

## **The Problem**

#### **Father Absence Crisis**

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 24 million children in America--one out of three-live without their biological father in the home. Research shows that when children are raised in a father-absent home, they are affected in the following ways.

- 4x greater risk of poverty
- More likely to have behavioral problems
- 2x greater risk of infant mortality
- More likely to go to prison
- More likely to commit crime
- 7x more likely to become pregnant
- More likely to face abuse and neglect
- More likely to abuse drugs and alcohol
- 2x more likely to suffer obesity
- 2x more likely to drop out of high school

## Who We Are

#### About Us

The Fatherhood Empowerment Center, in affiliation with the National Fatherhood Initiative, endeavors to improve the well-being of low-income fathers and their children by addressing the particular challenges they face.

We use a variety of curricula and practices tailored to the needs of participants to address issues such as responsible parenting, healthy marriage and co-parent relationships, and economic stability.

#### **Contact Us**

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# FATHERHOOD EMPOWERMENT CENTER

Where being a good dad is part of being a real man



### What We Do

The majority of low-income fathers face significant personal and societal barriers, such as low levels of education, stigma from criminal records, declining wages for lowskilled men, and family instability.

The services provided at the Fatherhood Empowerment Center equip these fathers with the skills and support needed for them to identify positive goals and achieve them at a pace that results in noticeable progress for themselves and their children.

Program components include fatherhood workshops in both community and correctional settings, as well as occasional workshops for mothers to help improve relationships with the fathers of their children.

Individual services include mentor relationships and coaching on a variety of parenting issues that include the navigation of child custody, child support, visitation and parenting plans. Relationships between couples are strengthened by through participation in the Prepare-Enrich program which is led by certified facilitators. Using an assessment tool, facilitators help couples to identify their relationship strengths, understand dynamics, and ultimately build relationship skills.

"I found a place where I am accepted and a group of guys like me who really want to be better men and do better for their children."

Fathers are empowered by attending a career seekers tract that includes a career assessment, review of occupational data, resume and cover letter development, job searching, completion of job applications, preparation for interviews, professional clothing, haircuts and beard trims, transportation and the securing of credentials.

The staff and volunteers at the Fatherhood Empowerment Center find great joy in helping low-income fathers discover the best version of themselves by healing from their past, overcoming the negative consequences of destructive decisions, repairing relationships and finding a new way of living that results in men of value in their communities and fathers of value in the lives of their children.

## **About CADCOM**

Established in 1966, CADCOM is the lead Anti-Poverty Agency in Montgomery County working in partnership with public and private entities to coordinate and implement community economic development initiatives designed to serve the needs of county residents.

CADCOM offers the following programs in addition to the Fatherhood Empowerment Center.

- Asset and Career Development
- Food Resource Center
- Micro-Enterprise Resource Center
- Utility Management
- Emergency Services
- Weatherization
- Participatory Defense
- Seasonal Assistance

