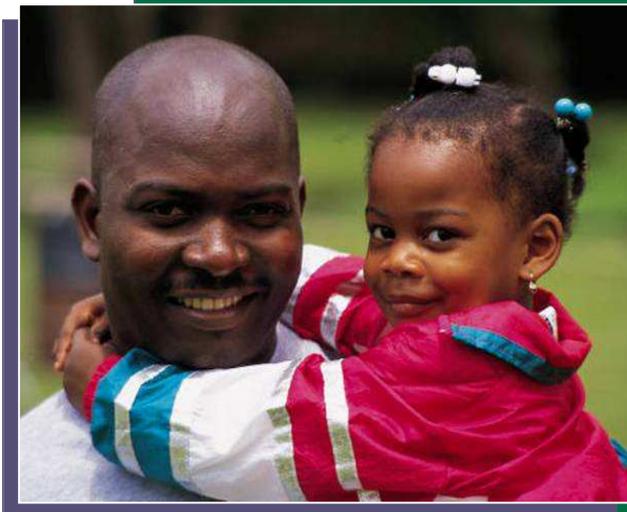




*Strengthening*

**Alabama**

# Fatherhood Directory



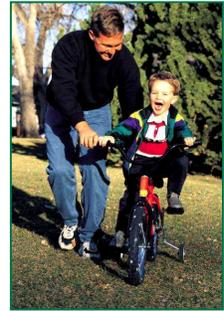
*Strengthening*

**Information  
About  
Fatherhood  
Programs  
In Your  
Community**

**The Alabama Department of Human Resources**

# The Alabama Fatherhood Initiative (AFI) recognizes and promotes the importance of fathers in the lives of their children \*

**What is the Alabama Fatherhood Initiative?** The Alabama Fatherhood Initiative (AFI) is a statewide network of agencies and organizations working together to provide programs and services to help non-custodial parents to financially support their children and to have greater and more constructive involvement in the lives of their children.



**What is the Alabama Fatherhood Resource Directory?** The Alabama Fatherhood Resource Directory is one of several fatherhood resources created in Alabama due to funding and technical assistance from the Alabama Department of Human Resources (DHR), Family Assistance Division (FAD). The Directory is written first and foremost as a service to non-custodial fathers. It pulls together all of the fatherhood programs across the State so that non-custodial parents can find the services they need in their local communities. The Directory is also intended to increase public awareness and to encourage others to mentor children who live in homes with no father present.

**What is the Alabama Fatherhood Conference?** The Alabama Governor's Office, AFI, National Institute of Human Development, and other faith and community-based organizations host a statewide fatherhood conference each year during the month of June called the Alabama Conference on Fatherhood. Visit the fatherhood conference website at [www.alfatherhood.org](http://www.alfatherhood.org) for more information about this annual event to strengthen fathers and families.

**Why do fathers matter in the lives of their children?** Studies have shown that children who grow up without fathers in their lives have a much higher incidence of social, psychological, and academic problems and are more likely to experience poverty. If children have the support and interest of both parents they are more likely to have a better future and to be healthy and happier individuals.

**Why are so many children growing up without their fathers?** Divorce and non-marital childbearing have become commonplace and these trends have dramatically altered children's lives. Nationally, more than half of all children will spend part of their childhood in a home without a father. Alabama's children experience these same circumstances.

- About 1/3 of Alabama's households with children under the age of 18 years are headed by a single parent who is usually a female.
- Alabama has the 8<sup>th</sup> highest divorce rate in the Nation.
- About 35 percent of the births each year in Alabama are to single mothers.

**Why are fatherhood services needed?** When fathers and children live apart, it is naturally more difficult for non-custodial dads to remain involved in their children's lives and to maintain close and consistent relationships with them. When non-custodial and custodial parents have differences, this distances the non-custodial parent and the children even more. Unemployed and underemployed non-custodial fathers sometimes find it difficult to meet child support obligations without the job skills needed to earn livable wages. Non-custodial parents often avoid their children if they are unable to financially support them. Services that address these problems will enhance relationships between non-custodial fathers and children. The positive effect this has on children is well worth the effort.

\* Sources: National Fatherhood Initiative, Father Facts, Fourth Edition  
Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, January 2005

# FATHERHOOD FACTS

- 80 percent of the children who were born in the “post-war generation” could expect to grow up with two biological parents who were married to each other. Today, only about 50 percent of our children will spend their entire childhood in an intact family.
- 24 million children (34 percent) in America live without their biological father.
- Nearly 20 million children (27 percent) in the United States live in single-parent households

**In 2000, a single parent headed 29.4 percent of Alabama’s households with minor children.**

- Divorce and non-marital childbearing have become commonplace and have dramatically altered children’s lives. Approximately half of the children in the United States will live in a single parent home at some point before age 18 years.

**In 2003, 35 percent of newborns each year were born to unmarried parents in Alabama. In several counties, this rate is even higher.**

**Alabama currently has the 8<sup>th</sup> highest divorce rate in the country.**

- Nationally, about 40 percent of children in father-absent homes have not seen their father at all during the past year. About 50 percent of children living absent their father have never set foot in their father’s home.

***Children who live without their biological fathers are, on average, at least two to three times more likely to be poor, to use drugs, to experience health, educational, emotional, and behavioral problems, to be victims of child abuse, and to engage in criminal behavior than their peers who live with their married, biological (or adoptive) parents.***

## Father Absence Can Have Negative Consequences for Children

\* Sources: National Fatherhood Initiative, *Father Facts*, Fourth Edition  
Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, January 2005



# ALABAMA FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE

## *Member Agencies and Organizations*



### ***Office of the Governor***

Alabama State Capitol  
600 Dexter Avenue  
Montgomery, AL 36130  
(334) 242-7100

### ***Administrative Office of Courts***

***Family Court Division***  
300 Dexter Avenue  
Montgomery, AL 36104-3741  
(334) 242-0300

### ***Community Action Association of Alabama***

950 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, Suite 674  
Birmingham, AL 35203  
(205) 458-8875

### ***Children's Trust Fund of Alabama***

100 North Union Street  
Montgomery, AL 36130  
(334) 242-5710

### ***Alabama Department of Corrections***

1400 Lloyd Street  
Montgomery, AL 36107  
(334) 240-9500

### ***Alabama Department of Education***

50 North Ripley Street  
Montgomery, AL 36130-2101  
(334) 242-9950

### ***Alabama Head Start Association***

P.O. Box 158  
Hayneville, AL 36040  
(334) 548-2145

### ***Alabama Department of Children's Affairs***

RSA Tower, 201 Monroe Street, Suite 1670  
Montgomery, AL 36130  
(334) 223-0502

### ***University of Alabama***

***Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime***  
***401 Beacon Parkway West***  
Birmingham, AL 35209-3105  
(205) 917-3780

### ***Alabama Department of Public Health***

***Bureau of Family Health Services***  
Alabama Unwed Pregnancy Prevention Program  
201 Monroe Street, Suite 1346  
Montgomery, AL 36130-3107  
(334) 206-5300

### ***Alabama Department of Human Resources***

***Family Assistance Division***  
***Child Support Enforcement Division***  
S. Gordon Persons Building  
50 Ripley Street  
Montgomery, AL 36130-4000  
(334) 242-1773 or (334) 242-9300

### ***Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs***

Office of Workforce Development  
401 Adams Avenue, Suite 390  
Montgomery, AL 36103  
(334) 242-5100

### ***U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development***

***Alabama State Office of Public Housing***  
Medical Forum Building  
950 22<sup>nd</sup> Street North, Suite 900  
Birmingham, AL 35203  
(205) 731-2630

### ***Alabama Department of Industrial Relations***

649 Monroe Street  
Montgomery, AL 36130  
(334) 242-8055

### ***Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services***

2129 East South Boulevard  
Montgomery, AL 36116-2455  
(334) 281-8780

### ***Auburn University***

***College of Human Sciences***  
***Cooperative Extension Service***  
Auburn University, AL 36849  
(334) 844-4151

### ***Alabama Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation***

100 North Union Street  
Montgomery, AL 36130

### ***Alabama Industrial Development Training***

One Technology Court  
Montgomery, AL 36116  
(334) 242-4158

### ***Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education***

***Alabama College System***  
***Adult Education and Skills Training Division***  
401 Adams Avenue, Suite 290  
Montgomery, Alabama 36104  
(334) 242-2900

# Child Support Orders, Collections, Paternity Establishment And Parent Locator Services

## The Alabama Department of Human Resources Child Support Enforcement Program

*All children need emotional and financial support from both their father and mother. Alabama's Child Support Program strives to insure that this support is provided.*



A primary goal of the Child Support Program is to help families achieve self-sufficiency because the non-payment of child support is a key contributor to the impoverishment of children. The Program assists families in locating parents, establishing paternity, obtaining orders for payment of child support and securing compliance with support orders. These services are now available to all parents who need them, including both custodial and non-custodial parents and parents who have never been on public assistance.

The Welfare Reform Act of 1996 included provisions to ensure that more children have paternity and child support orders established and receive financial support to cover their basic needs. The Child Support Program is very vital to Alabama's Welfare Reform effort, as it is the most effective way to add additional non-taxable income to the households of low income working parents. We have learned, however, that the non-custodial parents of children receiving public assistance and food stamps have similar barriers to successful employment, as do their custodial parents. It is counterproductive to order an unemployed parent to pay monthly child support and not provide supportive services to enable him/her to obtain gainful employment. Thus, the Child Support Program has joined the Family Assistance Division in forming a partnership with the Department of Postsecondary Education and the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) to provide short-term training and supportive services for non-custodial parents. This short-term training is available in numerous counties across the State.

Child Support Services include the following:

- Establishment of paternity in the hospital at the time of the child's birth and later
- Location of parents
- Genetic testing
- Establishing and enforcing child support orders
- Establishing and enforcing medical support orders
- Collecting and distributing support payments
- Review and modification of orders when financial circumstances change

Payment information in child support cases may be obtained by either calling a voice response system at **1-800-284-4347** (In-state) or **1-334-242-0210** (Out-of-state) or by finding online payment information at <http://dhr.state.al.us/opi/login.asp>.

For more information about child support services contact staff in county Department of Human Resources, visit the DHR's web site, [www.dhr.state.al.us](http://www.dhr.state.al.us), or call the DHR's main office in Montgomery at **334-242-9300**. A listing of addresses and telephone numbers of county offices is included in this directory. A handbook explaining child support services can be found on the web site.

# Child Support Services, Financial Assistance, Food Stamps, Child Protective Services and Adult Protective Services

## The Alabama Department of Human Resources County Offices

**Autauga:** 203 North Court, Prattville, AL 36067  
**334-358-5000**

**Barbour:** 276 Hwy. 239 S., Clayton, AL 36016  
**334-775-2000**

**Blount:** 415 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, E. Oneonta, AL 35121  
**205-274-5200**

**Butler:** 109 Caldwell St., Greenville,  
AL 36037 **334-382-4400**

**Chambers:** 6287 Fairfax Bypass, Valley,  
AL 36854 **334-756-2282**

**Chilton:** 500 Airport Rd., Clanton, AL 35046  
**205-280-2000**

**Clarke:** Highway 84 E., Grove Hill, AL 36451  
**251-275-7001**

**Cleburne:** 732 Oxford St., Heflin, AL 36264  
**256-463-1700**

**Colbert:** 3105 George Wallace Blvd.,  
Muscle Shoals, AL 35661 **256-314-4900**

**Coosa:** 300 S. Jackson St., Rockford, AL 35136  
**256-377-2000**

**Crenshaw:** Highway 331 South,  
Luverne, AL 36049 **334-335-7000**

**Dale:** 950 Highway 231 S., Ozark, AL 36361  
**334-445-4900**

**DeKalb:** 2301 Briarwood Ave. S.,  
Fort Payne, AL 35968 **256-844-2700**

**Escambia:** 326 Evergreen Avenue  
Brewton, AL 36427 **251-809-2000**

**Fayette:** 410 16<sup>th</sup> Street, N.E., Fayette, AL 35555  
**205-932-1665**

**Geneva:** 617 S. Commerce St., Geneva, AL 36340  
**334-684-5800**

**Hale:** 906 Wheelan St., Greensboro, AL 36744  
**334-624-5820**

**Baldwin:** 1705 Hwy 31 S., Bay Minette, AL 36507  
**251-580-2800**

**Bibb:** 84 Library Street, Centreville, AL 35042  
**205-926-2900**

**Bullock:** 201 N Powell St., Union Springs, AL 36089  
**334-738-2740**

**Calhoun:** 801 Noble St., Anniston, AL 36202  
**256-231-7500**

**Cherokee:** 202 Hospital Ave., Centre, AL 35960  
**256-927-1440**

**Choctaw:** 1003 Mulberry Ave., Butler, AL 36904  
**205-459-9701**

**Clay:** 86930 Hwy 9, Lineville, AL 36266  
**256-396-6800**

**Coffee:** 3881 Salem Rd., Enterprise, AL 36331  
**334-348-2000**

**Conecuh:** Hwy 83 & I-65, Evergreen, AL 36401  
**251-578-3900**

**Covington:** 1515 Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Expressway, Andalusia, AL 36420 **334-427-7900**

**Cullman:** 210 4<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Cullman, AL 35056  
**256-737-5300**

**Dallas:** 200 Moseley Dr., Selma, AL 36702  
**334-874-1400**

**Elmore:** 73932 Tallasse Hwy, Wetumpka, AL 36092  
**334-514-3200**

**Etowah:** 741 Forrest Ave., Gadsden, AL 35902  
**256-549-4100**

**Franklin:** 737 Highway 48, Russellville, AL 35653  
**256-331-5900**

**Greene:** Highway 43, S., Eutaw, AL 35462  
**205-372-5000**

**Henry:** 507 Kirkland St., Abbeville, AL 36310  
**334-585-4100**

# Child Support Services, Financial Assistance, Food Stamps, Child Protective Services and Adult Protective Services

## The Alabama Department of Human Resources County Offices

**Houston:** 1605 Ross Clark Cr. SE, Dothan, AL 36302  
**334-677-0400**

**Jefferson:** 11 West Oxmoor Road  
Birmingham, AL 35201 **205-945-3700**

**Lauderdale:** 424 Veterans Dr., Florence, AL 35631  
**256-765-4000**

**Lee:** 2015 Gateway Dr. Opelika, AL 36801  
**334-737-1100**

**Lowndes:** 204 Hwy 97, Hayneville, AL 36040  
**334-548-3800**

**Madison:** 2206 Oakwood Ave., NW  
Huntsville, AL 35810 **256-535-4500**

**Marion:** 1435 Military St. N., Hamilton, AL 35570  
**205-921-6000**

**Mobile:** 501 Bel Air Blvd., Mobile, AL 36606  
**251-450-1724**

**Montgomery:** 3030 Mobile Hwy, Montg., AL 36125  
**334-293-3100**

**Perry:** 1609 Hwy 5 South, Marion, AL 36756  
**334-683-5500**

**Pike:** 717 South Three Notch Street, Troy, AL 36081  
**334-807-6120**

**Russell:** 1003 25th Ave., Phenix City, AL 36869  
**334-214-5780**

**Shelby:** 987 Hwy 70, Columbiana, AL 35051  
**205-669-3000**

**Talladega:** 1010 Ashland Hwy, Talladega, AL 35161  
**256-761-6600**

**Tuscaloosa:** 3716 12th Ave. E., Tuscaloosa, AL 35405  
**205-554-1100**

**Washington:** 712 St. Stephens Avenue,  
Chatom, AL 36518 **251-847-6100**

**Jackson:** 205 Liberty Lane, Scottsboro, AL 35769  
**256-574-0300**

**Lamar:** 250 Springfield Rd., Vernon, AL 35592  
**205-695-5000**

**Lawrence:** 13280 AL Hwy 157, Moulton, AL 35650  
**256-905-3100**

**Limestone:** 1007 West Market Street, Athens, AL 35612  
**256-216-6380**

**Macon:** 404 N. Main St., Tuskegee, AL 36083  
**334-725-2100**

**Marengo:** 701 S. Shiloh St., Linden, AL 36748  
**334-295-2000**

**Marshall:** 1925 Gunter Avenue, Guntersville, AL 35976  
**256-582-7100**

**Monroe:** 108 Legion Dr., Monroeville, AL 36461  
**251-743-5900**

**Morgan:** 507 14th Street SE, Decatur, AL 35602  
**256-340-5840**

**Pickens:** Multi-Service Center Bldg., Courthouse Annex  
Carrollton, AL 35447 **205-367-1500**

**Randolph:** 865 Hill Crest Avenue, Wedowee, AL 36278  
**256-357-3000**

**St. Clair:** 3105 15th Avenue North, Pell City, AL, 35125  
**205-812-2100**

**Sumter:** 108 West Main Street, Livingston, AL 35470  
**205-652-5000**

**Tallapoosa:** 353 N. Broadnax St, Dadeville, AL 36853  
**256-825-2755**

**Walker:** 1901 Hwy 78 East, Jasper, AL 35501  
**205-387-5400**

**Wilcox:** 112 Water Street, Camden, AL 36726  
**334-682-1200**

**Winston:** Hwy 33 N., Double Springs, AL 35553  
**205-489-1500**

# Children's Trust Fund of Alabama Alabama Fatherhood Program

*For too long, social programs have ignored the important role male involvement plays in raising healthy children*



The Children's Trust Fund of Alabama (CTF) currently funds over 250 community-based programs throughout the State of Alabama. These programs provide services to benefit children and to assist families. CTF was established by legislation in 1983 as the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board whose mission is to provide funding to develop ways to prevent and reduce child abuse and neglect. While CTF has expanded the scope and number of programs that have been funded over the years, the focus has always remained on increased child well being. For too long, social programs have ignored the important role male involvement plays in raising healthy children.

For the past four years, CTF, in partnership with the State Department of Human Resources (DHR), has funded fatherhood programs throughout the State of Alabama. Programs are funded with Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funds. CTF funds programs through a yearly competitive grant process and provides fiscal and programmatic oversight for each grant award. CTF funds additional programs with state dollars that work with adolescent males to decrease the incidence of fathering a child before they are emotionally or financially prepared to do so.

A recurring issue with program participants, particularly those involved in the Alabama Fatherhood Initiative Programs, was lack of parental involvement and a poor record of child support payments due to lack of access to their children and understanding of their parental rights and responsibilities. CTF has worked closely with the DHR and the Administrative Office of the Courts to develop resources that address access and visitation rights of the non-custodial parent. CTF has also assisted the DHR in the development of the Alabama Fatherhood Initiative.

During the fourth year of the Alabama Fatherhood Initiative, programs continue to target several areas:

- Pregnancy prevention and character development with adolescent males
- Parenting classes with non-custodial males
- Mediation with non/never married parents regarding visitation and custody issues
- Supervised Visitation
- Community education sessions on the rights and responsibilities of fatherhood

CTF has worked diligently to listen to the needs of the community-based agencies. Although the Fatherhood Initiative was new to CTF, many of the organizations that are involved have a long and successful relationship with the agency. Faith-based organizations have also played a significant role in this initiative.

*On the following pages is a listing of the Children's Trust Fund fatherhood programs across the State with information about how to access services in each local area.*

# Parenting Classes and other Father Involvement Services

## “The Children’s Trust Fund” Fatherhood Program Year 2004-05

**Baldwin County Fatherhood Initiative, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 1029, Bay Minette, AL 36507  
Bruce Ikner: **251-580-2874**

**Boys and Girls Clubs of South Alabama**  
**Passport to Manhood**  
1102 Government Street  
Mobile, AL 36604  
Cinthia Moore: **251-432-1235**

**Exchange Club Family Center of Mobile**  
**Daddy Days**  
3101 International Drive, Suite 701  
Mobile, AL 36606  
Lydia Pettijohn: **251-479-5700**

**Mobile County Health Department**  
**Keeping It Real**  
P.O. Box 2867  
Mobile, AL 36652-2867  
Tracy Wallace: **251-690-8852**

**Acts of Kindness, Inc.**  
**Fatherhood Initiating Self Help-F.I.S.H**  
111 Beasley Street  
Andalusia, AL 36420  
Dr. Steven Dohoney: **334-222-4542**

**Alfred Saliba Family Services Center**  
**Fatherhood Initiative**  
545 West Main Street, Suite 12  
Dothan, AL 36301  
Sherri Williams: **334-673-4851**

**Boys & Girls Clubs of South Central Alabama**  
**Hooked on Dads**  
P.O. Box 9104, Montgomery, AL 36108  
Misti Potter: **334-262-7727**

**Boys & Girls Clubs of South Central Alabama**  
**Hooked on Dads, Hayneville Unit**  
P.O. Box 9104, Montgomery, AL 36108  
Misti Potter: **334-262-7727**

**Montgomery Inner City Ministry**  
**Inner City Youth Mentoring**  
P.O. Box 156  
Montgomery, AL 36101  
James F. Crabtree: **334-269-1992**

**Montgomery S.T.E.P. Foundation**  
**S.T.E.P. Fatherhood Initiative Program**  
P.O. Box 241347  
Montgomery, AL 36124  
Robert A. Clayton: **334-262-3141**

**Second Chance Foundation**  
**Second Chance Program**  
810 Cedar Street  
Montgomery, AL 36106  
Rebecca R. Morris: **334-263-9733**

**Alabama Council on Human Relations, Inc.**  
**Men of Courage**  
319 West Glenn Ave.  
P.O. Box 409  
Auburn, AL 36831-0409  
Nancy S. Spears: **334-821-8336**

**Sylacauga Alliance for Family Enhancement, Inc.**  
**SAFE Fatherhood Program**  
P.O. Box 1122  
Sylacauga, AL 35150  
Margaret Morton: **256-245-4343**

**Boys & Girls Club of Northeast Alabama**  
**SMART Moves**  
P.O. Box 22  
Gadsden, AL 35902  
Ric DiLella: **256-546-KIDS**

**Cullman Caring for Kids**  
**F.A.T.H.E.R.S.**  
P.O. Box 698  
Cullman, AL 35056  
Javon Daniel: **256-739-1111**

**Fayette County Board of Education**  
**Fayette County Fatherhood Initiative**  
P.O. Box 686  
Fayette, AL 35555  
Carol Allbriton: **205-932-8071**

**Tennessee Valley Family Services, Inc.**  
**TRIPP**  
P.O. Box 952  
408A Gunter Ave.  
Guntersville, AL 35976  
Tom Stewart: **256-582-0377**

## Parenting Classes and other Father Involvement Services - Continued

**Visitation Is A Priority (VIP) Program  
Marshall Co. - Supervised Visitation/Exchange**  
2315 Loveless Street  
Guntersville, AL 35976  
Cherie Crowe-Pierce: **256-571-9080**

**Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Limestone Co.  
Passport to Manhood**  
P.O. Box 1513  
Athens, AL 35612  
Suzanne Rainey: **256-232-5545**

**City Of Decatur Youth Services Department  
Fathers as (S.T.A.R.s)**  
P.O. Box 488  
Decatur, AL 35601  
L.C. Smith: **256-341-4693**

**CAA of Northwest Alabama, Inc.  
Fatherhood Initiative**  
745 Thompson Street, Florence, AL 35630  
June Thompson: **256-766-4330**

**Family Services Center, Inc.  
Both Parents Supervised Visitation Program**  
600 St. Clair Ave. Bldg. 3  
Huntsville, AL 35801-5057  
Sibyl Beaulieu, MSW: **256-551-1610**

**National Children's Advocacy Center  
Just for Dads**  
210 Pratt Avenue, Huntsville, AL 35801  
Pam Clasgens: **256-533-5437**

**ACES Bibb County  
Bibb County DADS Program**  
175 SW Davidson Drive  
Centreville, AL 35042  
Helen Jones: **205-926-3117**

**Children's Aid Society  
Project Dads Program**  
181 West Valley Ave., Suite 300  
Birmingham, AL 35209  
Cynthia J. Harris: **205-251-7148**

**Jefferson Co. Dept. of Health-Birmingham Healthy  
Start - BHS Male Involvement Program**  
3013-27<sup>th</sup> Street North  
Birmingham, AL 35207  
Rickey G. Green: **205-324-4133**

**UAB Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime  
Birmingham Fatherhood Initiative**  
401 Beacon Parkway West  
Birmingham, AL 35209  
Sam Jones: **205-917-3784**

**Alabama Cooperative Extension System  
Wilcox Co. - B.e.e.ing DADS**  
Courthouse Annex, Suite 117  
12 Water Street  
Camden, AL 36726  
Jeannie Hollinger: **334-682-4289**

**Family Solutions, Inc.  
Fathers United With Children**  
2613 University Blvd.  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401  
Rebecca G. Brooks: **205-342-2566**

**Marengo Family Resource Center  
Pride Parenting**  
P.O. Box 273  
Linden, AL 36748  
Hanan Elgandy/Edward Ward: **334-295-1910**

**Pickens County Family Resource Center  
Fatherhood Program**  
80 William E. Hill Drive  
Carrollton, AL 35447  
Laura W. Cummings: **205-367-9382**

**Woman to Woman, Inc.  
Fatherhood Program**  
P.O. Box 123  
Eutaw, AL 35462  
Johnnie M. Knott: **205-372-3598 or 205-372-0071**

## Workbooks to Enhance Relationships between Parents and Their Children

### The Alabama Administrative Office of Courts

*The Alabama Administrative Office of Courts is working to promote the involvement of both parents, whether divorced or never-married, in the lives of their children, through juvenile or family court cases*

The Alabama Administrative Office of Courts (AOC) is the administrative office for the state court system. The Family Court Division of the AOC provides technical assistance, training, program development, and research and evaluation of court services relating to juvenile and family courts across the State.

In an effort to work with the Alabama Fatherhood Initiative, the Alabama AOC, through the Alabama Access and Visitation Grant Program, has developed two workbooks, one for parents and one for children. The parenting workbook is entitled, *It Takes Two for Your Child: A Workbook on Parenting Together*. The workbook educates divorced or never-married parents, who are involved in cases filed mainly in the juvenile or family courts of the State, to focus on their children. Some of the sections included are as follows: identifying dreams for your child(ren), parental rights and responsibilities (custodial and non-custodial), children's rights, ages and stages of child development, peace-keeping techniques, safety issues, developing a parenting plan, frequently asked questions, and definitions. Parents are encouraged to complete an evaluation sheet in their parenting workbook. Questions focus on the quality and quantity of parenting time with the child and relationships with the child's other parent.



The children's workbook is entitled, *A Book About (child's name): A Booklet for Children Whose Parents Live Apart*. The children's workbook is designed to be a fun and interactive friendly way for parents to talk with their child(ren). Children will be able to color and draw in their workbook and answer questions about their family.

Both workbooks are designed to encourage divorced or never-married parents and their child(ren) to work together to facilitate communication between them and to explain good ways to handle living apart. These workbooks are available to all juvenile or family courts, local DHR agencies and non-profit organizations upon request.

Additionally, the Alabama Access and Visitation Grant has provided Divorce Mediation and Child Issues and Parenting Plan Mediation training for Judicial Volunteer Program coordinators in four judicial circuits in Alabama. This enables coordinators to train citizen volunteers to mediate visitation issues and to assist with development of visitation parenting plans with parents before they go to court.

Copies of both workbooks described above may be obtained by contacting David Williams of the AOC at (334) 242-0333.

# Training Programs and Supportive Services for Fathers

## The Community Action Association of Alabama

*Our primary mission is to reduce or eliminate the causes and consequences of poverty*

The Community Action Association (CAA) of Alabama and its twenty-two member Community Action Agencies is the premiere provider of services to the poor in Alabama. The primary function of the CAA staff is to add value to the Community Action Agencies in Alabama through increased exposure, linkages across to agencies and to its local, state, regional and national partners. Working with its state level partners, the CAA is a member of the Alabama Fatherhood Initiative. The CAA supports services to non-custodial parents and the CAA fatherhood programs in local communities.

Community Action Agencies with fatherhood programs include:

### **Alabama Council of Human Relations**

Men of Courage

319 W. Glenn Avenue, Auburn, AL 36831-0409

Contact: Nancy S. Spears, Frankie King or Janet Burns

Telephone: (334) 821-8336

### **Community Action Agency of Northwest Alabama**

Fathers, Families & Friends Fatherhood Initiative

745 Thompson Street, Florence, Alabama 35630

Contact: June Thompson

Telephone: (256) 766-4330

### **Mobile Community Action Agency**

Head Start Fatherhood Mentoring Program

205 East Main Street, Pritchard, AL 36610

Contact: Karen Miller

Telephone: (251) 457-5700

Web site: [www.mobilecommunityaction.org](http://www.mobilecommunityaction.org)

E-mail: [k.miller@mobilecan.org](mailto:k.miller@mobilecan.org)

### **Community Action Programs of West Alabama**

601 17th Street, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

Contact: Iris Davis

Telephone: (205) 752-6371

Web site: [www.cspwal.com](http://www.cspwal.com)

E-mail: [idavis@dbt.net](mailto:idavis@dbt.net)

### **Community Action Agency of Baldwin, Escambia, Clarke, Monroe, and Conecuh Counties**

P.O. Box 250, Daphne, AL 36526

Contact: Marie Burnett

Telephone: (251) 626-2649 E-mail: [CAAOFBECMC@bellsouth.net](mailto:CAAOFBECMC@bellsouth.net)

## Select two-year colleges in The Alabama College System have joined the Alabama Fatherhood Initiative to provide job skills training and employment to non-custodial fathers

### The Alabama College System

*The Alabama College System is uniquely able to provide special services that can enhance the quality of life for non-custodial fathers and their children*



Job skills and specialized training are traditional parts of the mission of the Alabama College System, but a new initiative is expanding that role to help families. Working with other partners in the Alabama Fatherhood Initiative, selected two-year colleges are providing supportive services for non-custodial fathers. These special support services are offered as part of the Alabama Fatherhood Initiative Skills Training Pilot Project, a short-term skills training program that seeks to enhance the ability of non-custodial fathers to support their children and have quality relationships with them.

The target audience for the Skills Training Pilot Project is non-custodial fathers who are unemployed, underemployed, or having difficulty making child support payments. The Pilot Project offers a variety of services including counseling, basic education programs, short-term technical training, long-term technical training, and employment opportunities. Referrals come from the courts and other agencies and organizations.

The Alabama College System is uniquely able to provide special services that can enhance the quality of life for non-custodial fathers and their children. Participating two-year colleges will provide job training, adult education classes, pre-employment skills and basic work maturity workshops through their Adult Education and Skills Training Divisions. These Divisions are an important innovation in Alabama's system of postsecondary education because they allow development of flexible non-credit programs to meet the evolving needs of adults, ranging from adult literacy to specific job skills training.



The Alabama College System is a natural partner in the Alabama Fatherhood Initiative because the System's mission of providing accessible quality education opportunities, promoting economic development, and enhancing the quality of life for the people of Alabama through a statewide network of public community and technical colleges.

*On the following page is a list of the two-year and technical colleges across the State that are providing skills training and employment assistance to non-custodial fathers. If a non-custodial father is unable to make child support payments, he may wish to find out how he can take advantage of this ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY to be financially responsible for his child!*

***Helping Fathers Help Their Children***

## Two-Year and Technical Colleges with Fatherhood Pilot Programs

### **Alabama Southern Community College**

P.O. Box 2000, Monroeville, AL 36461  
Telephone: (251) 575-3156

### **John C. Calhoun Community College**

P.O. Box 2216, Decatur, AL 35609-2216  
Contact: Laura Hall (256) 306-2500

### **Gadsden State Community College**

P.O. Box 227, Gadsden, AL 35902-0227  
Contact: David Collins (256) 549-8638

Ayers (Anniston) Campus:  
Contact: Jason Hurst (256) 835-5484

### **Northwest-Shoals Community College**

P.O. Box 2545, Muscle Shoals, AL 35662  
Contact: Ron Collier (256) 331-5322

### **Southern Union State Community College**

P.O. Box 1000, Wadley, AL 36276  
Contact: Peggy Bridges (334) 749-5704

### **H. Council Trenholm State Technical College**

1225 Air Base Blvd., Montgomery, AL 36108  
Contact: Joseph Trimble or Chuck McCall  
Telephone: (334) 420-4344 or (334) 420-4338

### **General Information**

(334) 242-1773 or (334) 242-1662

## Services to Strengthen Families in Public Housing Communities

### Department of Housing & Urban Development Alabama State Office of Public Housing

The Alabama Housing & Urban Development (HUD) State Office is a partner in the Alabama Fatherhood Initiative. Working with numerous local Public Housing Authorities, the Alabama HUD office has conducted fatherhood workshops about the importance of fathers to children who reside in public housing communities and to explore funding opportunities for programs that strengthen families.

Public Housing Authorities work with local agencies and organizations to offer an array of services to public housing residents to enhance family life and provide opportunities to adults and youth. *To find out what services may be available to custodial and non-custodial parents and their children in their public housing communities, the Alabama State HUD Office may be contacted at telephone number 205-731-2630.*

### Fatherhood Services to Jefferson County Fathers The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB)

### UAB Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime (TASC) Connecting Fathers Program

Connecting Fathers is a program of UAB Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime (TASC). This fathering program targets, but is not limited to, the specific needs of felony offenders and their children.

Key program elements include the following: (1) educational and support sessions designed to increase knowledge of child development, fathering techniques, communication, and provide opportunities for appropriate role play; (2) case management services to meet participant and family needs, including education, employment assistance, and counseling services; (3) volunteer opportunities for participants who successfully complete a 12-week program and express interest in group facilitation; (4) continued support through Alumni Fathers, a peer-led support group that meets once per month and is responsible for planning father-child activities and related events; (5) staff presentations to faith-based and community groups on the issues facing fathers today; (6) legal assistance is sometimes available for non-custodial fathers through collaboration with **Christian Service Mission's Working for Kids**.

*Connecting Fathers* has a central office at 401 Beacon Parkway East, Birmingham, AL 35209. Support group meetings, led by trained facilitators, meet in seven different locations in the Birmingham area. Steve Longenecker [(205) 917-3780, Ext. 249] or Sam Jones [(205) 917-3780, Ext. 299] may be contacted for any further information about this program.

## Skills Training Funds Available to Non-Custodial Parents

### Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA)

The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) is pleased to be a partner in the Alabama Fatherhood Initiative. ADECA is a state agency that administers grant funds throughout the State for many diverse programs.

*The Office of Workforce Development at ADECA provides funding to the Fatherhood Initiative. These funds are allowing unemployed non-custodial parents to access short-term skills training at nine community colleges across the State.*

Eligible non-custodial parents are able to take short-term skills training classes at selected community colleges and learn a skill in 12 weeks or less. This will quickly prepare them for the job market and increase their chances of finding a better paying job so they can meet their support obligations to their children. Some of the classes being offered under the Fatherhood Initiative program include welding, auto repair, machine tool operator, Commercial Driver's License (CDL), and others.

To find out if one qualifies for this program or needs assistance with a job search or any other employment service, **CareerLink**, listed in the white pages of the telephone book, may be contacted.

## Father Involvement Training for Incarcerated Fathers

### Alabama Department of Corrections

The Alabama Department of Corrections provides a Fatherhood Responsibility Training Program at all of its major facilities. The structure of this training varies by institution. The course is taught on both the quarter and semester system, weekly and biweekly. The classes are 12 to 16 weeks in length. All institutions providing this service offer the same curriculum.

The Fatherhood Responsibility Training Program is included as part of the Department of Corrections Faith Based Program in conjunction with the Faith Based honor dorms and religious education programs. Each inmate receives a Fatherhood Responsibility Training Certificate upon completion of the fatherhood course. Some institutions hold Family Day or a graduation ceremony for inmates that successfully complete the Fatherhood Responsibility Training Program. At one institution, this program is a credit class in the program leading to a Life Skills Diploma.

Due to the efforts of a former prison chaplain, the inmates are encouraged to be more involved with their children through letter writing to strengthen their ties with their families. Fatherhood Responsibility Training helps men to understand their role as fathers and to accept the responsibilities of parenthood.

**For more information on this initiative within Alabama's prison system, contact Steve Walker, Chaplaincy Coordinator, Alabama Department of Corrections, Bullock County Correctional Facility, P.O. Box 5107, Union Springs, Alabama 36089, telephone number (334) 738-5625.**

# Fatherhood Involvement Services

## Fatherhood Initiatives in Alabama Head Start & Early Head Start Programs

**Head Start and Early Head Start** are federally funded programs which provide comprehensive developmental services for low-income children ages birth to five. For nearly 39 years, Head Start has provided educational, social, medical, dental, nutritional, and mental health services to more than 17,000 families in Alabama. Essential to the success of Head Start is the involvement of parents. Central to healthy families and stable marriages is the involvement of fathers in the lives of young children. Programs in Alabama realize the importance of fathers and their defined role in society. Many have established local initiatives through state and federal funding to address this important issue. *The Fatherhood Initiative* is intended to strengthen the role of fathers in families. Strong families play a vital role in the future of the nation; both mothers and fathers play an essential role in the well being of children. Changes in the lives of fathers must be supported by the community in which they live and communities must know what resources and support are available to help in this effort. Non-engaged fatherhood is the number one underlying cause of many societal ills. Head Start believes that positive intervention can change attitudes and behaviors and provide opportunities to gain skills necessary to sustain healthy relationships and achieve positive child outcomes. More information concerning the National Head Start Fatherhood Initiative may be found on [www.acf.hhs.gov](http://www.acf.hhs.gov). Below is a list of Alabama Head Start federally funded community based fatherhood programs.

### **Lauderdale County Head Start**

Jackie Osborne, Director  
541 Riverview Drive  
Florence, AL 35630  
(256) 766-3234

### **Jefferson County Community for Economic Opportunity (JCCEO)**

Gayle Cunningham, Director  
Head Start and Early Start  
300 Eighth Avenue, West  
Birmingham, Alabama 35204  
(205) 327-7500

### **Jefferson County Child Development Council, Inc.**

Calvin Moore, Jr., Program Manager  
1608 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue, South, Suite 221  
Birmingham, AL 35205  
(205) 933-1095

### **Lowndes County Board of Education Head Start**

Arthur L. Nelson, Director  
P.O. Box 158  
Hayneville, AL 36040  
(334) 548-2148 or (334) 548-2511

### **Pickens County Community Action Agency**

Cynthia Simpson, Director  
17 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, NE  
Aliceville, AL 35442  
(205) 373-8492

### **Community Action Agency of Talladega**

Jesse Cleveland, Director  
P.O. Box 278  
Talladega, AL 35161  
(256) 362-8605

### **Cheaha Regional Head Start /Early Start Male Involvement/Fatherhood Program**

Dora I. Jones, Head Start/Early Start Director  
David Curry, Fatherhood Contact  
925 North Street, East  
Talladega, Alabama 35160  
(256) 237-8628  
dcurry@crhs-ehs.org

### **Montgomery Community Action Agency**

Fatherhood Involvement Program  
W.W. Steele, Advisor  
1062 Adams Avenue  
Montgomery, AL 36104  
(334) 303-2307 or (334) 263-3474

# Fatherhood Mentoring Sports Programs

## Coach Tony Pierce Outreach, Inc. - Fathers In Touch Program

### Restoring Relationships between Fathers and their Children!

*After years of coaching players with deep pain and anger due to a lack of relationship with their fathers, Coach Tony Pierce used his experience from coaching at universities, such as Pittsburgh, West Virginia, Wake Forest and Georgia, to start Coach Tony Pierce Outreach, Inc. at Alabama State University.*

Tony Pierce, Defensive Coordinator at Alabama State University, contacts fathers who have not been proactive in their children's lives and pairs them up with a teammate (a father who is proactive) to help give them tools for learning how to love and train their children. Charles Coe, Head Football Coach at Alabama State University, and several NFL and College coaches, including Bobby Bowden of Florida State, have endorsed Fathers In Touch. For more information contact Coach Tony Pierce Outreach, Inc, P.O. Box 6474, Montgomery, AL 36106, Telephone: 334-467-8246. Web site: [www.fathersintouch.org](http://www.fathersintouch.org), Email: [fathersintouch@aol.com](mailto:fathersintouch@aol.com)

## TEAM FOCUS

### Mike and Mickey Gottfried's Mentoring Program *Targeting Boys Ages 10-17 from Fatherless Homes*

*A young boy without a father figure in his home cries out for affirmation. A father affirms a child - builds character - gives him self-esteem, worth and confidence. The vision and drive for Team Focus is based on Mike Gottfried's own life experiences.*

"When I was 11 years old, my father died," explained ESPN college football analyst Mike Gottfried. "I know there are a lot of young men today with the same needs I had because my father was not available to me." Because Gottfried understands the impact not having a father can have on a young man, he felt led to make a positive contribution in this area and as a result, created Team Focus.

Team Focus is a comprehensive community and outreach program in Mobile, Alabama founded by Mike and Mickey Gottfried. The program organizes and operates a series of five-day leadership camps in Alabama, Michigan, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas and Washington, D.C. The purpose of these camps is to provide guidance and support for boys ages 10-17 from fatherless homes while encouraging them in the areas of academics, athletics, social skills and values, and a continual relationship with a mentor. In addition to the leadership camps, Team Focus operates a **Wisdom Center** in Mobile, Alabama. This multi-faceted educational center is open throughout the year and is instrumental in addressing the educational and social needs of the young men. Team Focus strives to help guide potential leaders of tomorrow with a positive influence and lessons that will benefit them throughout life. *Visit the Team Focus website, [www.teamfocusonline.org](http://www.teamfocusonline.org), or contact Dennis Helsel, Executive Director, 1300 Schillinger Road, Suite W-2, Mobile, AL 36695, telephone numbers (251) 635-1515, or 1-877-635-0010, for more information about Team Focus.*

## Teen Pregnancy Prevention Services\*

- The United States has the highest rate of teen pregnancy in the industrialized world
- Alabama is in the top ten in the nation among the states with the highest rates of teen pregnancy
- Teen childbearing costs Alabama's taxpayers over \$1.4 billion annually

*Teen pregnancy creates, and is the direct result of, a wide variety of health and social issues such as poverty, low educational attainment, poor birth outcomes, abuse and neglect, crime and increasing numbers of sexually transmitted diseases.*

The Alabama Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy (ACPTP) is a 501(c)(3) public nonprofit organization established in 1999 to raise awareness of the issues of teen pregnancy and to improve the overall well being of youth and families in Alabama. Since ACPTP was formed, there has been a decline in the number of births to teens. ACPTP collaborates with the Alabama Department of Human Resources, Alabama Department of Children's Affairs and Alabama Children's Policy Councils to increase effectiveness and reach local communities. The ACPTP's target population includes teens, parents, faith organizations, community leaders, educators, health care providers, state agencies and other community-based projects serving families and youth in Alabama. The ACPTP seeks to prevent unintended pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and the avoidance of other risky behaviors. The organization provides resources through the distribution of printed materials/curriculum, an interactive website, media/poster campaign, state conference and public speaking engagements for teens, parents, educators, faith-based communities, local and state policymakers, and the business community. For more information about ACPTP, contact Mrs. Rebel Jackson, Executive Director, Alabama Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, P. O. Box 231472, Montgomery, AL 36123, Telephone : **(334) 215-0406**.

## Fatherhood Public Awareness and Faith Based Involvement

### The National Institute For Human Development (NIHD)

In June 2004, the NIHD founder, Dr. Clyde Williams, had a vision to come together for a call to fatherhood for the State of Alabama. Partnering with the AFI and faith and community organizations, the NIHD was instrumental in convening the 1<sup>st</sup> Alabama Fatherhood Conference in June 2004. Due to NIHD and Dr. Williams, a state fatherhood conference is an annual event in Alabama during the month of June.

Founded in 1990, the NIHD is a nonprofit organization dedicated to lifting youth and families out of poverty and alleviating social ills. The NIHD is committed to improving the quality of life for the economically and socially distressed. The NIHD is an organizational vehicle through which state, federal and foundation grants support can be developed. The NIHD works with clergy of all faiths to provide technical assistance in strategic planning and developing innovative ways to serve their unique communities through program development. The *Southern Center for Human Services* (SCHS) is a NIHD regional community, faith-based organization located at 4334 Oak Street Montgomery, AL 36105, Telephone Number **(334) 281-4435**.

\*Source: The Alabama Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy



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