

The National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse provides FREE tips and resources for practitioners, fathers, and children of all ages and situations - Transcript

Good afternoon. Welcome to today's webinar for the FDLP Academy. We'll be getting started in about 10 minutes. Good afternoon. Welcome to today's FDLP Academy webinar. We'll be getting started in about 5 minutes.

Good afternoon. This is Kathy Carmichael along with Lara Flint. The national responsible fatherhood clearinghouse providing free tips and resources for practitioners, fathers and children of all ages. Our presenters today are Rush Bishop and James Worthy, outreach lead for the national responsible fatherhood clearinghouse. Before I turn the mic over I'm going to walk you through housekeeping reminders. If you have questions or comments on the presentation, feel free to chat them in the chat box. This can be found at the bottom right hand corner of your screen. I will keep track of the questions that come in. At the end of the presentation Rush and James will respond to each of them. We are recording today's session and we will e-mail a link to the recording to everyone who registered for this webinar. The webinar will be available in our archive along with a PDF of the slide deck. The webinar archive can be found on FDLP.gov website. We'll also be sending you a certificate of participation using the e-mail you used to register for today's webinar. If anyone needs additional certificates because multiple people watched with you, please e-mail FDLP outreach and include the title of today's webinar, along with the names and e-mail addresses of those needing certificates. If you zoom in on the slides being shown by the presenter you can click on the full screen button in the bottom left hand side of your screen. To exit full screen mode so you can see the chat box and chat questions, mouse over the blue bar at the top of your screen so it expands. I'm sorry, click on the blue return button to get back to the default view. At the end of this session we'll be sharing a webinar satisfaction survey with you. We'll let you know when the survey is ready and that you are available to appear in the chat box. We would appreciate your feedback after today's session is through. I will hand the microphone over to Rush and James who will take it from here.

Good afternoon and thank you so much, Kathy. Can you hear me clearly?

We can hear you.

Thank you so much. Really appreciate it. First of all thank you all for being with us today as we share this information. I'm always ecstatic to get an opportunity to share resources and tips to a audience that has the ability to get this information out to the masses. As is said, my name is James Worthy. I'm here with my partner Rush Bishop. Just give Rush an opportunity to tell you about himself. I'll come back and give you my quick.

James, thank you so much. Hello, everyone. It is truly a pleasure to be here today. Especially this is a conference or a type of conference we really haven't done before, especially with the vast information out there and how important it is. June is of course Fathers Day and that's why we're timing this this way, absolute apply. I'm the conference coordinator. I handle a lot of the logistics for the national responsible fatherhood clearinghouse. Anything that may go into a conference like getting our materials from place to place. We have a virtual experience going on here, so that definitely changed things up a bit. The best way I like to describe myself. You have the utility player, plug and play. That's how I am on the national responsible fatherhood clearinghouse. It is great to be here today. I'm going to turn it back over to James in a second. For today's presentation we're going to go over, you know our resources,

what we have to offer, where we come from, all that stuff. So hopefully we can start getting a lot of our resources in the database here. But then in addition we do want to talk about some specific resources that really could be beneficial for Father's Day. We'll address that when the time comes. So grateful to be here with everyone and with James as always. James, I'll turn it back over to you.

Thank you so much, Rush. I tell you Rush calls himself the utility player. I call him the go to guy. Everything that we need when you talk about the resources, the information that you're going to hear, the tools, the tips, honestly we wouldn't be able to get this stuff out to the masses if it not for Rush's connection. But more importantly not only does Rush take care of that, he's slowly becoming an expert in this field of responsible fatherhood because he's such an ambitious young man, studying what goes on, what the best practices are and what the research says is best practices for this work. So Rush, it's always a pleasure to work with you. For everyone here, my name is James Worthy. I've been in the field of responsible fatherhood now for almost 30 years. I know I don't look it, but almost 30 years. And I served as an outreach lead. Now all that simply means to me is that my job on behalf of fathers around this country is to present and share with all that will listen all the tools, the techniques, the tips, the research, and even the experience that I've had from my over 30 years of service. Spent a lot of my direct service time in the Baltimore City area, sieving what they classified as Baltimore's most hard to serve, chronically unemployed fathers. I like to say the disenfranchised. Been blessed to provide services to well over 10,000 families in my tenure, but also during this process was often asked to be a part of a training cadre that'd been out around this country, talking about when it's done. Now the national responsible fatherhood clearinghouse has asked me to be a part of this team to share this information. I'm so proud because today what we want to do as Rush said, we want to present resources that are available from the national responsible fatherhood clearinghouse. We want to offer tips to engage fathers, to strengthen families and to improve child well being through family support. Having a leg of the world like you guys to put this information directly in front of thousands, hundreds of thousands of people is amazing. And we want to provide one or two take aways. Something that will stay with you that when you leave here you'll remember to say hey, here's something I may definitely want to get out to everybody. Before we jump into the information, I've got to ask you a question. When they advertised this was going to be the topic for today's webinar, you read it and you had a feeling. You had a thought. What was it that you said I want to go to this to get X. So I'm going to ask you in the chat box. Kind of work with us, talk with us today because we want to have a little interaction. What was it, what did you say I want to learn, I want to see this because. Please take a few seconds and drop that in the chat while we look at that. We hope the time we spend here together we're able to provide some of the things that you expect and some of the things you're looking for for taking the time to be with us. So if you get a minute, drop it in the chat. Let me see you. What are some of the things you wanted to hear from, wanted to learn, wanted to see, wanted to find out about at this event today. So take a few seconds. Rush, tell me if you see anything in the chat that we can start to see what people are looking for.

Resources available on the topic of fatherhood support the library could offer. Awesome.

Definitely got a bunch of those things. Wow. That's going to be awesome. Anything else? Anybody else got anything they're looking for or thought about when they saw this was here for them to take advantage of.

Thank you for putting that in there. Really appreciate it.

Here's the reality of it, guys. That that statement resources available on the topic of fatherhood to offer, that sums up a lot of stuff in there. I'm going to throw it over to Rush to tell you about who we are and how we get this information out to the masses free of charge. So with that I'll throw it to you, Rush.

As always, thank you James. The national responsible fatherhood clearinghouse is fully funded by the office of family assistance. The office of family assistance is an office located in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Where it comes from is, there's 175 -- pardon me. I think it's \$150 million that is put to the side that comes from it temporary assistance for needy families. What that allows us to do is \$75 million is for healthy relationship building. Another 75 is for responsible fatherhood practices. Most of that goes towards the grant. There is a little saved for the national fatherhood clearinghouse. When we discuss our website it's fatherhood.gov. Similar to FDLP where you have the GPO.gov. We're both, you know, funded through the government. Because we are funded through the government, because they set aside a little bit of money for us to focus on holistic measures and promoting responsible fatherhood through many ways we are already paid for. We don't need any money. All we want to do is help the service providers and the fathers and parents themselves to work through whatever's going on no matter how simple it may be or how complex it may be to get through whatever situations are going on so we're the soldiers, I guess, maybe the best way to say it on behalf of the federal government fighting to promote how valuable fatherhood is and especially responsible fatherhood. Especially as we're talking about with this month. Especially coming out of a pandemic as well. We're looking to get back as families. There are situations where fathers may have not seen their kids for a little bit of time. So that's what we want to do is help you and show you what resources we have available and what your, I'm assuming everyone here is a tax payer. Hope you're a taxpayer and going through that, and what your tax dollars are going and how it is benefiting fathers and families everywhere, which then of course benefits all of us. I'll turn it back over to you, James.

Absolutely. And I'll tell you guys Rush has shared the first resource that we want everybody to know about. Our website. Our repository. We're putting this in the chat. You can reach us at fatherhood.gov. Everything. We've been putting the resource center together now for almost a decade and a half. Everything from research to newest policies to proven practices to spotlights to activities to videos to public service announcements. Everything. Working with young fathers. Working with fathers that have children with special needs. Any area you want information on is logistically put here for your access. As a provider years ago this was the a huge help to the work I was doing. Nowhere else did I find all the specific details about serving dads. And Libraries, repository of knowledge base. Someone who is researching, someone who is looking. If they can be directed to the details this is what we hope to be able to accomplish in this relationship is to make sure that each and every one of you knows the quick down and dirty easy place to get all of the information that can be helpful for a dad out there, for a family out there, for a practitioner out there that wants to do this work. Next thing we have, I'll throw it to Rush. Would you talk a little bit about what we just launched last Father's Day?

Absolutely. This is, here's the thing about the VCC. This is one of James' passions. The fact he threw it to me, I'm honored just. Part two is I guarantee because it's his passions I'll miss something. He'll fill in the gaps I can assure you there. This is something incredible that we launched last year. And it really, really helped out in the time of the pandemic. Especially when a lot of these conferences were going virtual and we still needed these communities, these safe spaces. Where service providers, where fathers, where anyone that's related to this field could go and get together and just talk with one another and share information in just a very nonjudgmental, open-minded way. Through fatherhood.gov there's a virtual collaborative community tab. Through this you go and you sign up, like I mentioned earlier. This is a safe space for everyone to talk about what's going on. You do have to get approved. This allows us to

eliminate people that may have malicious intentions or bots or anything like that. There is a layer of protection that's put into place where people are checked out just to make sure they are who they say they are and are in the field of fatherhood. Wanted to ease everyone's mind there right away you'll see different groups. Different topics. A lot of you are probably on Facebook. This is the Facebook of fatherhood. I need, I'm struggling about co-parenting. There's a group for that. I'm struggling with this. There's a message board over here. It's the ability to let's bring it online. Even with the pandemic, you know, starting to come to an end here is this is -- we're seeing it grow even more. This person, we meet a person at this conference down in it Austin, Texas. Most likely we're probably not going to see that person again till the following year's conference or we may not talk with you again until next year when we're doing this again for Father's Day, that type of thing. This allows us to make sure we stay up to date with you. And it's our arms and legs to make sure that everyone's feeling included. You're able to talk about what you need to talk about in a safe, protective space and just get tips from everyone. Not only get tips for us, but sometimes we don't know the answers. There's always new topics. There's always new information coming out and new studies and new issues and new problems like that. There may be someone in your field that actually has the information before us. But we want to give you the opportunity to have the community where you can get that information in a safe way. So James, what did I miss there? Did I describe it just as you would?

Rush, you did a phenomenal job. This collaborative -- like he said. This was one of my babies. We've been working on this for almost two years to get it out here. Even now there's more things happening in the community. We're set to launch -- you guys are about to hear. This might be even new news to Rush. We are set to hear. We are set to be launching on June 24th we'll be launching what we're calling the virtual collaborative community chat series. Each and every month people from different walks of human services, champions of fatherhood will be there doing 15 minute chat sessions but then they'll be interacting via chat to make sure that your questions, your concerns, your thoughts are answered and addressed. This is huge. The first one I'm going to spill the beans. We're being blessed to have the director of child support enforcement for the nation. Mr. James Mary who is a champion of fatherhood. Live interview with him and then he'll be available via the chat features to continue to ask questions. What could you share with a dad, with a family for them to really know everything that's out here. I tell you those links would be perfect. The link to share with people, to get them involved. That's where it happens. Rush, you did a phenomenal job talking about the collaborative community. I'm going to ask, if you're looking for research topics. If you're looking for things. If you want to meet with a researcher about a brief and get that brief to hold in your library systems, guess what, here is the direct link to ask those questions. There's research being done by people like Mr. Ron Mency who is what I like to say the father, the grandfather of fatherhood so to speak. He's birth sod many of us in this field and he's always doing study and research that share what the stats say. Share what the research says about this incredible topic of fatherhood. Hopefully you get a chance to join us. Hopefully a time to be there. We want you to have everything. We also had a virtual webinar training arm. Just like here with where we are today, any time we do a webinar about fatherhood topics, and this is one of the last ones we did using virtual technology and fatherhood programs. We did this back in April of 2020. Why was this so important and I share this, because we try to stay relevant with the times that things are going on. What's happening, now one we just did not too long ago is now talking about the findings and what people are carrying away from this pandemic time into their new service models. That was the last one we just did just last month. But I wanted to share this because as a resource each and every webinar that we have done is cataloged and held right at fatherhood.gov. So now if people need training, if they want to know how to implement services in their programs. If they want to know what to do with dads. If dads need to know inexpensive ways to interact with their children, we have webinars about these different topics. I think our first webinar dates back to like 2007. You can have this library of

information. Again, link, cross link, so that it can come right into whatever server space that you're using. This is all government issued. So it's safe. It's secure. And we make sure that we keep this information in front of everyone to be better dads. Because at the end of the day, and I'll just stop here. I'm a dad. I have three boys. I have a 20-year-old, 18-year-old and a 14-year-old. And I know when my fatherhood journey, I started this work even before I had children. I was working with other families trying to help fathers reengage with their children. Have healthy relationships with their parents. With their co-parent. And I knew a lot of the stuff that I was doing. I had to study. I had to look. Now as a father having the experience of serving others and having the experience of fatherhood myself it has truly been a blessing to be able to have resources that helped me be able to prepare for the things that come up. But it was someone in the field that educated me, someone that helped me get prepared and that's what I'm looking at with this relationship is that we can get this information into peoples hands so that they can be prepared. They can be educated. Because sometimes you don't get fatherhood 101 in the school system. We want to educate people on how to do this. We want to make sure you know that we take it upon ourselves to change the narrative of what a responsible father is. If you look back over the years and even look at TV shows. It used to be a time where fathers were depicted as the bumbling idiot, you know you had the Al Bundy's out there, the Homer Simpsons. A number of things that showed dad in a funny but maybe not so important role. Then you start to see changes and it was someone who took on this fight. You start to see a Mr. Hucks table Mr. Huxtable come along. Based on how dads have been viewed. I mean if you just watched shows over the years it's been amazing. Well we've put together something we call dadication. Each and every one of the public service announcements we've done you can access them, brand them and use them to be things you show even if there's, you know, I know at my son's high school some of our older PSAs run them on their video board when you come in the school. It was amazing when I walked in. They took my ideas and they're changing the imagery of what a good dad is. They're debunking the myth of what a dad who has had some difficulties can be. That's what our dadication series is. Go there, get the link. Fatherhood.gov. Go there and watch these videos. I'm telling you they're going to hit you in your heart. This new series of dadications. You can search those on Youtube. Search them on the social media. We're dealing with read topics. Dads overcoming substance abuse. Dads overcoming incarceration. Dads overcoming just stigmas of being a culturally or ethnic dad. All of these things are there in there for access to share with anyone that needs this information. I tell you guys it is huge because we want to single handedly change the narrative. We want everyone to know that dads matter, dads count. Let me say this up front before I go further. I've been in this work for 27 years, almost 30 years. The one thing that I want everyone to know is when I say we're focused on a fathers, we're focused on dads, there is nothing in that statement that says we're taking away from the role or the importance of mother. Nothing. I'm a believer that it's a reason there's a father and a mother. Kind of put together that way. I didn't put it together. So it's kind of put together that way. We want people to know that in embracing responsible fatherhood we're embracing successful family. We're embracing successful relationships. We're even embracing successful motherhood because when you have two partners working together to raise children then no one feels more pulled on than any other. That's for me that's a huge statement because as we share this information, as we -- look at that. GOP has cataloged the clearinghouse app. The numbers for the clearinghouse in in the catalog is right in front of you. This is where we want you to be to let people know that dads matter to make families better. If you would, Rush, I want to throw it to you to talk about the resource of helping people find support if a dad needs help. Would you take a minute to talk about?

Absolutely. If you don't mind real quick I'm just going to take a very quick step back and just a quick personal experience involving the dadication PSAs.

Absolutely.

What's great about our dedication, and all of our PSAs. That was just one of our most recent themes was the dedication. We have a whole series of PSAs. These PSAs are in collaboration with the ad council. We've had WWE stars on there. MLB guys. Collaborations with like Kung Fu Panda and all that stuff. These have made an impact. Just a quick personal story to share I know these made an impact. James and I back in summer of 2019 were at a conference. I had this brief moment of like we were presenting the next day and I had this brief moment of I really hope that service providers or fathers are hearing our message. Maybe it's not changing everyone by the thousands but you know even if we can get to that one, two, three people, you know, it make a difference. In that moment that I had that thought I looked up at the TV screen. I think we were -- I forgot where we were. Probably just grabbing a bite to eat at dinner. I see the news banner that says Huggies diapers premier's first ad with dad only for a diaper commercial. When I saw that I knew this is making a difference. The fact that we didn't have to reach out to the ad council to make something like that. That Huggies probably saw something like that and took the initiative. Just like James was alluding to, just like James was saying, just watch the progression of TV and the need for fathers is becoming more and more clear. Where does the need for fathers come in? I've heard a saying local context trumps all. Right on fatherhood.gov there's a whole tab where you can find a local fatherhood program near you. A local grantee. Anything you may need in your area. Enter the zip code and it will pull up your closest area. We're updating it. Programs and more programs jumping up every day too. Sometimes we might be a little behind, but just like the virtual collaborative community. Same idea. If it you think we're missing a fatherhood program in this area or just want to see maybe there's other things going on. Use this with that virtual collaborative community. Maybe you can say hey, I didn't know this program was going on over here. Then you jump on and realize the service providers are talking. How do I join this as well. Our goal is through fatherhood.gov and all these ads is to make them between the program map, the VCC and we're going to go and talk about the resources because I see in the chat some of you brought up topics. Our goal is for all this to work in collaboration together to just provide what we can. Like I said, we're paid for. We're taking care of. Our goal is now to just help out fathers everywhere. That's exactly what we want to do. It starts in your local communities. Local context trumps all. Back to you, James.

Absolutely, Rush. I'll tell you, in there there is, we do have our own virtual library. I'm almost embarrassed to say library around you guys. We have our own virtual library. We know that parents are looking for tips. We have a blog series tips for parents. Tips for programs. What I love about this is we reach out to not only the experts in the field but can you imagine a father hearing from a father in a blog? You know, I remember writing a blog for one of them and it was talking about being a work from home dad. It's funny when we go out one of the things that I regularly do is I keep information with me on fatherhood.gov. I remember being out and it was so funny. Somebody asked my wife what does your husband do. He works from home. He's a speaker, consultant, all of these things. They were like so where's he work? And she said, works for himself. And they were like, so he doesn't have a job? And my wife was like no, he owns a business. He works from home. And he's home with the kids. And I'll tell you, it is debunking the myths so that fathers, so that people can respect -- first of all from a mother's standpoint, respect what mothers have done in the household for so darn long. Let's respect that first. Then a father that's stepping into that role. Let's make sure he's respected both as a nurturing parent but also as a provider. I love these blog talks because it gives people the resource, the information, the things to know what's going on. And in that library it's keyword searchable. I love it. Was just working with a program in West Virginia and we were talking about employment. Financial stability. Went right on fatherhood.gov in the middle of the presentation, searched it and it was amazing. People on the presentation were like oh my god, I need that information. I need that information. I want that. So we

have it there for people to access. This is a picture of things we put out for programs. For those of us who are supporting people that do work for families, supporting them with resources when they go to fatherhood.gov we have a section called for programs. It lists the different things that are available to help programs do what's best for their clientele when they want to intentionally work with dads. I love it. Because the word that we're using is intentionally work with fathers. You've got to want to do this work. Human services for so many of us we understand that it has been an arena where women and children have been taking care of or supported. Let me say it better that way. Supported. Oftentimes dads are not at the same level of support in those human services arena and that's, again, one of the myths that we're trying to debunk. One of the situations we're trying to improve. Is to help dads be successful. I want to throw it to Rush to talk about one of our key tool kits we put together specifically for programs and what they can do to help fathers in their local community. So Rush, talk a little bit about our responsible fatherhood tool kit.

Absolutely. Thank you, James. Not only do we have a responsible fatherhood tool kit for providers, we have one for media as well. Which is also be found on the website. But it doesn't even have to be fatherhood related; right? Any time you're doing something for your organization, for work, for just your personal self. A lot of these themes apply. Especially with fatherhood work. Some of you may not be service providers but you're interested in having a resource either catalog or spreading them through libraries themselves and please, we'll put our e-mails out there or they'll send it in. Reach out if we can send you resources to then distribute. For some of the biggest challenges providers have of course is hiring staff and volunteers. Especially working at a library. How many times volunteers are always needed. Absolutely. You have to create that father friendly environment. A reputation as we all know can take a lifetime to create and seconds to destroy. We know that one, you may be 364 days of the year you may be like hey, you know, great attitude. That one day you woke up on the wrong side of the bed having trouble and maybe got confrontational with a dad or someone trying to service provider trying to help fathers. It comes across the wrong way. It's life, but definitely trying to put up that front like this is a welcoming environment. Come in. We're here to help you. Establish a referral network. Hey, bill needs help here. John needs help here. Let's move this around type of thing. Yeah, go where the dads are. I'll tell you what, this is speaking from my personal. I have trouble just going in and asking a store employee where the ketchup is. Never mind, you know, asking for directions or anything like that. There's a good chance you're probably going to have to go find the dads; right? They're not necessarily going to just open the doors and come flooding to you. Just speaking from it my point of view, of course, that's a personal thing. But I have a feeling James might be very similar too. Whether you have staff or anything, whatever, they have to understand the program. They have to understand what they're talking about. There has to be staff buy in. Volunteer buy in. If they're just going there to count down the hours, especially in this type of field that involves social work and bettering people, to be successful it just is that much more difficult if you don't have staff buy in. And then of course understand your potential partners. They come in. You can go to the next slide. Perfect, James, thank you. And trust me, all our materials, all our materials, they're public domain. You've already paid for this stuff. Stick your organization on it. Stick your label on it and hand it out with your contact information. That's no problem. It's public domain. I think the one thing is just don't cover our symbols and everything's good. We want you to get this stuff out there. We already have our money. We're taken care of. We're good. Go do what you have to do with it. Of course listen and understand, not listen to respond. Important with all aspects of life. Brochures are available. Similar to the printed resources. Put them out. Just even, you know, put a bunch of things together and just put them in a folder and hand out folders. Anything. If people need additional information they can go on the website and download it. Share success stories. Ask people hey, you did a great job with this program. You did a great job getting your life back on track. I want to share your story with other people. Is that all right? Insert a different name change, but always

share those success stories in the most appropriate way possible. Then of course encouraging either graduating participants. Some of you may not be service providers that you're just interested in it spreading information through librarians or the networks you have yourself. Part of this too is explaining what putting that service provider hat on and what service providers go through. They're all listed here. One of those being hey, this father finished the program. Make sure they're coming back and helping those other fathers. Bring it on to the next generation. Keep in touch. None of our problems are solved overnight. It can be tough. Just definitely encourage fathers that have made their lives better and continued. Absolutely. Alumni. A school always wants their alumni back to talk positivity about it. Exact same principle.

If I could. I'm going to ask you to put Rush to work. We have a tip card. This card you see here. Probably one of the most used, I know I passed out of them but I keep them. We have a tip card. We have the only dedicated line for fathers to get help. It's called 1-877-4-dad-411. I list that number everywhere. I love these cards. To have the card holders. To have the bookshelves, what have you. It's one of those resources that the minute someone needs help. It can be grandma can call. Auntie can call. Wife can call. It's connected with parents help. Let me tell you what this resource does. I think we get resources but what are the outcomes of these resources. Well this resource here, we track every single month through parent help. How many calls come in. How many we've had over the last ten years or what have you. The big thing fathers are calling about work. They're calling about child support. They're calling about visitation. There are dads who are looking for help to be with their kids. Looking for how can they take care of their kids. We want to be that repository when they call this number there's licensed clinical social workers working those phones. Right now we're 9:00 to 5:00. We're praying with more funding we can take this thing to be 24 hours a day. People use resources when they have to. You know, you might give me a folder today, give me some information now. Oh, that sounds great. But when it become as have to, something I've got to do, something I need now, it's when I go back to that resource and I use it. That's why we want this line to be available. Oftentimes as Rush alluded to, fathers don't run into the library asking for information about being a daddy. You know? Some do, but most don't. Any way we can get this information out into the public, get it into their hands, that's what we're trying to do with these services because that is key to the success of passing this information on. National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse, I want to give you a visual of what resources when we'd be at a conference with you guys. This is what we would look like. And when I say the go to guy, you see all of that stuff? This guy right here Rush Bishop is the one who makes sure it's coordinated, it's printed, it's there, it's everywhere. Put him to work. Because we have so many different things that we already put together, already printed where you might be able to drop it in the mail to you or if we don't have stock because of COVID and the printing, you can print it yourself. So Rush, talk about the different catalogs of our resources. Just quickly if you would.

Of course. Thank you, James. Put me to work except the week I'm at the beach this summer. There better not be any fatherhood problems anywhere in the world. That's when I need to not be busy and put to work. I see right in the chat I think it was, who was it -- I apologize if I'm not seeing it. Someone brought up young fathers. One of our absolutely our biggest sources is helping young fathers. You can do a library search on fatherhood.gov. It's something we carry all the time. With young fathers a lot of the time it's unexpected. So we have resources where we talk how to work with that, deal with that. On the table right here you may see on the outer edges we also provide -- which can help with young fathers, any fathers. We break it down into anyone ranges and safety tips. We figure safety tips for 3 to 5-year-olds and we figure 3 to 5-year-olds for example, this is usually the time where they may start trying to learn how to ride a bike, for example. A tricycle, whatever type of bike is age appropriate. Making sure they have the elbow, the wrist pads, the, you know, the helmet. All that type of stuff.

Maybe for the infants it's about making sure they're laying down the right way. What happens if they choke. Prevent them from choking. Make sure your kid has a helmet when they're biking. Or young father in prison, I don't know what my rights are, I don't know how to handle this. It's similar to that phone line James brought up earlier. That phone line is for people to call and like I have no idea, this is the first time ever. My wife's not here and I have no idea how to change this diaper. To everything from I don't know my rights as a father. James brought it up right here. This is along with the virtual collaborative community this is a brand new fresh clean website that we really worked on hard during the pandemic because we knew that regardless of how long it was going to last or anything that there were things that were just going to go virtual and we wanted to make it as best as we could for everyone and easy to use. We're still always constantly updating it. Right away you have search results. Type in anything. Type in young fathers and see what comes up. Not only our stuff. We have resources from everywhere. Everywhere. We probably in house resources we've created probably a couple hundred. But in terms of resources on there, thousands and thousands and thousands. And yes, absolutely this is what they look like. They're great. They're great. They're easy to use. Like I was saying the public domain. Put your organization sticker on it. Put your library sticker on it. Put your own personal sticker on it and hand it out to a couple neighbors. I'm sure you have neighbors that know everything going on there too. Whatever needs to be done you've paid for it, you're a taxpayer. Please reference it, use it. If you ever have any questions, reach out to us. If you want to talk about the tips from the field a little bit, James?

Absolutely. I love these because these tip cards are printable, resources. They're tip cards written about certain topics. Everything from reading to your child to dealing with bullying, you name it we have a number of tips there and I love it because now you cannot only get what we think works but you have research that backs what really does work. And it's laid out as Rush said, we've been really working to make this something user friendly for all. You think about trying to put a website together that's user friendly for a researcher. And the dad. Okay? I mean unless the dad is a researcher, they usually are looking for two different things. But the information is all there. And we wanted to make sure that people could access it, get what they want. But we also and I see we got about 10 minutes left. I want to take some of the time now to talk about the social media power of getting information out. When you look at it, social media, data usage of social media such as Facebook and Twitter. 73% of adults and 90% of young adults between 18 and 29 use social media. So why do I bring this up? What we've done now is we've gone on a social media campaign to drive the usage of these resources. You can follow us and I'll put all these links up, but it's amazing. On our Facebook page alone we're over 300,000 followers. Just on our Facebook page alone. Why? Because these are dads that we're showing the dedication, PSAs, we're talking about great things happening. We're giving links out to resources that link them back into the website. We're talking to practitioners about joining. We're integrating social media with the world of fatherhood research and information. And that has really helped us because the people we want to reach as Rush said earlier, you've got to go where they are. Well it says here, 90% of young people, young fathers-- where are they? Social media. So we've been using that to really get there and I tell you, the content's delivered early, delivered quickly, delivered simply, easy messages. We're starting to use text message branding information. All of that to help get this out. When you give someone a resource, when you give someone the information about the National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse and get them plugged in it, I want you to know the communication stays with them. That's one of the things we didn't want this to be a stagnant information space. We wanted to be able to continue to keep that. National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse that's absolutely amazing. People like Rush, you'll see it. Let me go here. If you want to follow us. Our most popular is Facebook at fatherhoodgov. Go in, like us. If there's stuff that you as a librarian want to share about libraries in your local community that might be having a read with kids when we get back to being fully out there. Read with the kids. We have book

reading sessions. Why not invite dads on social media to come to that in your local area. This is how we look at the relationship of sharing information. We want to make sure that it's relevant to all parties. You can follow us on Twitter. We do Twitter chats. Sometimes our chats are in the evening on different topics. Maybe some of our more affluent issue dads. Keeping in touch social media wise. Then we do things there. But we can also talk about here's a library in your local community that's doing this for families and fathers. That's where we start to see the integration. Then you can follow us on Instagram. You can also join our list-serve. We every month put out a news letter with topics, information, tips for families, for fathers and that's how we continue to keep this information. Rush, you are the guru of keeping in touch. Tell people how they can stay connected.

We talked about our great and very important tool kit. We've made it with our website for virtual. All the stuff right there. Can always search for it and eliminate the information you need in the cue. I've put my e-mail in the chat. If you have any information or need to reach out for me or maybe need you to send me something, hey, Rush, I'm looking for specific resources on this topic. I'd like to put them in my library. Whatever the situation may be. If you have general inquiries. Help@fatherhoodgov.info is perfect. Fatherhood.gov. Just drill it in the head. Many of you try to help spread that information as well. That's the general I forgot how to get hold of this, that or the other thing. Go there, enter the search bar. Then of course the V.C.C. The approval process may take a second but we do that for your protection. We do that for your security to make sure we verify everyone going in there and that they're legitimate and not there to cause problems or embarrass anyone or talk directly about the fathers, you know. We want to keep it a safe open space for everyone to just let it out. It's great for that. And then our helpline as we talked about a million times. You're struggling with the computer a little bit or anything like that. 1-877-4dad-4 411. We'd love to help. That's why we have it.

Want to take just a second, guys. We shared a lot of information, a lot of resources. I like to always ask the question what for you this information, did you find something that you can key on. The first thing I'm going to ask you to do in the chat for us is for me this workshop has been. What is an adjective you would put in the chat box that says what this has been for you. Was it interesting? Was it helpful? Just give us a couple chats. What this did for you. Anybody can share.

James, any one of these they can answer.

Yeah, answer any one.

We have five minutes left if we want to open up to a little bit of a Q&A too.

Absolutely.

You're still digesting all of it. You may be a little confused. That's fine too. We'd be happy to clarify anything. Both our e-mails are in there if you need to follow up after. Some people don't want to put stuff in the chat. They'd rather talk one on one. If anyone would have a take away, we would absolutely love to end on a great note. So James, Christine, thank you. This was informative and eye opening. Thank you so much for being here today. We really appreciate it.

Thank you. And Sheryl, I love it. I don't usually hear such passion in these government document webinars. I appreciate that. This is -- I'll tell people. Being a dad is my life's work. Helping other families be strengthened. I want you to think back around your own life's experience. What did having a dad or not having a dad mean in your world. What did it do to you or for you. That's why there's such passion.

Thank you. We really appreciate that. Thank you. If there's nothing else, first and foremost. On behalf of Rush, myself, the National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse, we want to thank you. We want to thank you for the opportunity to share this information. This has been very informative. I'll make a post on fatherhood.gov for our social media platform. Awesome. Thank you. Please do, Nina. Thank you. We appreciate that. For us this is a mission of getting the information to as many people as we can. You are that conduit to get it out there. Thank you so much as well. We really appreciate it. And with that, Laura, if there's nothing else we can give people four minutes of their life back. So they can get a virtual cup of coffee on Rush.

Before everybody signs off, we do have a survey that we would like everyone to take and Lara if you can share the link for that. There you go. Please if you can take this survey. We will be sharing the results with Rush and James in a week or so. If there are no other questions we will say thank you so much for attending today and thanks to Rush and James for this great information.

Thank you all.

Thank you so much. Have a great day, everyone.

Appreciate it. Take a minute. [Event Concluded]