



Commonwealth
Center for
**Fathers &
Families**

FATHERHOOD ENGAGEMENT MINI-GRANT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

SPRING 2024



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Background and Purpose

Children with involved fathers are significantly more likely to do well in school, have healthy self-esteem, exhibit empathy and pro-social behavior, avoid high-risk behaviors, and demonstrate many other attributes of well-being. The Commonwealth Center for Fathers and Families (CCFF) seeks partners across the state to raise the visibility of the importance of fatherhood, to create father-friendly environments, and to increase services and resources to fathers in order to improve child outcomes and enhance families and communities. With partners like you, CCFF desires to build a strong statewide network by offering grants to establish or expand projects or services; to increase programming capacity; and to inform advocacy work that will address responsible fatherhood, economic stability (employment), co-parenting and healthy relationships. Together we can encourage fathers and create pathways for them to become involved in their children's lives economically and emotionally.

During the implementation period, grantees will be offered opportunities to network together and encouraged to participate in capacity building webinars and conferences all with the singular goal of creating a collaborative environment for success for fathers. CCFF staff will work one-on-one and collectively with organizations to strengthen and improve project implementation or revision as needed.

CCFF will encourage grant awardees to refer fathers from their region to participate in our KYDAD Academy. KYDAD Academy is a personal development fellowship designed exclusively for fathers well positioned and willing to serve beyond their families in elevating the importance of fatherhood. It is a bi-weekly, 6-week virtual program with compensation designed to equip fathers to be ambassadors and role models, advocates, and leaders in their families and respective communities. 2024 cohorts will run in Spring and Summer of 2024 (visit our website www.ccffky.org for more information).

This funding opportunity is made possible by contract #PON2 736 2300000936 with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services. Awardees will be considered subrecipients and as such are subject to compliance with state and federal funding regulations.

Eligibility Requirements

Applications may be submitted by Kentucky-based non-profit 501(c)3, faith-based organizations, or agencies acting as the fiscal sponsor for an individual or community collaborative.

Grant Submission, Implementation and Reporting Timeline

January 22, 2024

Request for Proposals Announced

January 30 & February 13, 2024

Q&A Webinars (only need to attend one)

January 30 CCFF RFP Q&A Webinar: 12:30 PM Eastern Time:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84305364270?pwd=uM72hwfsJMbWb5osVGmgWm6pzDrWis.1>

February 13 CCFF RFP Q&A Webinar: 12:30 PM Eastern Time:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82717932271?pwd=Hejn33Wbqknpaa254NICU7K7jmz13Y.1>

March 22, 2024
April 5, 2024
November 30, 2024
December 20, 2024

Proposal Submission Deadline
Final Awards Announced
Project Completion Deadline
Final Project Report Deadline

Grant Awards

CCFF will award grants at two different Tiers under this RFP. The amounts and qualifications are:

Tier 1: Proposals for activities, events, programs, or partnerships that meet the Proposal Guidelines below. Repeat applicants at this level will receive higher scrutiny. CCFF encourages grantees to conduct events in June, highlighting Father's Day. Funding up to \$5,000.

Tier 2: Proposals that (1) host at least one event (recruitment event, resource fair, Father's Day event, public awareness, etc.), and (2) deliver an evidenced-based curriculum and/or a battery of services to a group of fathers in accordance with the Proposal Guidelines below. Funding up to \$10,000.

Award Distribution: Upon receiving signed Memorandum of Agreement and required documentation from grantees, CCFF will disburse the grant funds in two equal payments--one at grant inception and the second at a time agreed upon between CCFF and the grantee, based on delivery schedule and expenses.

Proposal Guidelines

(1) Proposals must be executable within the funding and timeline provided. They should address one or more of the following priorities – although CCFF will consider other innovative ideas:

- elevate and celebrate father involvement and promote healthy father involvement and engagement;
- connect fathers to needed community resources, promote stable employment and other essential needs for fathers and families;
- motivate fathers to become/remain involved their child(ren)'s life;
- improve professionals' knowledge about the importance of father involvement and skill development in engaging fathers;
- reduce child maltreatment and/or enhance other child well-being issues through father engagement, inclusion, and strengthening strategies;
- establishes/enhances foundational components for on-going fatherhood programming

These priorities may be addressed through new or expanded programming, focused projects or events, public campaigns, or training and education. Any questions about project eligibility can be presented at either of the scheduled webinars which all applicants and interested parties are strongly urged to attend.

(2) Curricula used by grantees must be evidence-based to be considered by CCFF. Some examples of acceptable curricula can be found at the following link (courtesy of Fatherhood.gov):

- [Compendium of Curricula Used by Fatherhood Programs](#)

Note: Applicants may express plans to attend CCFF's Annual Fatherhood Summit in Lexington, KY projected to take place October 14-16, 2024. Travel expenses (not to exceed \$500 per traveler) for up to two people to attend **may be included in proposal budget**.

Submission Guidelines

1. Each proposal should be **no more than three pages**, 12-point, Times Roman and single-spaced. The budget and Acknowledgement Statement do not count towards the three-page limit. CCFF will not consider the content of extra pages. **The budget worksheet and any supporting documentation will not count towards this limit.**
2. Each proposal should be saved in the following format: **CountyName.CCFFProposal** (e.g., ChristianCCFFProposal, or EstillCCFFProposal).
3. Proposals **should be submitted as a .pdf file** to ensure computer/reviewer compatibility and accessibility.

Submission Deadline

All proposals must be e-mailed to proposals@ccffky.org before **11:59p.m. on Friday, March 22nd 2024**. Any proposals submitted after this date will not be considered.

Grant Limitations

Commonwealth Center for Fathers and Families Mini-Grants are **NOT** intended for:

- General operating support (staff salaries, rent, utilities, etc.)
- Financial investments or endowment contributions
- Reimbursement of previously incurred expenses
- Fundraising
- Equipment (in excess of \$500)
- Lobbying

Recommendations

1. **Put forward a compelling project** that meets the priorities listed above. Video, photos, or any other multi-media resource to support the application are welcomed but not required. They will not count towards your total pages.
2. **Review the proposal and budget** to ensure a thoughtfully prepared proposal that aligns with the budget and timeline for implementation. This demonstrates consideration of all aspects of the project and related costs as well as the resources needed to ensure success.
3. **Submit any supporting documentation** that helps substantiate the request or the project budget. Examples of Supporting Document(s) might include timeline, partner agreements, etc.

Requirements

Grant Projects/Programs must be completed by September 30, 2024. Awardees will schedule appropriate updates with CCFF Director of Programs during the period of performance of the grant. A final project report must be submitted within 30 days of project/program completion or by October 20, 2024, whichever is earlier.

Grantees will receive communications coaching, media release guidance & communications support from CCFF's Communications and Outreach Specialist.

Communication Prohibitions

From the development phase of a proposal until the grants are announced, there may be no communications with members of the CCFF Board, the Review Committee, or any member of the CCFF staff unless there is a technical issue regarding the submission. All questions about this RFP will be addressed in scheduled informational webinars or should be directed to email below.

Contact Information for Questions

Commonwealth Center for Fathers and Families

info@ccffky.org

859-440-4001



Grant Application

Organization Name:	
Mailing Address:	
Project Name:	
Contact Person:	
E-mail:	
Phone:	
Website/Social Media:	

Proposal Instructions: Please include the **bold headings** in each section of your narrative/response. This will help the reviewer to identify your responses to each of the sections below. Budget sheet and Acknowledgement statement do not count toward 3-page limit.

- 1. Opportunity Statement (aka problem or needs statement) (15 points)** — Describe what you see as the opportunity to work with fathers and families or to improve the community's support for fathers. Tell us how achieving the objectives of your proposal will address father engagement and CCFF programming efforts.
- 2. Organizational Profile (20 points)** — Provide details about the organization. Please describe the stage of development of your project or organization and its capacity to address the opportunity proposed. Please indicate any collaborations which you are currently engaged in or will be engaged in for this project and the role your collaborators will play. Please identify any needed capacity building you are currently aware of that CCFF may be able to provide in addition to funding.
- 3. Approach (20 points)** — Provide a detailed description of the project and how you plan to execute by September 30, 2022. Include a timeline of all major milestones for your project, including identifying the necessary resources you will require at each milestone. Who and how many will be reached by this project (public, professionals, practitioners, fathers, etc.) and how will this ultimately impact fathers? Describe any efforts to seek input from the serviced population. If this is a new project, what are the anticipated challenges of start up? If this is an expansion, how is this going to strengthen what is already being done? What is your rationale that this project will be successful and have the desired outcome?
- 4. Outcomes/Successes (15 points)** — Clearly identify the impact your project will have in the lives of fathers, families, and/or the local community. Include the project goals and how they will be measured – and how you will define “success” for your proposal. Where appropriate, evaluations or assessments measuring impact are strongly encouraged. You may also include records such as registration, event participation/attendance tracking.
- 5. Budget (15 points)** — Provide a budget showing the costs and justification for this project. **Please**

use the budget template provided. Ensure you capture the anticipated costs, potential financial risks/mitigation strategies, and compliance with RFP guidance. The proposal should include sufficient detail to evaluate all anticipated expenditures. Collaborating organization(s) complimentary funding, or in-kind contributions may also be noted. Travel expenses up to \$500 per person for up to two persons to attend CCFF's Annual Fatherhood Summit in Lexington, KY October 14-16 2024 may be included in the budget. Feel free to add/delete rows as necessary; you may also attach it as a separate document.

- 6. Diversity and Inclusion (15 points)** — Describe the community including the demographics and characteristics of the city and/or neighborhood in which you will deliver the program. The proposal should consider service to minority, diverse, or marginalized populations. Proposals serving groups geographically distanced from major population centers (i.e., Eastern and Western Kentucky), economically disadvantaged populations, and racially diverse populations are strongly encouraged.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – Please read the following statement and include your acknowledgement and agreement at the conclusion of the proposal.

CCFF desires to build a coalition of strong fathers and organizations to improve fatherhood across Kentucky. To help CCFF achieve this goal, please acknowledge your willingness to collaborate and work with CCFF to:

- Elevate the statewide network and acknowledge the role and support of CCFF as an active partner when promoting this grant funded opportunity
- Actively participate in group or individual organizational growth and strengthening opportunities such as peer-to-peer meetings, workshops or webinars
- Attend the Annual Fatherhood Summit held on October 14-16, 2024, in Lexington, KY
- Voluntarily identify and refer qualified fathers to participate in the KYDAD Academy. (Note: While KYDAD Academy has historically had a waiting list, CCFF will give preferred consideration to those fathers referred from grantees).
- Seek to establish or initiate collaborative alliances with one or more of the following agencies, organizations, or service providers: Department for Community Based Services (DCBS), Division for Child Care (DCC), Family Support (FS), Division for Protection and Permanency (DPP – aka “child protection”), Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), Department of Income Support (DIS – aka “child support”), family courts, drug court, veterans court, schools, county attorneys, jails, recovery centers, and faith based organizations.

