# Resources for Finding, Engaging, and Advocating for Fathers

**The National Quality Improvement Center on Non-Resident Fathers in the Child**

**Welfare System**

This was a five-year federally-funded initiative to promote improved outcomes by

increasing the engagement of non-resident fathers in child welfare cases. The initiative’s

website, <http://fatherhoodqic.org>, includes a wealth of downloadable guides and other

resources to help fathers, child welfare professionals, judges, and attorneys improve

practice. Pdfs of the website and of bench cards for engaging nonresident fathers are

included in the conference materials.

**ABA Center on Children and the Law**

**The ABA website** has information on fathers in the child welfare system. Here’s a link:

<http://www.americanbar.org/groups/child_law.html>

**Criminal Records**

**Vinelink,** District of Columbia Department of Corrections

VINE Service Number: (877) 329-7894

TTY: (866) 847-1298

VINELink is an on-line resource that allows you to search for information regarding an offender's current custody status. You may also register to be notified automatically when an offender is released, transferred, or escapes.   
<https://www.vinelink.com/vinelink/siteInfoAction.do?siteId=9900>

**Search Engines**

**Google searches**, [www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

**Facebook searches**, [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

**Attorneys Tips**

Read all of the social worker reports for clues to last known address and phone number. Call every number and follow every lead from those reports. Call the extended family to ask them about your client's whereabouts. Do some online research. Go to the DC, MD, and VA jail inmate locator, white pages, Court papers in other cases may have some more updated information. Talk to the mother's counsel to see if she has information. If the children are older ask the GAL to ask them about their father. Keep in touch with the AAG whose investigators may be able to help.

Contact an investigator and give him all of the information that you have received and ask him to locate client.