



Fatherhood Redefined: Launch of Fathers Rock's Multiagency Model

29 March 2024

Since its inception in February 2022, [Fathers Rock](#) team has tirelessly worked to create a collaborative model that empowers men to take active roles in co-responsible parenting and caregiving while holding them accountable for their responsibilities as parents.

Berta Vall from Blanquerna expressed the significance of this collaboration by stating, “The project FATHERS ROCK has represented a unique opportunity to foster collaboration between the University, NGOs and front-line professionals. This collaboration has allowed to enhance front-line professionals' capacity to prevent gender-based violence through (a) early identification of risks and engaging fathers' participation in perinatal services and (b) developing father groups as a prevention strategy. The innovative outputs and actions of the project integrate the needs of these front-line professionals and the knowledge of the Fathers' Rock project experts.”

The project's mission is succinctly summarised by Alessandra Pauncz, Executive Director of the WWP European Network, "One of the best ways to enhance women's equality and freedom is promoting active responsibility in equal and shared parenting by fathers.”

Startling statistics have consistently shown that pregnant women and mothers of infants or young children are at an elevated risk of violence from male partners, reaching up to fifty percent. Regrettably, many services involved in pregnancy, childbirth, and early education fail to engage fathers in the process.

Wanting to be a good father has been identified as one of the most important motivators for men who perpetrate violence to seek help and attend a behaviour change programme, making perinatal support services a privileged setting to refer perpetrators to such programs.



Funded by
the European Union



Männer- und
Geschlechterthemen
Steiermark



FATHERS ROCK

Stella Cutini from Centro di Ascolto Uomini Maltrattanti emphasised, "Raising awareness and involving health and perinatal services in the importance of paternal care is the only way to reach and involve (future) fathers during the pre and post-natal processes."

In response to this critical need, the Fathers Rock team has embarked on a mission to equip frontline services with the tools to identify and refer domestic violence cases to relevant services. They have also implemented programs to engage fathers actively in the parenting process.

Oriol Ginés from Conexus, a key partner in this endeavour, shared their perspective, stating: "Is impossible to detect and refer men as perpetrators if you never involve men in your programmes and services. It is impossible to involve men as fathers if you haven't learned how to work with men from a gender perspective and masculinities. Professionals need to converse with men about domestic violence with the aim of to stop and ask for help, but fundamentally help women and children as victims"

In its final stage, the Fathers Rock team has unveiled a [multiagency intervention model](#) and institutional recommendations for the prevention of gender-based violence and child safeguarding. Verein für Männer- und Geschlechterthemen Steiermark explained, "When experts in perinatal, parent education, and similar services are confronted with violence during their work, this can quickly lead to a feeling of being overwhelmed and unsure. The multiagency model intends to provide a remedy by helping experts to recognise violence and take the next steps."

To spread their invaluable experiences and expertise to a broader audience, the Fathers Rock team organised a one-day online conference on 21 March 2024. This event brought together NGO experts, frontline services, and researchers to share their insights and strategies.

For more information, please visit [Fathers Rock webpage](#).

About Fathers Rock: Fathers Rock is a groundbreaking initiative that promotes engaged and accountable fatherhood, preventing gender-based violence and ensuring child safeguarding. Through



Funded by
the European Union



FATHERS ROCK

collaboration with universities, NGOs, and front-line professionals, Fathers Rock has developed innovative models and strategies to empower men as responsible and caring fathers.



Funded by
the European Union



Männer- und
Geschlechterthemen
Steiermark



www.work-with-perpetrators.eu