



## **Engaging Dads, Supporting Families Webinar**

**30<sup>th</sup> September, 2-5pm, Online via Zoom**

### **Programme**

- 1.45pm Join the Webinar (*the link to join will be sent to attendees nearer the time*)
- 2pm Welcome & Introductions – **Marian Quinn**, CEO CDI & Chair **Mary Corcoran**, Maynooth University
- 2.10pm "The Science and Practice of Engaging Fathers: Lessons from Promundo's International Work" - **Dr Gary Barker**, C.E.O. & Founder of Promundo
- 2.30pm "Bringing Fathers In" – **Cassius Campbell**, Fatherhood Institute UK
- 2.50pm Q&A
- 3.00pm Break
- 3.20pm "Dad Time – An Opportunity for Parents to Share the Care of their Children" - **Damien Peelo**, C.E.O. Treoir
- 3.40pm "From Lad to Dads" – The Journey of a Teenage Dad" - **Dave Saunders**, C.E.O. From Lads to Dads
- 4.00pm "Focus on Father Engagement" - **Dr Catarina Leitão** and **Celine Moran**, CDI
- 4.20pm Q&A
- 4.30pm Breakout Discussions
- 4.50pm Closing Remarks

## **Chair & Guest Speakers**

### **Marian Quinn, CEO CDI**

Marian's career has been focused on children, young people and families. She has worked in the Health Services Executive and the Department of Justice as well as working directly with young people in both community youth services and Youthreach. She wrote and developed the Copping On programme. Marian holds a Masters in Adult Education, a BSc Honours in Youth and Community Work and is a qualified Life and Business Coach. Marian was a Board member of the Children's Hospital Group, and is currently a member of the Airfield Trust and the Social Work Registration Board.

### **Mary Corcoran, Maynooth University**

Mary is Professor of Sociology at Maynooth University. After completing a degree in Sociology and Politics, Mary received a doctorate in Sociology from Columbia University, New York. Mary worked as an adjunct lecturer in Sociology at New York University and at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY. On return to Ireland, Mary taught at U.C.D. before moving to the Maynooth University. Research and teaching interests lie primarily in the fields of urban sociology, public cultures and the sociology of migration. One of Mary's main ambitions is to bring sociology and the sociological perspective to wider audiences.

### **Dr Gary Barker, C.E.O. and Founder of Promundo**

Gary, PhD, is a leading global voice in engaging men and boys in advancing gender equality and positive masculinities. He is the C.E.O. and founder of Promundo, which has worked for 20 years in more than 40 countries. Beginning in low-income areas of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Promundo's approaches have been incorporated into ministries of health and education around the world. Promundo is a Global Consortium with members in Brazil, the U.S., Democratic Republic of the Congo and Portugal. Gary is co-founder of MenCare, a global campaign working in 45 countries to promote men's involvement as caregivers, and co-founder of MenEngage, a global alliance of more than 700 NGOs. He created and leads the International Men and Gender Equality Survey (IMAGES), the largest ever survey of men's attitudes and behaviors related to violence, fatherhood, and gender equality. He is a co-author of the 2015 and 2017 *State of the World's Fathers* reports. He has advised the U.N., the World Bank, numerous national governments, and key international foundations and corporations on strategies to engage men and boys in promoting gender equality. In 2017 he was named by Apolitical as one of the 20 most influential people in gender policy around the world. He is an Ashoka Fellow and received the Voices of Solidarity Award from Vital Voices for his work to engage men for gender equality. He holds a PhD. in Developmental Psychology.

### **Cassius Campbell, Fatherhood Institute UK**

Cassius has over 20 years' experience working within the care sector. For much of that time he has worked with the Fatherhood Institute, believing strongly in a society that gives all children positive relationships with their father and any father figures. Cassius

is a trained counsellor and psychoanalytic consultant, and his work with the Fatherhood Institute includes keynote speaker, workshop facilitation and project management. Cassius has a proven track record in the delivery of targeted evidence-based workshops for the early years' workforce. His work has contributed to shaping national and local policy and practice to establish father-inclusive approaches in universal services. As well as working with managers and front-line staff to improve confidence and develop systems to 'bring fathers in', Cassius has worked directly with fathers and mothers, while also training and supporting local facilitators to do so. Interventions include [F.R.E.D. \(Fathers Reading Every Day\)](#), [Hit the Ground Crawling](#) and [Family Foundations](#). Cassius regularly reports on different approaches that fully engage fathers, mothers and families from varied ethnic, social and economic backgrounds.

### **Damien Peelo, CEO, Treoir**

Damien is C.E.O. at Treoir, the national federation of services for unmarried parents and their children. Damien is a graduate of University of Ulster where he studied Youth, Community work and social policy. He has over 20 years' experience working in the community and voluntary sector with a diverse range of communities. Damien was formerly the Director of the C.O.P.D. Support Ireland and the Irish Traveller Movement. Damien has worked on many campaigns with communities to tackle discrimination, poverty, inequality and exclusion. He is a board member of the Ballyfermot Traveller Action Project and has been a Ministerial appointee to a number of governmental policy committees.

### **Dave Saunders, C.E.O., From Lads to Dads**

Dave Saunders is the CEO and founder of a father's support network called "From Lads to Dads. In 1991 at the age of Seventeen, Dave found out that he was going to become a Dad. Dave has 25 years' experience in training and development, while also working with various community schemes and charities for the last ten years, Meeting young men and hearing so many similar stories, and seeing the significant need for better supports for Dads, From Lads to Dads was born. The aim of From Lads to Dads is to support Dads to be positive active roles models in the lives of their children. From Lads to Dads also aims to provide a full wrap-around service for all Dads, this has been done through establishing links with many like-minded family support services creating a Dads support network. From Lads to Dads facilitate a mentoring process, where fathers who have been through the programme can stay involved and lend a hand to guide and support to next generation of dads.

### **Dr Catarina Leitão and Celine Moran, Childhood Development Initiative**

Catarina is a Research Fellow with CDI leading the Parental Engagement Research Project. CDI secured the prestigious Marie Skłodowska – Curie Actions (M.S.C.A.) grant enabling us to undertake state of the art research starting in May 2020 to conclude in April 2022. Celine is the Ante-Natal to Three Initiative Coordinator with CDI. Celine is a qualified Counsellor and Psychotherapist and has over 20 years' experience managing projects and programmes within the health and social care sector.

