



FATHERHOOD COLLABORATIVE OF SAN MATEO COUNTY

***The Fatherhood Collaborative of San Mateo County –  
Advocates for fathers, advisors to the County Board of  
Supervisors***

Anand Chabra, MD, MPH, FACPM  
MCAH Director and CCS Medical Director  
Emeritus Member of Fatherhood Collaborative Governing Board

CityMatCH Conference  
September 19, 2011

## Credits

- San Mateo County Board of Supervisors and County Manager
- Fatherhood Collaborative Governing Board and Officers (Bruce Collins, Alonzo Emery, Jeanine Asche, and Ignacio Guerrero)
- Eve Agiewich, Fatherhood Collaborative Director (retired June 2011)
- San Mateo County Human Services Agency and Health System



## Questions for you

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- Why is fatherhood an MCAH issue?
  
- Assume you want to create/expand services and activities to support fathers and men in your jurisdiction.
  - With whom do you collaborate?
  - How do you fund these activities?



## San Mateo County Health System and The Fatherhood Collaborative

### A Brief History

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- 1996 – San Mateo Perinatal Council (community based organization) teams with a newly elected San Mateo County Supervisor to support fatherhood efforts
  
- 1998 – Supervisor Jerry Hill and management personnel from Health System (MCAH) and Department of Child Support Services, plus several community organizations, form a governing board for a loosely organized Fatherhood Collaborative
  
- 2000 – a local community foundation funds a Fatherhood Coordinator for 3 years who is hired and housed in the Health System (MCAH) – on behalf of the Fatherhood Collaborative



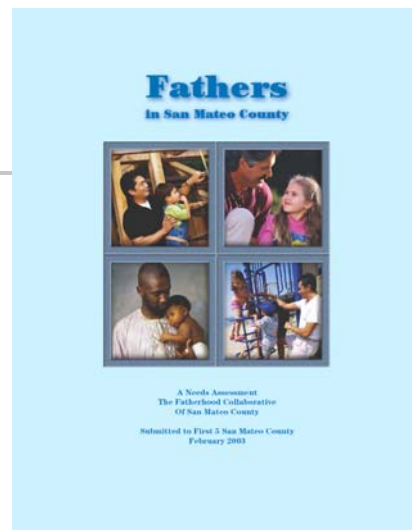
## San Mateo County Health System and The Fatherhood Collaborative A Brief History

- 2001 – MCAH applies for funding, on behalf of the Fatherhood Collaborative, to conduct a needs assessment of fathers of young children (ages 0 – 5 years)
- 2004 – several government agencies (Board of Supervisors, Superior Court, Human Services, Health, Probation, Office of Education, Child Support Services) commit to jointly funding Fatherhood Director position in a community based organization (child care resource/referral agency)
- 2007 – Fatherhood Collaborative designated as an official advisory board to the Board of Supervisors, and a county position is created for Fatherhood Director (initially in the Health System, now in the Human Services Agency)



### Journal Publication

Bucklew SM, Pierrie H, Chabra A.  
What fathers need: A countywide  
assessment of the needs of fathers  
of young children. *Matern Child  
Health J* 2006;10:285-91.



### Report

[http://www.plsinfo.org/healthy  
smc/pdf/fatherhoodrpt.pdf](http://www.plsinfo.org/healthy<br/>smc/pdf/fatherhoodrpt.pdf)



## Family Health Services Division/Health System Programs for Fathers

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- Young Dads group started in 2001 as part of a Federal Adolescent Family Life Project. Continued through 2010.
- Reclaiming Fatherhood (Role of Men) component of the Black Infant Health Program started in 2001. Continued through 2010.
- Male Involvement Program (Teen Pregnancy Prevention) from 1996-1998 and again from 2005-2009.
- My Hero Project – Network for a Healthy California. Started in 2009, ongoing.



## The Fatherhood Collaborative

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### **Mission**

To provide a forum to address and support the importance of men and fathers taking an active role in the well being of children and families.

## GOALS

### Education

- Increase community awareness of, and support for, the importance of fathers' involvement in the lives of children.

### Inspiration

- Inspire individuals and organizations to provide programs and activities that encourage the active involvement of fathers and men in the lives of children and families.

### Engagement

- Encourage fathers and male caregivers from all sectors of San Mateo County to actively participate, connect, and advocate with others to increase their involvement with their children and families.

## Highlights Events and Programs Dad & Me Series

- Dad & Me at the Library
  - ~110 participants per event, 19 events scheduled at libraries throughout the County for 2010 - 2011





## Dad & Me @ the Park

### Dad & Me at the Park

- In regional parks throughout the County.
- June 18, 2011 – About 600 people enjoyed free barbecue, family activities, a resource fair and games.
- Event includes Fatherhood Awards.



## Dad & Me @ the Park



## Dad & Me @ the Park 2010 Fatherhood Service Award

Former Supervisor Mark Church (right) and Board Chair Bruce Collins, presenting the Fatherhood Service Award to Dagoberto Gavidia (center)



## Annual Fatherhood Conference

**Engaging Fathers:  
A Broad Spectrum Look at the  
'Why' and the 'How'**

- January 29, 2010
- 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- San Mateo County Office of Education, 101 Twin Dolphin Dr., Redwood City
- \$50 per person + \$25 for CMEs/CEUs



**Distinguished Keynote Speakers**  
*Carolyn Pope Cowan, PhD & Philip Cowan, PhD,*  
 Professors Emeriti, University of California, Berkeley  
*Hector Sanchez-Flores*  
 Senior Research Associate, Center for Reproductive Health Research & Policy,  
 School of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco


**Continental Breakfast Sessions**  
 Roles of Fathers in Non-traditional Families  
 Fathers Who've Never Had Daughters  
 Needs of Fathers at Different Ages  
 Attachment Theory for Fathers  
 How Mothers Can Facilitate Father-Engagement  
 Attributing Boys in Home Daughters for Non-Grandchild Services  
 How to Create a Father-Friendly Agency  
 Connecting Fathers with Kids After Separation or Absence

**To Register:** [www.brownpapertickets.com/event/5574](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/5574)  
 Refunds, if requested up to five days before the event, will be available.

For more information please contact:  
 Eve M. Agnewich, JD, Director  
 Fatherhood Collaborative of  
 San Mateo County  
 Human Services Agency  
[evem@fatherhoodcollaborative.org](mailto:evem@fatherhoodcollaborative.org)  
 Tel: 650.372.3323

The Fatherhood Collaborative of San Mateo County  
 and Achieve 180 present

### The Impact of Incarceration on Families



- March 28, 2011
- 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- San Mateo County Office of Education, 101 Twin Dolphin Dr., Redwood City
- \$50 per person + \$25 for CEUs (pending)
- Includes breakfast and box lunch

**Keynote Speaker:** Yali Lincroft, MBA,  
 Policy & Program Consultant

**Confirmed breakout sessions include:**  
 View from the Bench: Continuum of Care in Custody Programs;  
 Children of Incarcerated Parents' Bill of Rights;  
 Intergenerational Cycle of Incarceration: Producing a Roadmap for  
 Incarcerated Parents; Barriers to Successful Re-entry;  
 And What About Child Support?;  
 The Effect of Incarceration on Attachment Disorders

**Registration required at:**  
[www.brownpapertickets.com/event/5438](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/5438)  
 Refunds, if requested up to five days before the event, will be available.

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[evem@fatherhoodcollaborative.org](mailto:evem@fatherhoodcollaborative.org)  
 Tel: 650.882.6990

## Programs

### 2010 DADS COUNT BREAKFAST with Hector Sanchez-Flores and California Assemblymember Jerry Hill



Prior DADS COUNT speakers

- Norm & David Mineta
- Tom Brady Jr. & Sr. & Maureen Brady
- Bill Walsh
- Justice Alan Page



**Next DADS COUNT (2012?)**  
**Hon. Leonard P. Edwards (Ret.)**

## Community Impacts

- Dad & Me @ the Library draws 23.4% men, while other library programs draw only 3.1% men;
- Attendance at Dad & Me @ the Park has risen from 50 to over 600;
- The Fatherhood Collaborative is now an official advisory body to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors.



## Challenges

- If you build it, they will not come!



## Challenges

- Working with dads requires sensitivity to cultural barriers.



## Challenges

- Fathers must be made to feel welcome.



## Challenges

Because they do it differently doesn't mean they're doing it wrong.



## Challenges

- County wishes the Fatherhood Collaborative to be self-sustaining within about a year.
- County agencies and private entities are no longer financially able to jointly support a Director position.
- Collaborative effort of this type requires a full-time Director position.
- Very few funders wish to support a position that is not dedicated to direct client services.



with commitment from:

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**Supported by the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors  
with commitment from:**

- Department of Child Support Services
- Human Services Agency
- Health System
- Probation Department
- Office of Education
- Superior Court of California – San Mateo County
  
- Child Care Coordinating Council
- Department of Parks
- Peninsula Library System/San Mateo County Library
- JobTrain
- IHSD, Inc. (Institute for Human and Social Development)
- ADVISORY BOARD and Committee Members



## The Fatherhood Collaborative of San Mateo County

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Visit us at

[www.fatherhoodcollaborative.org](http://www.fatherhoodcollaborative.org)

