Affirming Fatherhood Conference 2023

KEEPING IT REEL: A DEEP DIVE INTO FATHERHOOD

SEPTEMBER 21–22, 2023
CHILDRENS BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY
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Domilco Heredia
Welcome to our 24th annual Affirming fatherhood Conference! We thank you for coming with us on this very exciting and important journey. We have made remarkable strides since our first Conference in 2010, and this year we have an amazing line up that will be “making it ‘reel’ as we take a deep dive into fatherhood.”

As in 2010, we remain committed to equipping, supporting and valuing fathers and men in their role and responsibility to children, families, and communities. We thank you again for being here, and encourage you to continue your journey, even when you grow tired and feel like you may be losing your way.

For those of you from out of town, we welcome you to the Tampa Bay area and hope you will enjoy your stay. For those who are local, thank you for joining us for two days. We hope all of you will make the most of the Conference. Parenting is one of the most important things that a person will ever do in life, and we want to assure that we support all parents in this world-changing endeavor.

All the best, always,
Deborah Austin, Planning Team Chair
Presenters

**Ronnie Green** is the charismatic host of A Fishing Story. A graduate of Texas Tech University, Ronnie was an all-American sprinter in college. He was an officer in the United States Marine Corps, and very successful in the medical device industry for many years. At five years old, he reeled in his first fish with his dad, a thrill not soon forgotten. Ronnie graduated to fishing with his great-grandmother who was an avid fisherwoman. He’s been consumed with fishing ever since. In addition, he has participated successfully with BASS, FLW, and ABA fishing circuits. A Fishing Story is a series filled with Ronnie’s philosophy to celebrate the small things in life. Ronnie shares his passion for fishing and has a gift for finding the stories that aren’t often told with his guests each week. He is proud to say that he has caught a lot of fish in his lifetime, and even won tournaments! Ronnie was raised in San Antonio, Texas and now lives in Tampa, Florida, where he fishes every day possible.

**Shelton Gilyard** is a fourth year PhD student at the University South Florida (USF) School of Work. His research interest involves health disparities, early identification of autism spectrum disorder, access to mental health services, and research that promotes athlete well-being and the field of sports social work. Shelton is a certified sports performance trainer. A former Olympic level athlete, he won ten (10) National Weightlifting Championships on the road to breaking multiple American records at the Olympic Team Trials. He has extensive experience in training athletes of all abilities including individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Shelton has a diverse background in the field of social work. His doctoral journey began after working as a contract manager for a local funder in Tampa, FL. His experience also includes direct clinical practice in pediatrics with specialization in intellectual disabilities. Shelton employs a team approach to supporting the success of individuals, families, and communities. He has dedicated his career to connecting research to community-based practice.

**Gary Beemer** is a former entrepreneur and small business owner for ten years, then worked in Sales and Marketing Management for Mars Inc. for nearly 25 years. Formerly Instructor of Business and Marketing at the University of South Florida Muma College of Business and presently at the University of Tampa Sykes College of Business. Teaches Digital and Strategic Marketing. Faculty Advisor to the American Marketing Association at UT where he mentors student leaders and members and is a BOD member of AMA Tampa Bay. Enjoys family, travel, woodworking and reading.

**Roberto Germán** is the Co-Founder and Executive director of Multicultural Classroom, an organization which works with students, teachers, schools, nonprofits, and other organizations/companies to help them understand the intersection of race, bias, education, and society. Germán’s first book of poetry, BLUE INK TEARS, is out now.
Kenneth Scarborough is the Principal Consultant of Legacy Enterprise Group, LLC, a business consulting company designed to help businesses, groups, and individual “Sustain Their Future On Purpose.” He serves as the Fatherhood & Men’s Health Consultant to the National Healthy Start Association providing technical support to 101 federally-funded healthy start projects. For over thirty-five years, he has worked with African American and Hispanic men and boys through equipping and mentoring relationships. He has created “Brotha I Got Your Back” and other leadership programs in New York, South Carolina, Colorado, Florida, and Costa Rica. He received his Master of Divinity in Youth and Family Ministry at Denver Seminary in Colorado and a Master of Public Health from the University of South Carolina. He is married with two children. They currently live in Irmo, SC, while serving domestically as missionaries to Costa Rica.

Rahul N. Mehra, M.D. is the creator and founder of Emotional Vaccines®, a library of videos available through subscription and licensing. The proactive strategy behind the video content is disruptive to the existing mental health ecosystem. By training, Dr. Mehra is Board Certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology in Child, Adolescent, and Adult Psychiatry. He has been in practice for over 30 years in the Tampa Bay area. Twenty-five of those thirty years was spent serving children in the foster care system. Dr. Mehra is the former medical director of Gracepoint Wellness, Directions for Living (Pinellas), Joshua House, and still the Medical Director for the Children’s Home Network. He has been recognized for his heartfelt service to others with numerous community generated accolades.

Dr. Dick Powis is a Postdoctoral Fellow of Maternal and Child Health at University of Florida College of Public Health. He has a PhD in Medical Anthropology and a Graduate Certificate in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. Dr. Powis’ research looks at how pregnant and post-partum people are supported by family members, friends, and communities and his research has been funded by the National Science Foundation and by Fulbright-Hays. education and doula training programs that focus on creating collaborations between dads and birthworkers.

Assata Jasper is a second-year graduate student of Maternal and Child Health in the College of Public Health at the University of South Florida. Her areas of interest are family and community violence and child health and development.

Jasen Glanton, a 15-year senior trainer at Verizon Wireless, proudly wears many hats. A devoted father of three, he believes that raising a child’s self-image can unlock unlimited potential and even raise their IQ. Jasen’s extensive sales experience and curriculum writing for Verizon have earned him many accolades but his commitment to community is where his passion lives. Beyond the corporate world, he’s the driving force behind a thriving youth nonprofit called Impowered Minds. Through this organization, Jasen imparts the therapeutic benefits of fishing to kids, emphasizing recreation, education, and mental well-being. His passion for mentoring and enriching young lives shines through his work. Jasen is a dedicated professional and a compassionate advocate for youth empowerment through the art of angling.

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Thursday, September 21, 2023

9:00 a.m. – Registration
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. – Breakfast
10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. – Welcome – Opening Exercise
10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. – Greetings

Nicola Bailey, President/CEO REACHUP, Inc.
James Wilkerson, REACHUP, Inc. Board of Directors
Maria Negron, Director of Programs, Children’s Board of Hillsborough County

10:30 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. – A Word from Our Sponsors
Jennifer Sweet, CEO, Aetna Better Health of Florida
Simply Healthcare, Dr. Marc Kaprow, FL Medicaid Medical Director,
Simply Healthcare plans, Inc.

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10:50 a.m. – Giveaways
10:55 a.m. – 11:40 a.m. – Plenary Session–Keynote Address Ronnie Green,
Host/Producer, A Fishing Story – Fatherhood Lessons from the World of Fishing
11:40 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. – Q&A
11:50 a.m. – 12:40 p.m. – Lunch
12:40 p.m. – 12:45 p.m. – Videos/Activities
12:45 p.m. – 12:50 p.m. – Research Fishing: Life History of Male Children Who Experienced Childhood Maternal Absence-Renice Obure
12:50 p.m. – 1:20 p.m. – Fishing for Health and Wellness - Shelton Gilyard
1:20 p.m. – 1:25 p.m. – Raffle/Give-aways
1:25 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. – Fishing for Information: Generative AI and Chat GPT: What Fathers and Providers should Know-Gary Beemer, Lecturer, Marketing,
University of Tampa, Sykes School of Business
2:15 p.m. – 2:25 p.m. – Q&A
2:25 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. – Raffle
2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. – Hall of Fame
2:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. – Plenary Session 2 -My First Fish, My Biggest Fish, and Of course, The One That Got Away: The Power of Fatherhood Stories Robert German,
Co-Founder & Executive Director, Multicultural Classroom
3:30 p.m. – 3:40 p.m. – Q&A/Discussion
3:40 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. – Raffle/Give-away
3:45 p.m. – 3:50 p.m. – Survey
3:50 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Wrap-up
Friday, September 22, 2023

8:45 a.m. - Registration
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. - Shoaling and Schooling: A Moderated Fatherhood Networking Breakfast- Dr. Deborah Austin and Glenn Brown
10:00 a.m. - 10:05 a.m. - Raffle/Giveaways
10:05 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. – Plenary Session – Fishing for Peace and Wellbeing: Creating Psychological Antibodies with Emotional Vaccines Dr. Rahul Mehra, Board Certified Child, Adolescent and Adult Psychiatrist; CEO/Chief Physician Executive of National Center for Performance Health (NCPH).
10:50 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. – Q&A/Discussions
11:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. – Breakout sessions (3)
Student Session – Is The Fish Really Too Big For You?: Public Health Students and Community Engagement- Dr. Deborah Austin and Cheryl Fitzpatrick
Fish Cant See the Water They Swim In: Evaluating the Significance of Dads and Doulas – Dr Dick Powis and Assata Jasper
My First Fish, My Biggest Fish, And Of Course, The One That Got Away: Creating Stories for Purpose, Power and Peace – Roberto Germán
11:50 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. – Break
12:00 p.m. - 12:50 p.m. – Lunch
12:50 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Raffle/Give-aways
1:00 p.m. – 1:05 p.m. – Research Fishing: Life History of Male Children Who Experienced Childhood Maternal Absence- Renice Obure
1:05 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. - Gone Fishing: Participant Stories and Testimonies – Jasen Glanton
1:45 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. - Fishing for a Future: Where Do We Go from Here? - Kenneth Scarborough
2:15 p.m. – 2:25 p.m. – Fathers Pledge – Kenneth Scarborough
2:25 p.m. - 2:35 p.m.- Survey
2:35 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. – Survey Raffle/Give away
2:45 p.m. – Conference Farewell
AFC 2023 Planning Team

Candice Simon - Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
Cheryl Fitzpatrick - REACHUP, Inc.
Dr. Deborah Austin - REACHUP, Inc.
Dr. Dick Powis - University of South Florida, College of Public Health
Elizabeth Newman - REACHUP, Inc.
Glenn Brown - Children’s Board of Hillsborough County
Greyling Wall - REACHUP, Inc.
Jasen Glanton - Impowered Minds, Fatherhood is MANdatory
Jeff Rock - REACHUP, Inc.
Katie Hood - Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions
Kenneth Scarborough - Legacy Enterprise Group, LLC
Lillian Cox - REACHUP, Inc.
Maribel Raudales - REACHUP, Inc.
Mark Baker - Father and Family Council
Dr. Michael Mays - AMaysing Counseling Services
Michael Morgan - REACHUP, Inc.
Phillip Rowland - Intergenerational Male Mentoring Group
Renice Obure - University of South Florida, College of Public Health
Ricardo Busquets - REACHUP, Inc.
Ruth Revilla - REACHUP, Inc.
Valeria Pimienta - REACHUP, Inc.

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