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Following Young Fathers Further

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Following Young Fathers Further is a four-year qualitative longitudinal study funded by the UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship scheme. It explores the parenting trajectories and support needs of young fathers (aged 25 and under).

The Following Young Fathers Further team is collaborating with national organisations and with young fathers themselves, to develop more effective support that is helping them to overcome some of the challenges they face, enabling them to sustain a more active role in their children's lives.



Our Project Partners

Coram Family and Childcare

Coram Family and Childcare works to make the UK a better place for families by bringing together what they learn from their parent-led programmes and their research, to campaign for solutions that parents want and need.

Coram Family and Childcare has built groups of young dads – Young Dads' Collectives' - in London and in Leeds. The young dads engaged with services, running 'Ask a Dad' workshops and holding consultations with professionals, policy makers and others.

The YDC's workshops go beyond the traditional "read this PowerPoint, remember this acronym" format – They create a space for real dialogue, reflection and growth. Through sharing their stories, young dads have helped service providers and designers think about how to provide services that would be more accessible to young fathers.

These highly interactive workshops begin with an open and constructive discussion led by the young dads about the obstacles between services and young dads and how to overcome them. Sharing their own personal experiences with services, the young dads encourage practitioners and policy makers to see and re-examine practices from a young father's viewpoint.

Working in small groups with a young dad gives service providers the opportunity to thoroughly evaluate their services and identify practical, easy to implement solutions to help them better reach and engage with young dads.

Coram Family and Childcare is excited and delighted to be working with FYFF and its delivery partner YMCA-Humber to bring the Young Dads Collective approach to Grimsby and NE Lincs.

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Together for Childhood, Grimsby

Together for Childhood is an ambitious, 10 year place-based approach to radically improve the way we prevent abuse and neglect in Grimsby.

Together for Childhood is creating system wide partnerships with key stakeholders, both locally and nationally – including NSPCC, North East Lincolnshire Council, Police, Health, Voluntary sector, education and the local community.

We focus on 5 priority workstreams, each with a primary prevention agenda. There is much local recognition that fathers, especially young fathers, do not consistently receive the right support, at the right time, therefore one priority is 'Working with Dads'.

'Working with Dads' aims to improve how professionals, parents and community members view fatherhood, and influence the wider system to work *with Dads* more effectively.

Following Young Fathers Further resonates with the NSPCC, Together for Childhood project and the local area's ambition to become more collaborative and strengths based in all we do. The NSPCC has partnered Following Young Fathers Further to share the NSPCC's local and national knowledge with the project, to connect Together for Childhood partners and stakeholders with FYFF partners, and to provide a platform for the project to make a difference to the young fathers of Grimsby.

North East Young Dads and Lads

The North East Young Dads and Lads Project (NEYDL) is an award winning community-based charity working to improve the lives of disadvantaged young men aged under 25, many of whom have been overlooked or sidelined by mainstream services due to their age, gender and past difficulties.

Working across the metropolitan county of Tyne and Wear, NEYDL works intensively with young fathers and expectant dads over an extended time-frame, providing direct befriending, bespoke 1:1 support, weekly peer support group work and 'Dads & Toddlers' play opportunities to enable young men to play an active and meaningful role in the lives of their children and families.

As a charity that is deeply committed to ensuring that the voices of young fathers are heard and listened to by decision makers, we are thrilled to be working with Dr Anna Tarrant, her colleagues and delivery partners in relation to the Following Young Fathers Further study.

YMCA Humber

YMCA Humber believes that everyone has potential to unlock.

Part of the community since 1882, we provide vital services for young people through the provision of supported accommodation, our At One mental health project, youth and community services and support and advice. We provide a safe place to live, enabling health, well-being and independence.

In 2019 alone we housed 394 young people and adults, offering 246 engagement activities for them to take part in as part of their own personal development, and our At One mental health project delivered 271 hours of counselling.

Our qualified youth workers engage with young people through a structured programme of regular activities that take place within our projects at Immingham, Stallingborough and on the Willows estate, Grimsby. Our community support will soon be extended as we take over the St Hugh's Community Centre on the West Marsh and develop our £8.3m project at Freeman Street, East Marsh, Grimsby.

YMCA Humber is delighted to be working in partnership with Coram Family and Childcare to deliver the Following Young Fathers Further research study to better understand the lives and support needs of young fathers. We will bring together young fathers for discussion groups and workshops and provide them with the tools and the skills they need to share their experiences with the people who provide services, improving the way services are organized and delivered so that young fathers are better engaged and ultimately the outcomes for children are improved.