



Community Action, Inc.
of Central Texas

— DEVELOPING OPPORTUNITIES —

Texas Home Visiting Program
Good People • Great Parents



FATHERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE NEWSLETTER

Being involved with your child makes all the difference in the world

June 2016

Issue 10



“Just wanted to congratulate you and your team on a fantastic job this past Saturday at the Activity Center. I think it's safe to say everyone who attended the conference returned home "a more enlightened Father".

- Joe, A Celebrating Fatherhood Conference Attendee

Conference Photos

Celebrating Fatherhood! Conference May 2016

The first annual Celebrating Fatherhood! Conference was a huge success! Mayor Daniel Guerrero of San Marcos greeted fathers at the beginning of the day and encouraged fathers to visualize the face of the child who motivated them to attend. This set the tone as Father Engagement Coordinator, David Bryant broke the ice and got the fathers to move around a bit. The day was filled with motivating music like “Eye of the Tiger” from Rocky and “The Chicago Bulls Theme Song Stadium Version. The rooms were definitely decorated to make dads feel right at home.

It is said that men like to eat. Well, the planning committee for Celebrating Fatherhood! Conference delivered with over 16 dozen tacos, 13 dozen donuts, plenty of coffee, water, soda, and enough hamburgers to get seconds. Celebrating Fatherhood! Conference was able to bring nationally recognized speakers and presenters and were also able to give away over \$1000 worth of prizes. One father said, “I really enjoyed networking and meeting other dads.” Another dad said, “I am definitely coming back next year and bringing my friends”. For more updates on Celebrating Fatherhood and our social media links visit www.celebratefatherhood.com.



Coming Soon

Daddy Child Date Night
@ Cleveland's Restaurant Buda, TX
June 14, 2016 6pm-9pm Call for reservations at 512-312-4387

7th Annual Daddy Daughter Dance
@ San Marcos Activity Center
June 17, 2016 6:30pm-9pm
Discounted tickets at 512-398-8400 or purchase at the door.

Family 4Life Presents Father's Day Parade
@ 5 Mile Dam San Marcos, TX
June 18, 2016 9am

Father Child Activity led by David Bryant
@ The Wimberley Village Library
July 6, 2016 at 5pm For more details contact David Bryant 512-393-4356

24:7 Dad@ Group
Call David Bryant to register for Summer and Fall Sessions

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our services and program.

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**FATHERS IN HAYS
COUNTY**



You Were Made For This

by D. David Bryant

We are fresh off the heels of “Celebrating Fatherhood! A Conference Organized by Central Texas Agencies” and ready for Father’s Day. It’s a good time to be a dad or is it? There are many challenges in our nation that fathers face. Surprisingly, only a small number of fathers take the easy way out. However, when watching television or cruising social media, you get the sense that many fathers don’t care, especially fathers in low income families.

A recent study by the CDC, for example, debunked the myth that most African American dads are absent from their children’s lives. The study measured how involved Black, White, and Latino fathers are in the lives of their children. It did not matter whether or not they were married to the mother or lived with them. One of the takeaways from the study showed an equal numbers of black dads and white dads tend to agree that it’s important to be a father who provides emotional support, discipline, and moral guidance.

This just goes to show that the actions of a few can speak for an entire group; that stereotypes and overgeneralizations can shape society’s thinking toward a economic group. The old saying, “Don’t judge a book by it’s cover,” comes to mind at this point. This same thought also applies to fatherhood. As Eagle Talk Show Host Mycah Lee Arellano stated at the Conference, “You are the driver of your child’s bus.” Dad, you have a say in how your child is going to turn out. **Fathering is not easy, but you were made for this.**

You can overcome whatever challenges life throws your way in regards to the relationship you have with your children. Don’t let child support stand in the way of spending time with your child. Don’t let hundreds of miles of distance stand in the way of seeing your child. Be creative. You can go visit often, Skype or Facetime, write letters to your child, or keep a journal of your thoughts about your child. Don’t let your work schedule stand in the way of spending time with your children. Don’t even let finances dictate the type of father you are. Be creative, dad. Think outside of the box.

It may be hard at times. People who were once for you may now be against you. That’s okay. You are a father to wonderful kids. Be “The Greatest” father you can be. You were made for this.

10 Things To Do With Your Kids This Summer

Courtesy of StrongFathers.com. View entire list at www.celebratefatherhood.com under Things I Can Do Section

1. Play Hide-And-Seek in the House.
2. Radio Dance– Spin the dial on the radio and dance to whatever song comes on.
3. Write a story with your child. Take turn writing sentences.
4. Go to the library and Read.
5. Make Milkshakes
6. Have a Water Balloon Fight
7. Explore your yard - Look for different insects
8. Go on a picnic
9. Create an imaginary business
10. Volunteer Together



Water Balloon Fight with Dad



Reading with Dad and Mom