



Fatherhood Family Initiative



Our first enrollee, Fred Knots, with his Grandfather, Fred Wisdom

Greetings from the Fatherhood-Family Initiative.

Are you concerned about the decline of the role of the father in the American family? Are you concerned about the devastating impact that decline has had on the formation of children, especially boys trying to become men? If so, then we could use your help.

Many worthy causes ask for your support, but FFI is unique in its focus on fatherhood and the father-son relationship. Can you find a place for FFI in your charitable giving? We ask you to consider a *one-time capacity building gift* to help us grow the program. Our weekly father-son basketball sessions are great for community building, and basketball is relatively easy to organize, but we would like to continue to broaden our activities and enhance the quality of the time spent together by fathers and sons. Please go to the “Donate” page and make a generous contribution to the Masonic Community Center. Every dollar absolutely will go to FFI.

Please enjoy the enclosed 5-minute video about the event that FFI put on in February, 2011, featuring Meadowlark Lemon of Harlem Globetrotters fame. FFI was looking for something fun and family-oriented that appealed to the general public, but especially to FFI’s target population in historically African-American North Omaha. The event was made free of charge to the public. The arena was filled with spectators, all of whom were given FFI T-shirts. The evening was a lot of fun and a huge success.

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Promoting Fatherhood & Father-Son Relationships



The Fatherhood-Family Initiative is a project of the Masonic Community Center Foundation in partnership with the Prince Hall Masons of Nebraska. The goal is to strengthen families by strengthening father-son relationships. The program is for boys from 4th grade through senior year in high school. There is a weekly father-son basketball session at the Jesuit Academy.

FFI was created to address the breakdown of the family, and specifically the decline of fatherhood and the father-son relationship. Why? Because no array of social programs can fix the problems produced by breakdown of the family unit,

At www.fatherhoodmaha.com you will find voluminous statistics about the breakdown of the family and the disastrous impact it has on the lives of children and their communities.

There are many worthy programs serving at risk youth, but FFI is the only one targeting the heart of the problem - the increasing absence of the father from family life.



Basketball is informal and recreational. The real focus is the father-son relationship.

We began our Wednesday night sessions September 15, 2010. Participants sign an agreement to follow guidelines on dress code and other matters. Attendance has grown steadily and the program has been well received in the community. In addition to basketball, FFI has held a number of other fun events for our kids. We are pleased with the program's progress but we want to reach more fathers and sons. We hope you will help us do so.



No one is doing what FFI is doing



FFI fills a gap in social programming, public and private. There are numerous good programs serving at-risk youth, but no other organizations specifically target FATHERHOOD and the FATHER-SON relationship.

We thank these organizations for their support of or partnership with FFI:

100 Black Men of Omaha
Anric Corporation
Bellevue University
Creighton University
Davis Companies
Jesuit Academy
Masonic Community Center Foundation

Omaha Empowerment Network
Prince Hall Education Foundation
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**Fatherhood Family Initiative:
Strengthening Families
by strengthening
Father-Son relationships**