

Frank Reyes
West Central Region Rep FPTA

Male Engagement Chair –
Hillsborough

Immediate Past President –
Hillsborough County Council





Increasing Male Engagement

Just the facts.....

Have better emotional health and control: More likely to be non-aggressive towards other. Four times likely to be prone to anxiety and depression (1)

Father engagement reduces the frequency of behavioral problems in boys while also decreasing delinquency and economic disadvantage in low-income families. (2)

Children who feel a closeness to their father are twice as likely as those who do not to enter college or find stable employment after high school, 75% less likely to have a teen birth, 80% less likely to spend time in jail, and half as likely to experience multiple depression symptoms.(3)

Less Likely to engage in risky behavior and less prone to commit a crime. (4)

Daughters who had strong relationships with their fathers growing up (no matter their [economic or educational background](#), race or religion) get better grades, go on to make more money, and are more emotionally resilient as adults than peers who did not. (5)

Studies have shown that when fathers are affectionate and supportive, it greatly affects a child's cognitive and social development. It also instills an overall sense of well-being and self confidence. (6)

1-4 Fatherhoodproject.org & US Department of Education

5 [Dr. Linda Nielsen](#), Professor of Adolescent and Educational Psychology at Wake Forest University

6 - Pediatrics of Franklin THE IMPORTANCE OF A FATHER IN A CHILD'S LIFE [The Importance of a Father in a Child's Life - Pediatric Associates of Franklin \(pediatricsoffranklin.com\)](#)

Why **Involved Dads** are **Good for Moms**

Mothers reap a host of benefits when fathers are involved during pregnancy and in raising their children.



- ✔ More likely to receive prenatal care
- ✔ Less likely to smoke during pregnancy
- ✔ Healthier births
- ✔ Lower risk of post-partum stress
- ✔ Lower risk of post-partum depression
- ✔ Lower parenting stress
- ✔ More leisure time
- ✔ Higher marital satisfaction

**National
Fatherhood
Initiative®**

www.fatherhood.org

Source: National Fatherhood Initiative® 2019,
Father Facts: Eighth Edition, Germantown, MD:
National Fatherhood Initiative®.

PO Box 37635, PMB 84123, Philadelphia, PA, 19101-0635 | 301-948-0599 | info@fatherhood.org

© 2022 National Fatherhood Initiative®, All Rights Reserved. National Fatherhood Initiative® is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit.

The **Strengths** of **Father Presence**

Children with involved fathers have a strong foundation for child well-being.



They are at **lower risk** for a host of **poor childhood outcomes.**



- ✔ Infant Mortality
- ✔ Low Birth Weight
- ✔ Emotional and Behavioral Problems
- ✔ Neglect and Abuse
- ✔ Injury
- ✔ Obesity
- ✔ Poor School Performance
- ✔ Teen Pregnancy
- ✔ Incarceration as Juveniles
- ✔ Alcohol and Substance Abuse
- ✔ Criminal Activity
- ✔ Suicide

**National
Fatherhood
Initiative®**

www.fatherhood.org

Source: National Fatherhood Initiative® 2019,
Father Facts: Eighth Edition, Germantown, MD:
National Fatherhood Initiative®.

PO Box 37635, PMB 84123, Philadelphia, PA, 19101-0635 | 301-948-0599 | info@fatherhood.org

© 2022 National Fatherhood Initiative®, All Rights Reserved. National Fatherhood Initiative® is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit.

What Ideas/
Programs
Have You
Tried To
Increase Male
Involvement at
Your Local
Unit?



What Best Describes Male Involvement at your Local Unit?



Effective and making a difference



Good, but needs new ideas, organization or leadership



Barely surviving, needs considerable focus and direction



Nothing, Nada, Zip, ZILCH – they need GPS to find the school

What are your goals for male Involvement at your local unit?

Reading,
Mentoring
and Other
Initiatives

Chaperone
Field Trips
and Events

Advocate for
our children

Attend
Meetings

Build Stuff
and Move
Tables

Build
Membership

Not So Good Ideas



- Not valuing what the 'absent' spouse actually brings to the table
- Invite male figures to meetings/events that have nothing to do with them.
- Schedule meetings/events during peak sport seasons and always at the school
- Not valuing and celebrating the contributions of male figures
- Create a work plan and goals that don't consider the input of male figures

What works!!

- **Host Meetings/Events specific for male figures**
- **Schedule meetings/events during convenient times and at venues that attract male figures**
- **Create an event that celebrates male figures**
- **Ask them face to face, explain their value.**
- **Find out what skills and talents they have and how they can impact your school.**
- **Encourage Involvement away from school (homework, sports, music, reading, video games)**



Getting a Male Engagement Group Going?

Invite them to the meeting (give them an official position)

Discuss a mission statement or objective for this group

Give them a subcommittee: For planning, emails, flyers, announcements.

Include a write up in PTA or school social Media

Put money in a line item of the budget

Set a meeting up with Principal or AP to discuss dates for events

Are you including?? ?

- **Dads**
- **Grandfathers**
- **Uncles**
- **Male Figures**
- **Neighbors**
- **“Absent” Spouses**
- **School Site Employees**
- **Mentors**
- **Community Members**

