



P R O J E C T SM
Fatherhood

Including father in “FAMILY”

Father absence is
considered by many the
major social problem in our
society today.



Did you know?

Children who don't have a father figure in their lives are:

- 5 times more likely to be poor
- 3 times more likely to fail in school
- 2 times more likely experience behavior problems at school
- 2 times more likely to engage in criminal behavior
- 2 times more likely to use and abuse illegal drugs/alcohol & tobacco
- 4 times more likely to engage in early sexual behavior
- 3 times more likely to commit suicide

The History of Project Fatherhood

Having long observed that fathers were most often left out of programs designed to prevent child abuse and neglect, CII's Senior Vice President of Clinical Services, Dr. Hershel K. Swinger, reached out to the fathers and began the process of engaging them in the lives of their children...

Project Fatherhood was born.



Reasons Fathers are not Involved

- **Poor Self-Esteem (PSE)**
- **Intergenerational Component (IC)**
- **Social and Psychological Isolation (SPI)**
- **Stress Component (SC)**

“Making it Work”

Through and strong and effective partnership with DCFS 7 DMH , we’ve made some tremendous strides:

- Father Engagement Training
 - Regional Office Surveys
- Incorporation of Strategic Plan & Core Practice Model & IA
- Los Angeles Fatherhood Network (Including website)
- Parent in Partnership (Driving force)
- Monthly Roundtables – Child Support, Substance Abuse, Incarcerated Parents, Expungements, Financial Literacy,

Program Services

In addition to our MIRG's, the program also offers the following services:

- Individual and Family Counseling
- Job Training
- Financial Literacy
- Healthy Marriage Workshops
- Parent-Child Enrichment Activities
- Legal Workshops and Consultations
- Employment Assistance
- Housing Assistance



Program Goals

- Responsible Parenting: Fathers will more consistently and effectively parent their children in a healthy, nurturing manner.
- Healthy Marriage: Fathers will develop skills to strengthen and stabilize all relationships in their lives, especially co-parenting and marital relationships.
- Economic Stability: Fathers will increase their financial stability.

Children of participating fathers will demonstrate improved functioning at home and in the community.



Time to Step It Up

Establishing fatherhood initiatives in the communities is not enough. It also is important for agencies and programs to assess if they provide a father-friendly environment.

Important components include:

- The attitudes of staff;
- The inclusiveness of language and environment;
- The types of activities available for fathers;
- The scheduling of activities for non-work hours;
- Media and communications;
- The presence of male staff and volunteers.



Let's Train Them

In order to really make significant changes, some people need training!!!

- Doctors/Nurses
- Teachers
- Lawyers/Judges
- Child Support
- Social Workers
- Therapists
- Employers





Summary/ What's Next?

- Project Fatherhood 5-Day Training (Semi-Annually)
- On-going Father Engagement Training
- Parenting Beyond Conflict
- Head Start/School Involvement
- Foster Care
- Military/Veterans



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT PROJECT FATHERHOOD:



PROJECT
Fatherhood

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“Project Fatherhood is a grassroots program that can take place in any place. It directly touches the lives of fathers and their children.”

Dr. Hershel K. Swinger,

Founder, Project Fatherhood



Thank You!

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safe children, strong families, healthy communities