



**Fathers in Action and Advocacy Week
April 17, 2023 – April 21, 2023
WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS**

EARLY LITERACY MATTERS

**KACEY MERCHANT, FATHER AMBASSADOR
FATHERHOOD TASK FORCE OF SOUTH FLORIDA**

Fathers learn to develop a family lifestyle that provides every opportunity for children to mature socially, emotionally, and academically considering their potential from birth as they grow.

YOUR RIGHTS AS A FATHER STARTS WITH KNOWING

GREG HILL, CEO, OUR CHILDREN HAVE RIGHTS

Learn what information leads to leadership and confidence as a father in the life of children. Paternity issues, child's educator and advocate, school involvement, courtroom mastery, strong and engaged fathering will be discussed and resources identified.

ENGAGING FATHERS IN PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH AND BEYOND

HEATHER BAKER, PROGRAM MANAGER, HEALTHY START COALITION OF MIAMI-DADE

The importance of expectant and father support beginning before birth of this children and specific examples of ways dads can be involved in baby's physical and emotional health & development through age three.

MEN UP MIAMI

J. MARTINEZ, CEO, HOPE FOR MIAMI

Be an involved father! Fathers are essential to healthy children and youth. Join Hope for Miami Mr. J in a discussion surrounding fathers' unique contributions that no one can replicate. Learn the compelling ways fathers can make an impact; learn valuable tips on how to be more involved; and how to help your child/youth do well in school.

**FATHERS & FAMILIES: ARE WE SPEAKING THE SAME LANGUAGE
AS OUR CHILDREN**

**OSMANI GONZALEZ, MIAMI-DADE AREA DIRECTOR
DADS CLUB**

Learn techniques and strategies on how to get your children to listen to you to counteract the concerning effects of louder voices of music, movies, social media comparisons and peer pressure. Being part of their lives and knowing their friends plays a significant role.

FATHERHOOD IN AMERICA

**NADEIGE THERESIAS-JOISIL, YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM DIRECTOR
SANT LA, HAITIAN NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER, INC.**

Fathers and families often face challenges in adjusting to different cultures, environments, and systems. This workshop will help ease some of the concerns that fathers may have.

DADS, DRINKS AND DRUGS

**JOEL MESA, TRAINER
INFORMED FAMILIES**

Alcohol and drug prevention focused on the father's role in the family.



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READY, SET, GO MIAMI STORYTELLING

**ENRIQUE CORDERO, OUTH SERVICE SPECIALIST, MIAMI DADE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
MDLPS/MIAMI-DADE GRADE LEVEL READING CAMPAIGN: MIAMI DADE PUBLIC LIBRARY
SYSTEM IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CHILDREN'S MOVEMENT OF FLORIDA**

Learn how to engage in shared reading experiences with your child(ren) and support your child's early literacy development.

COMMUNICATION AS A FATHERING CHAMPION

AUNTARIA JOHNSON NATIONAL FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE

The 24/7 Dad ® understands that effective communication starts with him. Identify your communication strengths and weaknesses, increase awareness of the role you play in difficult communication situations, and identify different communication styles and the style you use most.

RAISING YOUR CHILD WITHOUT RAISING YOUR VOICE

**EZRA CARIAS, LEAD FACILITATOR AND EBONIE GILBERT, FACILITATOR
BE STRONG INTERNATIONAL, THE CHILDREN'S TRUST PARENT CLUB**

Learn effective techniques and strategies on how to deal with interactions with your children that leave you feeling overwhelmed, angry, frustrated to avoid the perils of yelling.

BULLYING

**JOSEPH ZOLOBCHUK, TERRANCE JOHNSON
YES INSTITUTE**

How does being bullied affect children's academics, emotions, and ability to manage everyday pressures? Learn how to recognize and respond to the bully or victim and use effective listening to understand what is being communicated to lead to win/win lasting solutions.

FATHERS, KIDS AND FILM

**OSCAR ROSENBERG, FILM ENTERTAINMENT BLOGGER
MIAMI DADS GROUP**

Watching, reviewing, and experiencing movies with kids creates a strong family connection. Gain insight on how to analyze films with kids to contribute to their learning experience. Learn about MiamiDads group.

FATHERS BECOMING LEADERS AT HOME AND IN THE COMMUNITY

LYLE MUHAMMAD, CEO, CIRCLE OF BROTHERHOOD

Organize your life around leadership and learn the mindset and actions that will get you there. Recognize your family and community needs, be aware of policies and programs affecting your goals, and learn how to advocate for what is needed.

FINANCIAL LITERACY

**FRANTZ THEODORE, JOHANNE CELESTIN, TIMOTHY ELIACIN
WORLD FINANCIAL GROUP**

The importance of financial literacy will be discussed. Building a strong financial foundation will result in less financial stress and anxiety, which improves a family's quality of life.



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THE VALUE OF FATHERS

BRITTANY LAMBERT-BROWN, CHIEF PROGRAM OFFICER, OVERTOWN YOUTH CENTER

Fathers and father figures play a significant role in building relationships with their children. The discussion will focus on separate ways fathers can have a positive impact on their child's present and future when they are actively involved in their children's lives and school.

MY DAD. MY HERO: HOW PLAY STRENGTHENS THE FATHER/CHILD BOND AND SUPPORT CHILDREN'S MENTAL WELLBEING

MICHELLE YANES, MENTAL WELLNESS SPECIALIST AND NATALIE WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

In this 60-minute panel discussion, fathers will engage in conversation related to the importance of play. The team will discuss strategies and tools to increase the awareness of why play is important for mental health in children. The participants will engage in Mental Wellness activities and identify challenging barriers to engaging in meaningful play, and share best practices. A resource list will be developed and shared with the participants for continued support in strengthening the father/child bond.

PARENTS JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND

CHARLES WILLIAMS, CEO, GENERATIONAL CURE

The purpose of the workshop is to create an ongoing dialog between youth and their fathers and families to foster better communication. Communication requires a willingness to hear and comprehend with a little compromise. Let's fix the issue.

FATHERS LIVING YOUR PURPOSE

MINISTER HARRELL HENTON, BROWNSVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST

A practical discussion about living your life with purpose realizing your full potential, and creating a pathway to success.

HOW TO BE AN ENGAGED FATHER

W. AJILBOLA BALOGUN, COMMUNITY LEADER

BLACK CHILD DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE, MIAMI AFFILIATE

Fatherhood engagement is essential for a child's social and emotional growth. This workshop will detail supportive and loving ways that you can be present in your child's life to raise their self-esteem whether you are near or far.

ENGAGING FATHERS & FAMILIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

STEPHANIE SILVA, GRANT PROJECT MANAGER

ADRIANA MARTINEZ, CHILDCARE PROGRAM COORDINATOR

SEBASTIAN ALVAREZ, FATHER AMBASSADOR, YOUNG PARENT PROGRAM

MDC COLLEGE YOUNG PARENT PROGRAM

Fathers and families will learn about how Miami Dade College serves fathers in college. Resources will also be discussed.



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LEARN TO SHIFT YOUR PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL STATE TO NURTURE GROWTH

JONATHAN EASTMAN, COUNSELOR, BRAINHEART GUIDANCE

Learn to shift your physical and emotional state to nurture growth.

MENTORING YOUR CHILDREN

RONALD MUMFORD, PROGRAM MANAGER

AFFIRMING YOUTH

Children are stressed too! Learn to look at the world through their experiences and help advise them on ways to manage their personal development which affects their problem solving and decision making.

Resources will be discussed to help discover children's strengths.

BUILDING FATHER ENGAGEMENT WITH EARLY LITERACY

JACQUELINE LYNCH, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

FIU SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Learn about the research on father engagement in early literacy, including child outcomes and the significance of fathers' support for their children's development. Types of book interactions, how they connect with learning and opportunities for fathers to browse children's books will be provided.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

OMAR CAMPUZANO, FAMILY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION AND HUMAN SERVICES

Fathers and families will learn the importance of father engagement in early childhood education and how their experience positively impacts their child's academic, emotional, and social well-being.



Aetna Better Health of Florida

