



Commitment, Caring and Collaboration

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Helping Fathers Build Their Skills and Connect to Their Children

National Fatherhood Initiative's (NFI) 24/7 Dad[®] Program Being Used to Connect Fathers to their Children

Newport News, VA – Are you a father whose child does not live with you? The Newport News Department of Human Services (NNDHS) is helping non-custodial fathers get the skills they need to be involved in their children's lives. The NNDHS Prevention Services Bureau will facilitate a nationally recognized fatherhood program, 24/7 Dad[®], that focuses on the characteristics men need to be good fathers 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Men will attend a free 12-session class that will give them the parenting, relationship, and communication skills they need to be involved, responsible, and committed fathers. The classes begin Tuesday October 8, 2013 from 5:30 PM-7:30 PM and will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays at South Morrison Family Education Center, 746 Adams Drive Newport News, VA 23601.

"NFI is excited about Newport News Human Services' efforts to help fathers build their skills through the 24/7 Dad[®] program," said Roland C. Warren, president of National Fatherhood Initiative.

"Research shows that a major barrier to father involvement is a lack of skills in dads, many of whom grew up without fathers in their lives. At a time when 1 in 3 children live in father-absent homes, Newport News Human Services should be applauded for its efforts to help dads get involved."

Developed by fathering and parenting experts, 24/7 Dad[®] this community-based program helps men develop the attitudes, knowledge, and skills they need to get — and stay — involved with their

children. 24/7 Dad[®] focuses on key fathering characteristics — like masculinity, discipline, and work/family balance — and helps men evaluate their own parenting skills, as well as their fathering role models.

National Fatherhood Initiative (NFI), founded in 1994, works in every sector and at every level of society to engage fathers in the lives of their children. Through its resource center, FatherSOURCE™, NFI offers a wide range of innovative resources to assist fathers and organizations interested in reaching and supporting fathers.

For more information or to register to attend, please contact Mr. Shawn O'Keefe at (757) 369-6813 or by e-mail at sokeefe@nngov.com

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