

[Home](#)
[About Us](#)
[QIC Newsletter](#)
[Research Gaps & Findings](#)
[Resources](#)
[Links](#)
[Events](#)
[Contact Us](#)



NATIONAL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT CENTER ON NON-RESIDENT FATHERS AND THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

Project Description

The National Quality Improvement Center on Non-Resident Fathers and the Child Welfare System (QIC NRF) is a collaborative effort between the American Humane Association, the American Bar Association Center on Children and the Law, and National Fatherhood Initiative and funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau.

The purpose of this project is to determine, through a research design, the impact of non-resident father involvement on child welfare outcomes. Child welfare outcomes include child safety, permanence, and well-being. Included in this design is the examination of the relationship between children, non-resident fathers, and/or paternal relatives. Throughout this project, information gained from the QIC NRF will be disseminated through this Web site and to the Children's Bureau, sub-grantees, child welfare agencies, private service providers, the courts, legal systems and other stakeholders.



[Information about the QIC process](#) |
 ["Bringing Back the Dads" Information Sheet](#) |
 [Abstract](#)

New Tools for Judges on Engaging Fathers in Child Welfare Cases

Judge Len Edwards (ret.) has produced four videos vignettes providing practical guidance to judges on locating and involving fathers.

- Video 1 - Identifying/Locating the Father
- Video 2 - Establishing Paternity
- Video 3 - Explaining Fathers' Rights and Responsibilities
- Video 4 - Engaging Fathers

New Guides for Fathers in Child Protection Cases

Finding Your Way: Guides for Fathers in Child Protection Cases

- Guide 1: Your Rights and Responsibilities (Single Pages)
- Guide 2: How to Work with Your Lawyer (Single Pages)
- Guide 3: Your Role in Court (Single Pages)
 - 3.1 The Court Process (Single Pages)
 - 3.2 Who Will Be in Court (Single Pages)
 - 3.3 Common Court Terms (Single Pages)
- Guide 4: Your Role Outside Court (Single Pages)
- Guide 5: When You Owe Child Support (Single Pages)
- Guide 6: If You Are or Have Been in Prison (Single Pages)

Spanish Translations of These Guides

- Guide 1: Your Rights and Responsibilities (Single Pages)
- Guide 2: How to Work with Your Lawyer (Single Pages)
- Guide 3: Your Role in Court (Single Pages)
 - 3.1 The Court Process (Single Pages)
 - 3.2 Who Will Be in Court (Single Pages)
 - 3.3 Common Court Terms (Single Pages)
- Guide 4: Your Role Outside Court (Single Pages)
- Guide 5: When You Owe Child Support (Single Pages)
- Guide 6: If You Are or Have Been in Prison (Single Pages)

What's New

- On September 13, 2011 the ABA Center on Children and the Law, under the auspices of this project and its parent representation improvement project, held a webinar, "Engaging Fathers in Child Welfare Cases – Tips for Lawyers and Judges." An audio file from the webinar will only be available through this link until 10/13/2011.

You also find the Power Point slides that accompanied the webinar at this link.

We want to thank Kevin Brown, Ron Clark, Richard Cozzola and Judge James Payne for all of their work in putting together this webinar.

- [Engaging Nonresident Fathers in Child Welfare Cases: A Guide for Attorneys Representing Public Child Welfare Agencies](#)
- Powerpoints about the QIC NRF's Legal Resources
 - Pennsylvania's Father Engagement Strategy State Children's Roundtable Priority
 - CIP Presentation 2011
- The QIC NRF presented a June 28, 2011 webinar on **Resources for Courts and Agencies to Engage Nonresident Fathers.**

Here is the link to that 80-minute webinar's audio presentations with accompanying slides.

- **Judicial Bench Cards**
 - Engaging Fathers in Court Hearing and Case Planning
 - Male Help - Seeking and Learning Styles
 - Identifying and Locating Fathers
- **Engaging Nonresident (Noncustodial) Fathers in Child Welfare Cases:**
 - [A Guide for Children's Attorneys and Lawyer Guardians ad Litem offers](#)

Resources for Fathers and Fatherhood Programs

- Children's Bureau Express Collects Articles on Father Engagement
- Ten Ways to Be a Better Dad
- Ten Tips on How To Work With Your Lawyer
- My Kids Are In State Custody, What Do I Do Now
- My Experiences With Child Welfare and the Legal System
- Tips For Dads: Advice to Non-Residential Fathers
- Meet Marvin and Jeanett Charles

Resources for Child Welfare Professionals

Website address: ↘

<http://fatherhoodqic.org/>

10/13/2011

attorneys guidance and practical tools to involve fathers and advocate for children. [Click here](#) to obtain a free downloadable copy of this brief.

- **A Guide for Court Appointed Special Advocates** offers CASA volunteers another useful and practical tool to advocate on behalf of children. [Click here](#) to obtain a free downloadable copy of this brief.
- [Annotated Bibliography on Recent Cases, Legal Journals and Texts on Fathers in Child Welfare](#)
- [QIC Winter 2010 Newsletter](#) available here
- [A Tool For Reducing Barriers To Finding Fathers Through Mothers is Available Here](#)

- [Fathers and their Families: The Untapped Resource for Children Involved in the Child Welfare System is Available Here](#)
- [QIC Article on Fostering Father Involvement in The Source](#)
- [Presentation Materials About the QIC From the 17th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect](#)
- ["Father Friendly Check-Up" For Child Welfare Agencies](#)

Questions or Comments

Have information that you would like to see added? Have questions about navigating the web site? [Click here](#) to email your questions or comments.



Four Model Intervention/Evaluation Projects Funded to Enhance Father Engagement in the Child Welfare System



The National Quality Improvement Center on Non-Resident Fathers and the Child Welfare System, in late February 2008, announced the funding of four projects that will test model intervention and evaluation project initiatives that, through systemic collaborations, we hope will strengthen positive father engagement in the child welfare system. These projects are with:

- Indiana Department of Child Services in Indianapolis
 - Collaborating Fathers Program: [Indiana Fathers and Families Center](#)
- Division of Children and Family Services in King County, Washington
 - Collaborating Fathers Programs: [Divine Alternatives for Dads](#) and [Fathers In Need](#)
- El Paso County Department of Human Services in Colorado Springs, CO
 - Collaborating Fathers Program: [Center on Fathering](#)
- Texas Department of Family and Protective Services in Tarrant County
 - Collaborating Fathers Program: [Fatherhood Coalition of Tarrant County](#)

To view information about these projects, [click here](#)

Resources for Attorneys and Judges

- [Newsletter from National CASA on Judges' Engagement of Fathers](#)
- [National Conference of State Legislators' Legislative Charts on Non-resident Fathers](#)
- [Book on Advocating for Non-Resident Fathers in Child Welfare Court Cases Here](#)
- [Curriculum for Attorneys on Advocating for Non-Resident Fathers Here](#)
- [Checklists for Lawyers and Judges on Representing and Engaging Non-Resident Fathers Here](#)
- [Read a QIC Article on Non-Custodial Fathers in Cornerstone Magazine Here](#)
- [Read a two part article series in the ABA's Child Court Works journal on policy and practice reform to engage non-resident fathers in child welfare cases:](#)
 - [QICNRF-CCW1](#)
 - [QICNRF-CCW2](#)

This QIC NRF is being operated under a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau.

[About Us](#) | [Research Gaps & Findings](#) | [Status of Non-Resident Fathers in Child Welfare](#) | [Resources](#) | [Links](#) | [Events](#) | [Contact Us](#)

[Back to Top](#)