Minnesota Judicial Branch, St. Paul; Jackie Crowshoe, Child Safety and Permanency, Minnesota Department of Human Services, St. Paul; Deborah Moses, Minnesota Department of Human Services Chemical Health Division, St. Paul

### **Men Positively Impacting the Lives of Young Children** First American Room—Second Floor

This presentation will provide practical strategies on how to engage in positive interactions with young children, from birth to pre-teen years. Participants will learn how to become involved in the lives of their children, even during the pre-birth. This presentation will include methods on how to deal with societal views of men and their involvement in their children's lives, particularly those who are not residential fathers and may not be engaged in cordial relationships with the mothers of these young children. The presentation will be interactive, as input from the participants will be strongly encouraged. The goal of this workshop is to help participants understand the roles of fathers/father figures and support their efforts as they strive to make positive impacts on the lives of children. Presenter: Vander Green, Region V Head Start TA Network, Booz-Allen-Hamilton, Chicago

### **Getting the Most Out of Fatherhood** Bell Room—First Floor

Being a father is not easy or cheap. It requires an incredible investment but the dividends can be even more incredible. This workshop examines the scope and meaning of that investment. Join this session if you want to rise to the challenge of fatherhood or if you want to gain a healthy perspective to help men achieve this goal. Presenter: Tom Klaus, Advocates for Youth, Washington, D.C.

### **FATHER Project Collaborative Partnership Panel Discussion** Weidner Room—First Floor

This session will provide an overview of Goodwill-Easter Seal's "Promoting Responsible Fatherhood" initiative administered through the FATHER Project, with particular emphasis on their proven project service model. The FATHER Project promotes responsible parenting and fosters economic stability for low-income fathers in Hennepin County and surrounding areas, including young men age 17 and older. The workshop will highlight the initiative's collaborative partnership consisting of strong historical partners, new partners who bring additional cultural expertise in delivering a broader array of services to a more diverse group of fathers and their families. A panel of experts, including collaborative partners, will provide information and perspectives on this initiative. Presenters: Guy Bowling, FATHER Project / Goodwill-Easter Seals; Andrew Freeberg, FATHER Project / Goodwill-Easter Seals; Richard Antell, The Division of Indian Work; Carol Ladd, The Division of Indian Work; Ronel Bloomgren, Way To Grow; Cira Sanchez, CLUES; Erica Nicholson, CLUES; Jonathan Lofgren, African American Family Services

### **We Agree: Creating A Parenting Plan. Lecture & Parent's Panel** Thielman Room—Second Floor

The University of Minnesota Extension Service booklet, We Agree: Creating a Parenting Plan helps parents make child-focused decisions about the care of their children when they parent apart. In Minnesota, divorcing and never married parents can create Parenting Plans as part of their legal agreement. We Agree helps: 1) plan parenting time schedules to fit the development and personality of their children; 2) plan parenting strategies that support children through family change; 3) learn communication tools to create a plan together; and 4) learn from University of Minnesota professionals and hear the experts—a panel of fathers/mothers who have a plan! Presenters: Jo Musich, University of Minnesota Extension Service, Grand Rapids; Ellie McCann, University of Minnesota Extension Service, Moorhead; Brian Thorbjorsen, Min No Aya Win Human Services, Fond du Lac Human Services; Cloquet; Jeff Tibbetts, Min No Aya Win Human Services, Fond du Lac Human Services; Nick Lommel, St. Cloud

## Awards Luncheon • 11:45-1:00 pm • Tuesday

### “Excellence in Fatherhood” Awards Ceremony

Herberger Suite—Second Floor

Awards Ceremony Hosts: **Rebecca Ahlstrand**, Carlton County; **Velura Peterson**, St. Louis County; and **Clarence Jones**, Southside Community Health Services

Join us in recognizing a few of Minnesota’s outstanding fatherhood advocates and programs that are making a difference for fathers and families around the state. The 2007 Excellence in Fatherhood Policy and Practice awardees comprise the third group to receive this honor. We anticipate recognizing many more exemplary programs and individuals in the coming years. Congratulations to each of this year’s recipients of the Excellence in Fatherhood award!



## Second Round Workshops • 1:15—2:45 pm • Tuesday

### **Raise Your Family, Not Your Fist: Domestic Violence Prevention**

First American Room—Second Floor

Many families struggle with explosive issues of physical, emotional and financial intimidation, road rage, fighting, isolation, temper tantrums, coercion, and put-downs. And many entertainment options clearly do not help - aggressive contact sports, action movies, video games, the internet, and radio are filled with messages that encourage violence, promote corruption, objectify women, normalize abuse, ignore neglect, stereotype strangers, and support white male privilege. In most families, fathers play a significant role in modeling healthy attitudes and in shaping the behavior of their children. What fathers teach their children about gender role expectations, cultural sensitivity, self-discipline, ethical decision-making, emotional and physical expression, and healthy problem solving has a direct impact on children’s development. This workshop will examine the impact that men in families have upon their children and discuss what and how fathers contribute to their children’s emotional expressiveness. We will explore methods of healthy conflict resolution and of defining and expressing anger, control, and power. Presenter: Neil Tift, Dads and Families Center, Stillwater

### **Fatherhood and Family Public Policy: Open Discussion Session**

Alexander Room—First Floor

This open discussion session will allow participants to explore and share their interests, passions, questions, and concerns as they relate to issues of public policy in Minnesota. Join the session to share advice, to pose a question, to voice an opinion, to make a recommendation or simply to listen to a free-flowing conversation about public policy decisions that affect fathers in Minnesota. Moderators: Jayne Anderson, Nicollet County Social Services, St. Peter; Dwaine Simms, Twin Cities RISE!, Minneapolis

### **The Legal Status of Fathers**

Weidner Room—First Floor

This session outlines the different kinds of fatherhood recognized in the law – biological, adoptive, putative, presumed, equitable and step – and explains the legal rights, obligations and protections of each. The session is designed to provide the practitioner with an understanding both of the historical treatment of fatherhood and of the current status of fathers in American law. Presenter: Tom James, Attorney, Better Resolutions Mediation Services, Cokato

### **Minnesota’s Early Childhood Initiative: Father Involvement in Early Childhood Development**

Clarke Room—First Floor

The six Minnesota Initiative Foundations (MIFs) began to collaborate on a joint public policy initiative focused on early childhood in 2001. Recognizing that strengthening early care and education for young children and their families is the most important investment communities can make for the future, the Minnesota Early Childhood Initiative was developed. The overarching goal of the initiative is to ensure that every young child has the best possible start toward a healthy life of learning, achieving and succeeding. Since 2001, the MIFs have established community-based coalitions in dozens of communities. Within these coalitions, a number of communities have identified the role of father-involvement as an integral component of their local efforts. During this session, presenters will share details about the efforts taking place in Minnesota Early Childhood Initiatives as it pertains to healthy father involvement. Presenters: Karin Ihnen, Initiative Foundation, Little Falls; Dee Ann Gieseke, Visions for Families and Community Family Service Collaborative, St. James; Mike Paulus, Brainerd Lakes Area Early Childhood Coalition, Brainerd; Steven Collins, Redwood County, Redwood Falls; Tamy Reese, Morris ECFE, Morris

Additional workshops listed on next page.



## Parenting Teens: Not Only Surviving but Thriving

Bell Room—First Floor

Parents often dread the teen years but with some knowledge and forethought, it can be a rewarding time. This session will look at normative adolescent development and how family serving professionals can best help fathers understand the unique challenges and joys of parenting teens. Parenting practices will be discussed within the context of parenting styles to identify the strengths that fathers can bring to the role of parenting teens. The bi-directional nature of the father – teen relationship and how that is influenced by the larger family system will be an emphasis. Extension parent education resources will be shared. Presenters: Colleen Gengler, University of Minnesota Extension Service, Worthington; Kathleen Olson, University of Minnesota Extension Service, Rochester

## Boys to Men: Gender Identity Development in Males

Thielman Room—Second Floor

The psychological process by which boys develop their concept of masculinity has a huge impact on their lives, and the lives of others. Society gives boys a mixed bag of positive and negative messages about what it means to be male. This presentation will examine how individual boys make meaning from these messages regarding manhood. The implications for boys' concepts of self worth, and subsequent success in school, family, and work relationships will be discussed. Strategies for creating healthy environments for boys to grow up in will also be offered. The materials and process provided in this workshop are designed to be used for staff training or in parent education offerings. Presenter: Lowell Johnson, Brainerd Early Childhood Coalition and St. Cloud Dads Project, Fort Ripley

## Refreshment Break • 2:45—3:00 pm • Stockinger Suite

## Afternoon Plenary Session • 3:00—4:30 pm • Tuesday

### Beer, Butts, Babes, and Boys: Moving from the Boy Code to Uncommon Manhood

Herberger Suite—Second Floor

Keynote presentation: **Tom Klaus**, Program Director, Teen Pregnancy Prevention, Advocates for Youth, Washington, D.C.

Introductory words: Jon Harper, Adventures in Fathering

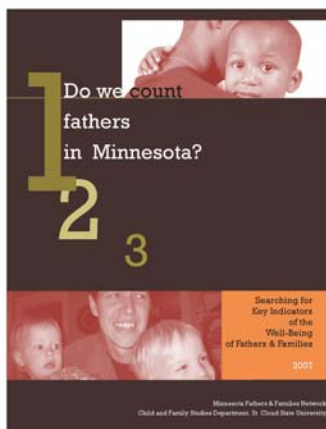
Ah, love, relationships, and fatherhood! The key to success in all three is the same - the ability to go beyond the limiting expectations of manhood. This session examines what William Pollock calls "The Boy Code" to better understand the common lessons of manhood learned by males. Even more, it explores what it takes to move beyond "The Boy Code" into Uncommon Manhood that honors authenticity. In this session learn the four tenets of "The Boy Code"; examine seven scary sexuality subjects for boys and why they are so frightening; discover the key to communicating with younger males about sex, love, and relationships; and come to understand the model of Uncommon Manhood and all it offers to males trapped by "The Boy Code".



Mr. Klaus came to Advocates for Youth in December, 2005, from Iowa, where he was the Executive Director of FutureNet, the Iowa Network for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention, Parenting and Sexual Health. Mr. Klaus was the chief architect of

the organization's *Touchstones: Sexual Health Measures that Matter*, a project that became Iowa's plan for addressing teen pregnancy prevention through science-based practices.

Previous to entering the field of adolescent reproductive health, Mr. Klaus worked for 20 years as a local, state, and national leader in the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). Mr. Klaus has created numerous curricula and teen pregnancy materials and is a nationally respected writer, trainer, speaker, and leader within the field of adolescent reproductive health. He has been a member of Iowa Governor Thomas Vilsack's Task Force on Responsible Fatherhood, Team Leader for the Family Planning Chapter, and Review Committee member for Healthy Iowans 2010. He holds a master's degree in education from Drake University.



At 4:15, MFFN will distribute copies of our new compendium of facts and figures about dads, "**Do we count fathers in Minnesota?**" Take home your 80-page copy today! Watch your email for details about our press conference for the report in mid-February.