

## Newsletter, December 2019

---

### Research Highlights Fathering Quality in Early Childhood and Kindergarten Achievement

Dr. Margaret T. Owen, CCF director, and colleagues recently published results from a study that examined relations of fathering qualities when children were 2-3 years old with their subsequent reading and mathematics achievement in a sample of low-income African American and primarily Mexican-origin Latino children. They found that sensitive support from the fathers was associated with their children's mathematics achievement, but not with reading achievement. "Contrary to common narratives of low-income fathers of color," the paper reads, "the fathers in this study displayed considerable sensitivity and supportiveness and low levels of negativity and detachment during interactions with their young children." The findings make important contributions to our understanding of the dynamics of fathering in low-income ethnic minority families with implications for academic achievement in the transition to school. [Read the abstract here.](#)



---

### Congratulations to our Graduating Seniors!



Thank you to all of our volunteers and students in our service learning class for all of your help in our outreach programs this semester. A special congratulations to our hardworking seniors Marcela, Ina, and Lamiya for graduating from UT Dallas this December. We wish you the best!



# Happy Holidays

*from all of us at the UT Dallas Center for Children and Families*



The CCF offices will be closed December 20th - January 5th.

## From the Director

We are all looking forward to a bit of rest and relaxation over the holidays and wish the same for you and yours. Look for announcements of our Spring Lecture Series starting in January and the start of another round of Play With Me class series. Happy holidays to all!



[- Margaret T. Owen, PhD, Robinson Family Professor, Director, Center for Children and Families, School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences](#)

STAY CONNECTED:

