

Focus Group End of Year Report for 2023

Men in Families Focus Group (MFFG)

Chair/Co-chairs: Lauren Altenburger, PhD; Matthew Rodriguez, PhD

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1. What were your focus groups major activities or accomplishments this year?

The Men in Families Focus group organized a symposium entitled “Men in Families Through the Life Course: The Role of Fathers in Family Health and Well-Being”. Co-Chair, Dr. Matthew Rodriguez, is one of the presenting authors. Co-Chair, Dr. Lauren Altenburger, is the discussant. Men in Families focus group member (and former chair) Dr. Sonia Molloy is the symposium chair.

We also developed a process for reviewing potential candidates for the Men in Families focus group awards. This involved forming a committee of 4 members (including the Men in Families focus group co-chairs and two additional MFFG members). We systematically reviewed journals for articles that met the award criteria. Then we rated awards using a rubric. We successfully identified and notified recipients for the Men in Families awards: Best New Professional Research Article, Best Research Article, and Diversity and Inclusion in Men in Families Research Article.

We sent a Qualtrics survey to MFFG members to identify which webinar topics they would be most interested in attending. Respondents (n = 10) indicated that they were most interested in attending a webinar focused on MFFG measures and data sets (n = 7). Respondents also indicated that they would be interested in hearing from a panel of Men in Family experts and funding mechanisms. We plan to revisit this discussion at the November meeting. (Mean number of years a MFFG member 9.83)

2. What has your focus group done during the past year to further NCFR’s inclusion and diversity initiatives?

The symposium that we organized has diversity in the composition of Men in Families that are included in the sample (Matt = Latinx fathers).

One of the awards that we distributed was the Diversity and Inclusion award (Systematic approach to identifying a wide array of peer reviewed literature).

We have gender diversity in our leadership (male + female), with different expertise/perspectives.

3. Please list any concerns, questions, or suggestions.

*Hold the MFFG symposium earlier in the conference week (Thursday/Wednesday).
Please remove Wendy as co-chair in the system.*

Return by **Monday, October 16, 2023** to membership@ncfr.org