

Dad Allies Provider Learning Series

No-cost virtual event
Wednesday, Sept. 29, Noon–1:30 p.m.

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Most Ordinary Men

The Importance of Fathers During the Perinatal Period (and Beyond)

This presentation will highlight ways that fathers feel left out during the perinatal period across different spectrums, the importance of the father-infant relationship, and the risk factors that contribute to declining mental health.



*Nicholas Kasovac,
MSOT, IMH-E*

Despite the Sisyphean task most fathers face, providers who engage with fathers during the perinatal period can lessen the challenges these fathers endure and improve outcomes

for father-infant, family, and society at large with a few, simple changes in perspective and practice.

The transition to fatherhood is an amazing, life-changing event that is wrought with excitement, anticipation, happiness, anxiety, fear, dread, and stress. Providers who interface with fathers during the perinatal period are in a unique position to influence the father-infant relationship, relationship with the baby's mother, the father's focus on his own health, and the ultimate responsibilities inherent to all of those.

Unfortunately, most fathers (particularly BIPOC fathers) are constantly

and repeatedly faced with disruptions of the relationship with their baby, as well as barriers and obstacles to their best intentions to be a good father, supportive partner, and responsible parent. Dr. France Francarolo and colleagues (2016) coined the term "professional gatekeeping toward fathers" and described restrictions on the role of the father by professionals. Additionally, they provide suggestions to promote the father relationship and the impact on child development. We will follow their lead and attempt to do the same in this presentation.

Register online with [Eventbrite](#).