

# Men Care

A GLOBAL FATHERHOOD CAMPAIGN



AUGUST 2014

MenCare's August 2014 newsletter features updates from our partners in Brazil, Guatemala, Moldova, Mozambique, Peru, Russia, Rwanda, South Africa, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. See award-winning photos, read quotes from on-the-ground facilitators, learn how MenCare partners are working to prevent violence, and more!

## FEATURED PHOTOS

### MenCare Peru announces winners of fatherhood photography contest

At the end of July, the [Red Peruana de Masculinidades](#), a [MenCare Peru](#) coordinator, announced the winners of its month-long fatherhood photography contest. The nationwide competition aimed to increase visibility of fathers involved in housework and care work, and to promote models of fatherhood that are active, responsible, affectionate and gender equitable. Check out the winning photos below!



First Place: Stefani Violeta Rodriguez Rios

## UPDATES AT A GLANCE

[MenCare Peru announces winners of fatherhood photography contest](#)

[MenCare Shares](#)

[MenCare Vietnam attracts thousands of participants to campaign against domestic violence](#)

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## FEATURED VIDEO

Marcio's Story



Second Place: Rosa Carrillo



Third Place: Piero Sánchez Torres

Learn more about MenCare Peru [here](#).

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## MENCARE SHARES



We're excited to introduce "MenCare Shares," a new question-and-answer feature in our monthly newsletter! Each month we'll ask our readers a question, and the following month we'll publish your answers. In August, we asked partners:

### What do you do to get fathers involved?

"We explain to the father through sensitization and mobilization, the triple advantages and direct interest of his involvement for the child and his wife, for himself, and for the socio-economic development of the whole family."

**- Moise Ngendahayo from MenCare+ Rwanda**

"Expectant mothers are our best partners in the organization of the first meetings with fathers. They stimulate fathers to visit the first lesson. But to attract men into the following classes - that would be the task for the moderator."

**- Nikolay Ermin from MenCare Russia**

"Father facilitators use the testimonies from the couples (men and women) who are role models in the community in caring for babies, supporting their



[\(Click to watch video\)](#)

We're proud to present Marcio's Story, our MenCare Brazil film, now subtitled in Spanish! In the film, Marcio narrates the importance of supporting men's involvement in the lives of their families, even if it goes against traditional expectations of how men are supposed to act.

Click [here](#) to watch the film with Spanish subtitles and [here](#) to watch all of our global MenCare films with English subtitles.

## FEATURED RESOURCES

*This new research shows how paternity leave can benefit children, women, couples and men themselves. MenCare advocates for policies that support men's involvement in caregiving around the world.*



[FI Research Summary: Paternity Leave](#)

Fatherhood Institute



[The New Dad: Take Your Leave](#)

wives in household chores, etc. The group members discuss with the couples the benefits for the family. Through these testimonies, fathers have the willingness to be involved."

- *Emmanuel Karamage from MenCare+ Rwanda*

Send in your answers to next month's question! September's MenCare Shares question is:

**When you're working with fathers, what's their favorite topic to discuss?**

Please email your response to [n.ford@promundo.org.br](mailto:n.ford@promundo.org.br) by August 31, 2014.

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## WHAT'S NEW

### MenCare Vietnam attracts thousands of participants to campaign against domestic violence



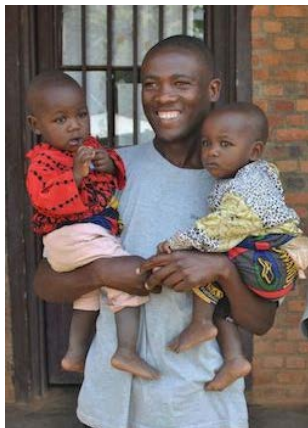
VIETNAM - This spring, the [Center for Studies and Applied Sciences in Gender, Families, Women and Adolescents](#) (CSAGA), [MenCare Vietnam](#)'s coordinator, organized a media campaign to prevent domestic violence in three provinces: Ha Nam, Hung Yen and Bac Ninh. Campaign activities included street parades, an exhibition with portraits of caring, non-violent men and a "Responsible Fathers" contest (which included activities like bathing and cooking for children). The campaign has attracted thousands of participants, forming a widespread movement to prevent domestic violence.

Learn more about MenCare Vietnam [here](#).

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### MenCare+ Rwanda engages men as partners in maternal, newborn and child health



RWANDA - "Before, I thought women were supposed to do all the things in the household – fetch water, prepare meals, sweep. After having three kids, it was a challenge," says Jean Pierre, a 29-year-old father of triplets in Rwanda.

"After group education," he continues, "I am now aware that I have to be a part of all the household activities – including caring for children, feeding them and preparing their clothes."

Jean Pierre learned how taking more responsibility for housework and childcare has a positive impact for both him and his family, after participating in fathers groups through [Rwanda's MenCare+ project](#).

In Rwanda, MenCare's global co-coordinator [Promundo](#) is working with the Rwanda Men's Resource Center ([RWAMREC](#)) to engage men, ages 18 to 35, as partners in sexual and reproductive health and in maternal,

Boston College Center for  
Work & Family

*This webpage from the Miscarriage Association provides support and resources for men coping with miscarriage.*



[Support for Partners](#)  
Miscarriage Association

*Have more great resources?  
Send them to MenCare! Email  
[n.ford@promundo.org.br](mailto:n.ford@promundo.org.br).*

## IN THE NEWS

### Sonke Gender Justice supports petition for 10 days paternity leave in South Africa

"This month, Hendri Terblanche gave birth to an important petition, just eight months after his twin children were born prematurely. His petition, which seeks to provide new fathers with 10 days paternity leave, was submitted to the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) and officially received and acknowledged by NCOP Chair, Thandi Modise, two weeks ago.

"Terblanche initiated the #10dayspaternityleave campaign when his twin children were born three months prematurely, and he saw for himself how only having three days family responsibility leave (and no paternity leave) severely restricts fathers from spending time with their children in their first days of life, from forming a bond with their newborns, from supporting their partners and assisting with childcare duties, and from being able to be there for their families at this important moment in all of their lives.

"This lack of paternity leave is even more challenging in cases where there are medical

newborn and child health as part of the three-year [MenCare+](#) project.

Continue reading [here](#), and find out more about MenCare+ Rwanda [here](#).

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## Mozambique's Fanelo Ya Mina Institute pursues gender equality through responsible fatherhood campaign



MOZAMBIQUE -To celebrate Children's Month in June in Mozambique, [Fanelo Ya Mina Institute](#) re-launched its "You Are My Father" ("Tu és o meu Papá") campaign targeting Mozambican men. The campaign seeks to challenge the individual and structural gender determinants related to parenting and caregiving that reinforce inequality.

Major campaign activities thus far have included a consultation with partners; a public debate on "The Role of Fathers in Caregiving: Reflections on Individual and Structural Factors that Perpetuate Inequalities in Caregiving in Mozambique, Challenges and Opportunities"; a gallery of posters and photos; a public march; and dissemination of campaign messages in public spaces throughout the city and province of Maputo.

Learn more about Fanelo Ya Mina [here](#).

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## MenCare+ South Africa provides counseling for men who have committed intimate partner violence



SOUTH AFRICA - One of the activities conducted by [MOSAIC](#), a [MenCare+ South Africa](#) coordinator, is to provide counseling to men who have used violence in their intimate partner relationships.

A group of men who have been through this counseling program expressed the need for continued support, specifically from their

peers. Veronica Libbie, a senior counselor at MOSAIC, has, together with the men, established a male peer support group. July saw this group complete its fifth support group session, and each member brought one man from his respective community with him to be part of the group.

Although this group began as an extension of the [Toolkit for Men](#), it has developed into a new social support system, with members playing an active role in each other's lives. The men are also deciding on a strategy to expand the reach of the program through the establishment of home-based and community-based peer support groups that are open to all men.

MOSAIC sees this initiative as a positive move towards broadening the network of care for men.

Learn more about MenCare+ South Africa [here](#).

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complications, premature births, and also Caesarean births, which are very common in South Africa as the mother and child are often in the hospital for up to a week, and sometimes longer. Terblanche's twins Danté & Juandré were hospitalised for 139 days and 79 days respectively."

[Continue reading on Sonke Gender Justice.](#)

### Who's Who at MenCare

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## **Military fathers in Moldova are granted the right to parental leave**

MOLDOVA - On July 17, upon the first reading of a draft law, Moldova's Parliament voted to grant servicemen the right to parental leave. In 2012, Moldova's Constitutional Court passed a similar verdict, after military counsel Tudor Lazer insisted that providing no parental leave for men in the army is a form of gender discrimination prohibited by Moldova's Constitution and by international human rights agreements.

With the new law passed, servicemen (both men and women) in the National Army of Moldova can take care of their children by taking up to three years of parental leave while receiving 30% of their salary.

Learn more about MenCare in Eastern Europe [here](#).

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## **UPDATES IN BRIEF**

[MenCare Sri Lanka](#) has launched two MenCare TV spots promoting involved fatherhood. The spots were broadcast on two channels for three weeks in local languages (Tamil and Sinhalese). Stay tuned for more information!

[MenCare+ South Africa](#)'s coordinators, MOSAIC and Sonke Gender Justice, celebrated Mandela Day on July 18th at the Peter Pan Down Syndrome Centre in Maitland, playing with students and assisting with clean up of one of the play areas.

In July, [MenCare Guatemala](#) carried out educational workshops with over 50 fathers. The workshops included activities that helped engage dads in the care and education of their children, as well as in supporting their female partners.

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[MenCare](#) is a global fatherhood campaign, coordinated by [Promundo](#) and [Sonke Gender Justice](#). Our mission is to promote men's involvement as equitable, non-violent fathers and caregivers in order to achieve family well-being and gender equality.

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