

## Focus Group Work Plan for 2024

Name of Focus Group **Men in Families Focus Group**

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Chair/Co-chairs **Lauren Altenburger, PhD** and **Casey McGregor, PhD**

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Chair/Co-chairs email [LQA5222@psu.edu](mailto:LQA5222@psu.edu) and [casey.mcgregor@uri.edu](mailto:casey.mcgregor@uri.edu)

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1. Do you wish to have a time allocated for your focus group during at the next NCFR Annual Conference?  
 Yes    No
2. If Yes, please list or attach tentative agenda.
  - Announcement of award winners
  - Member announcements/kudos
  - Nomination for co-chair/poll for voting
  - Discussion for future goals/projects/aspirations
  - Conclusion – Express gratitude to the MFFG members
3. Please list 2024 focus group goals/projects/aspirations.
  - Develop a series of webinars to educate grad students, practitioners, and researchers on data sets that feature fathers. This series would discuss available measures within the dataset and provide basic info on how the dataset could be used.
  - Promote attention to diversity, equity, and inclusion issues related to men in families and father involvement.
  - Focus on men’s mental health, including postpartum depression, parenting, and child well-being; members noted at our business meeting that postpartum symptoms present differently in males (compared to females)
  - Consider collaborating with Family Policy to develop a special session focused on bridging the “communication gap” between practitioners, policymakers, and researchers; this is still in the early brainstorming phase. (Some ideas: men’s mental health, dads in the workplace initiatives, transitioning to parenthood and leave)
4. Please identify any opportunities, suggestions, or concerns regarding the role of this focus group in furthering NCFR’s inclusion and diversity initiatives.
  - We are in the process of developing a webinar focused on publicly-available, secondary data sets that feature fathers. To further NCFR’s inclusion and diversity initiatives, we recommend that the webinar is free for graduate students. This would ensure that all individuals, regardless of their economic circumstances, have equitable access to resources.

5. Please list any areas where you would like assistance from NCFR staff.

- We are currently working with NCFR staff to develop and design a webinar.
- It would be helpful to learn more about the logistics of applying to host a special session at the 2024 NCFR meeting.

6. Are there any other concerns or questions that have come from the 2023 focus group annual meeting?

- We wondered if our focus group has a budget/funds that we could use at the 2024 meeting. It would be great to have access to funds that could be used to sponsor a graduate student's attendance at the 2024 meeting.

Attach your **2023 annual meeting minutes** to this form and return by **Friday December 1, 2023** to [membership@ncfr.org](mailto:membership@ncfr.org)