

# EMALE MATTERS

## JULY 2008

produced by



### News

#### **Men and Learning Questionnaire**

The Men's Project is working with a number of other organisations (Workers' Educational Association, Home-Start NI, Men's Health Forum in Ireland and Ballynaveigh Community Development Association) to put together a "Men and Learning" funding proposal for the Lottery. However, to inform this process, we need to get some sense of where local men are at and what they might be open to. Any adult (over 18 years) can help us by completing a questionnaire. For a copy of this questionnaire, please contact Trisha or Colin at Tel: 02890 310891.

#### **Joint Birth Registration**

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) published the White Paper "Joint Birth Registration: Recording Responsibility" on 2nd June 2008. This paper sets out the Government's proposals to require joint birth registration and to improve access to, and information on, birth registration: "We want to give children the best start in life and encourage responsible parenthood. Registering a child's birth is a key moment for parents. They publicly acknowledge their responsibility for their child - not only as legal representatives, but also in the expectation that they will safeguard and promote their child's health, development and welfare. It is also a key moment for the child. It is one of the first milestones in life and can shape the child's future identity". Click on the following link to read the full document:

[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/publications/jointbirthregistration/pdfs/birth\\_registration\\_wp.pdf](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/publications/jointbirthregistration/pdfs/birth_registration_wp.pdf)

#### **Parents Advice Centre "Guides for Parents"**

Parents Advice Centre has recently added a section to their website called "Guides for Parents". This offers access to booklets - produced by a range of organisations - which address issues faced by parents. It can be accessed at:

[www.parentsadvicecentre.org/usefullinks/guideforparents.asp](http://www.parentsadvicecentre.org/usefullinks/guideforparents.asp)

#### **Vote for the DA - Young Fathers' Project**

First Housing's "DA - Young Fathers Project" (based in the North West) has been nominated to go through to the semi-finals of the National Lottery Awards for the whole of the UK. Support their work by voting for DA at:

[http://www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk/awards/shortlist.cfm?id\\_category=7](http://www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk/awards/shortlist.cfm?id_category=7) or phone 0845 3861 248.

## **Home-Start Dads' Photo Competition**

To help celebrate 25 years of Home-Start in Northern Ireland, they are organising a photographic competition to celebrate the role of men in family life. As Deborah Millar, Coordinator of Home-Start Craigavon said: "In this competition we want to highlight the importance of men within the family - especially as family roles and structures have changed so much in the last couple of decades. Whether the main male role model within the family is that of a biological dad, stepdad, uncle or grandfather, men, in general, contribute greatly to family life and parenting. Sometimes that can be overshadowed when compared to the role of mothers". First prize is a photo shoot of your family by Martin and Maria Campbell of MC Studios of Lurgan (to the value of approximately £450). Second prize is a weekend for your family at the Corick House Hotel in Clogher, Co. Tyrone. Third prize is a digital camera. For more information on Home-Start ([www.home-start.org.uk](http://www.home-start.org.uk)) or competition entry forms, contact your local scheme or the Belfast Head Office at Tel: 02890 460772. The closing date for entries is 5th September 2008.

## **New Resources from Working With Men**

Working With Men develops and produces resources to help professionals in their work with men. These resources have been designed in consultation with agencies working with the intended user groups, and include games, posters, books, DVDs and reports on a wide variety of subjects. A number of new resources have recently been developed. You can view these at:

[http://www.workingwithmen.org.uk/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=80&Itemid=151](http://www.workingwithmen.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=80&Itemid=151)

## **Events**

### **Men's Health Seminar - Advance Notice**

YouthAction NI's Young Men's Unit, the Men's Action Network and The Men's Project are organising a Men's Health Seminar on Wednesday 10th September 2008 in the Long Gallery, Parliament Buildings, Stormont. This seminar (supported by funding from the Gender Equality Unit within OFMDFM) will be addressed by leading UK and Irish experts in this field including Prof Ian Banks, Dr Steve Robertson, Dr Ken Harland and Dr Noel Richardson. There will be a maximum of 60 free places available at this prestigious event. These places will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis, but will seek to ensure that there are a variety of bodies represented who are involved in gender issues and men's health in Northern Ireland. To register your interest in applying for a place, please contact Trisha McQueen, The Men's Project, Parents Advice Centre, Email: [trisha@mensproject.org](mailto:trisha@mensproject.org) Tel: 02890 310891

## **Courses**

### **Barnardos Parenting Matters Project Parent Facilitator Training**

Barnardos Parenting Matters Project offers an accredited training programme for parents and professionals who are interested in delivering parenting programmes. This course is accredited by Open College Network NI at Level 3. It consists of 14 taught sessions, each lasting approximately three hours. When this stage is completed, participants are expected to deliver a programme to parents. The course covers a range of areas, and includes topics such as: the background to parent education; theories commonly used in group-based parent support; how adults learn; child protection issues; group dynamics; developing a parenting programme. There is a cost attached to this training. An information session will be held on Wednesday 27th August at 7.00pm at Parenting Matters Project, 453 Ormeau Road, Belfast, BT7 3QG. For more information, please contact Maighread Kennedy at Tel: 02890 491081 Email: [maighread.kennedy@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:maighread.kennedy@barnardos.org.uk)

## Helpline Volunteers Needed - Men Especially Welcome!

Parents Advice Centre is, currently, recruiting Helpline Volunteers. If you have substantial parenting experience and / or significant experience of working with families, and can make a commitment to at least four hours per week, we will provide accredited training, ongoing support and skills development, and a real challenge! Belfast and Derry courses commence in October 2008. For more information, and to download an application form, please visit [www.parentsadvicecentre.org/volunteering](http://www.parentsadvicecentre.org/volunteering) or contact Andrea on Tel: 02890 310891 or Email: [andrea@pachelp.org](mailto:andrea@pachelp.org)

## Ideas for Dads and Kids

Pick Your Own! ...

Strawberries, gooseberries rhubarb, raspberries, peas and potatoes are ready to be picked, and kids love getting their hands dirty. Netmums have a great article on picking your own, as well as recipes: [http://www.netmums.com/h/n/FOOD/local\\_food/ALL/507//](http://www.netmums.com/h/n/FOOD/local_food/ALL/507//)

## On the Web

[Father gets free vasectomy offers](#)

[Breast cancer man says 'be aware'](#)

[Gene fuels deadly prostate cancer](#)

[It started with a kiss](#)

[Young men need to 'open up' more](#)

[Men to be screened for aneurysms](#)

[Tale of a teen dad](#)

[What is Parental Responsibility?](#)

## Website of the Month

The Trust for the Study of Adolescence has created a new website for people who work with young fathers. You can visit it at:

<http://www.youngfathers.net/>

**HEY! What are you up to in August?**

**Let me know about it for in the next edition!**

**Email: [trisha@mensproject.org](mailto:trisha@mensproject.org)**

**The Men's Project:** We are always updating our online directory of organisations which offer support or services to men. If you would like to update your existing entry, or would like be registered on it, please visit: <http://www.mensproject.org/mendir/index.html>

**Note to readers:** If you know of anyone who is interested in joining our mailing list, or you wish to be removed, or you have any news you want included, please email me at: [trisha@mensproject.org](mailto:trisha@mensproject.org)

**[The views expressed in Emale Matters are not necessarily those of The Men's Project]**