

DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THE SE NETWORK FATHERHOOD CAMPAIGN?

Dear Community Members and Neighbors,

As a service provider doing youth development work we unfortunately get to witness youth crying out to be fathered, yet the role of the father is being minimized in all systems in our community and we have minimum access to male mentorship or fathering opportunities for the youth. We are seeing that even when our fathers want to do better they struggle with getting support from the community to help them be more involved in a positive way. We witness every day the positive and negative impact of father involvement or fatherlessness.

Did you know that evidence shows that when a youth has a positive and engaged father figure in their life:

- Youth are less likely to engage in first time substance abuse and ongoing use of alcohol, cigarettes, and hard drugs. - National Fatherhood Initiative
- Teen girls are seven times less likely to become pregnant. - Ellis, B., et al (2003)
- Children, particularly boys, have better academic performance and fewer discipline problems. - Kosterman, R. et al (2004)
- Children in father-absent homes are five times more likely to be poor. - U.S. Census Bureau (2002)
- Jeffery Leving states in an article on Fathers and Youth Violence published in nwi.com 2011, "There is a critical connection between a father's absence, juvenile delinquency and anti-social aggression in our youths. The likelihood that a male will engage in criminal activity doubles when he is raised without a dad. In fact, 72 percent of adolescents charged with murder grew up without their father (Characteristics of Adolescents Charged with Homicide, 1987)."

Attorney General Eric Holder put it well on Feb. 18, 2010 when he spoke at a town hall meeting on Fatherhood and Youth Violence in Washington D.C., he stated:

"Let's be clear about one thing: a father's role in the life of a child is irreplaceable. Research has proven this."

SE Network is a community of partners that are working hard to do their part to decrease youth violence and academic dropout. Since research proves that **positive father involvement is a protective factor** that buffers the many risk factors that lead to youth violence and delinquency we decided to put **efforts toward increasing positive father involvement as a strategy to decreasing youth violence and delinquency**. SE Network in collaboration with the Fatherhood Program formed a Fatherhood Action Team and launched the SE Network Fatherhood Campaign.

Youth violence impacts the entire community and that's why we need your help in all our efforts-it takes a village! We, as everyday citizen, can play a vital role in shaping our communities and I hope you would support our fatherhood action team as we roll out the Fatherhood Campaign. See the other side to learn about our [next Fatherhood Campaign event](#) and consider calling me (Heidi Henderson-Lewis) to learn more about how you can make a pledge of your time, talent or treasure in support of the campaign. We hope that you will be involved in the future with our Fatherhood Campaign!

Warmly,

Heidi Henderson-Lewis, SYVPI/SE Network Coordinator
Smilow Rainier Vista Boys and Girls Club of King County
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SE Network Fatherhood Action Team Partners



SE Network Fatherhood Action Team Presents
The Power of a Strategic Father: *a fatherhood leadership training for real dads*
An Official SE Network Fatherhood Campaign Event

Date: November 8, 2011

Location: Casey Family Programs Downtown Office-26th Floor ~ 2001 8th Ave Sea, 98121 (8th & Virginia)

Who should attend? Fathers of youth under 18 years
Father figures or male mentors of youth who are 17 years or younger
Young fathers who are under 21 years of age (are especially encouraged to attend)

Registration/Check-in & Continental Breakfast: 9:00am ~ **Introduction:** 9:45am ~ **Program:** 10am-3pm

The Power of a Strategic Father Leadership Training includes topics such as but not limited to:

- What makes a “strategic father” and why is it necessary for this generation of youth
- Lessons from the national recognized trainings, “Quenching the Fathers Thirst” & “24/7 Dad”
- **What’s love got to do with it:** How to love my child so they actually feel loved
- **Why I love my Baby’s Mama:** Key insights whether you are in a relationship with your child’s mom or not
- **Working smarter not harder:** How my child’s brain works & how to build some of the 40 developmental assets
- **Table discussions on topics that impact fathers** (*finances, employment, relationships, wellness, spirituality, etc.*)

Lunch will be served around 12:30pm

Transportation provided upon request from: RV Boys & Girls Club 4520 MLK Jr. Way S. SEA 98108

Certificate of completion: Provided at the end of training for each participant

Space is limited: PRE-REGISTRATION IS MANDATORY FOR THIS EVENT!

Please Register Online at: www.tiny.cc/FathersOnly Or call (206) 436-1909

For more info or questions: Call Terrence (206) 892-8889 OR Heidi 206.436.1898

Special Thanks to our Fatherhood Campaign Supporters who helped make this event possible!

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