
What do I want from Dads Express?

- feedback from group discussion

The list of suggestions offered ran to four and a half typed pages. Below is a composite list of the main themes which arose. These are not listed in any order of priority.

I want ...

- ✓ **A contact point to signpost me to work in this field.**
- ✓ **Some form of loose association/network which gives this work a sense of identity and reduces the isolation of workers.**
- ✓ **A database of people interested in work with fathers and how to contact them.**
- ✓ **Information on what other groups and organisations are doing.**
- ✓ **An email discussion/information-sharing group established.**
- ✓ **Opportunities to meet with and hear from more experienced workers in this field - possibly via training sessions.**
- ✓ **A list of speakers who can come to groups and talk about fatherhood.**
- ✓ **Practical ideas on: how to engage with fathers/gain their trust and confidence; what programme ideas work; how to get fathers to identify what services are needed ... maybe collate this in a pack.**
- ✓ **To see more cooperation and partnership work developing.**
- ✓ **Support to get a programme off-the-ground in areas where nothing has been developed yet.**
- ✓ **Access to old/current/new research and statistics on fathers and fatherhood - possibly via a website.**
- ✓ **To highlight the important and positive role of fathers in family life, and to raise the profile of this work.**
- ✓ **To lobby/influence service providers and policy-makers, and to see fathers' work become more of a priority for these bodies.**
- ✓ **To hear from dads about their life experiences and how they feel their needs are/aren't being met.**
- ✓ **A regular newsletter on fathers and fatherhood.**
- ✓ **Up-to-date information on local men's work, funding available, new policies and legislation.**
- ✓ **Opportunities to showcase my own work and inform others of what I do.**
- ✓ **An information sharing/support forum which meets regularly.**
- ✓ **A voice for 'equal' rights and services for fathers which is aware of the underlying power structures.**
- ✓ **Interest groups, workshops and a conference which focus on specific issues.**
- ✓ **A report on today which can be given to others in my organisation.**
- ✓ **To see a planning group established to carry on the great work.**