



## Child and Family Development Programs

Dear friends,

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We want to invite you to be a part of the **Friends of PAPÁS Sustainability Campaign**. After 9 years of services to our community, our PAPÁS program is coming to an end due to State funding cuts. We are asking our friends, families, clients, and the community at large to rally behind our cause and help us sustain these vital community services and program to underserved population. We are trying to raise \$150,000 (a third of our current budget) by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 so that we can continue to serve our community with the core services that PAPÁS offers to fathers and families.

Early Head Start  
Families Together  
Head Start  
Papás

Thank you in advance for supporting PAPÁS, Supporting Father Involvement (S.F.I.) program through your financial gift!

Our mission at PAPÁS, S.F.I., honors and promotes fathers and father-figures through advocacy and education to support their role in strengthening family and community relationships.

PAPÁS, S.F.I., is a local project which offers parent groups and social activities designed to strengthen the father-child bond, father involvement and co-parenting. Our goals are to increase positive father-child relationships and promote the role of fathers in the lives of their young children. Program activities offer fun and educational opportunities for parents to learn about the beneficial role of father figures in the family and community. In addition, we engage the public in the services provider's community to promote father friendly practices and encourage positive father involvement.

**WHY DO FATHER'S MATTER?** According to the U.S. Census Bureau, **24 million children in America -- one out of three -- live in biological father-absent homes.**

In addition, the impact of the absent fatherhood in children lives is as follow:

- **63% of youth suicides are from fatherless homes**
- **71% of all high school dropouts come from fatherless homes**
- **75% of all adolescent patients in chemical abuse centers come from fatherless homes**
- **75% of foster youth in care come from fatherless homes**
- **85% of all youths in prisons grew up in a fatherless home**
- **90% of all homeless and runaway children are from fatherless homes**

*Come and be a part of the solution so that every child has a caring father or father-figure in their lives to achieve their potential. Together we can make a difference in our community by simply pledging to give a donation to PAPAS, S.F.I.,. Won't you join me?*

Research shows that when dads or other father figures participate in children's lives those kids do better in school, have less legal troubles, better problem-solving skills and reduced teen pregnancy among many other positive outcomes. In addition, fathers report more satisfaction at work, greater self-esteem and better overall health. The strong father-child bond is a win-win partnership with life-long benefits!

Let us continue to be a community that values fathers and supports strong families. Most of all let's be a community committed to reduce school dropout rate, teen pregnancy, child abuse and poverty through promoting positive father involvement. Your contribution to this cause has far-reaching impacts and is an invaluable investment in our children, their families and our community as a whole now and for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Deutron Kebebew, PAPÁS Program Director



A service component of the Santa Cruz Community Counseling Center

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