



**FATHERHOOD
DEMONSTRATION GRANT
NEWSLETTER**

Community & Economic Development Association of Cook County, Inc.

Year 2 - Volume #3

DECEMBER 2007

HEALTHY MARRIAGE SERVICES:

CEDA-Children and Family Services have continued Healthy Marriage Services for parents-couples of Head Start and Early Head children. These services may include Healthy Marriage curriculum workshops, Healthy Marriage assessments, treatment, and referrals, Healthy Marriage mentoring, or special events. Parent enrollment and information meetings have been held in each of the South, Southwest, West, and North regions, and at Head Start Center's since April 2007.

The Ed Presberry/Country Club Hills Healthy Marriage Workshop group has continued in November. This group is using "The African American Marriage Enrichment Program" curriculum for group session II. The Resurrection Procure-Forest Park Workshop group has continued in November. This group is using the "Exploring Relationships and Marriage" curriculum. The Resurrection group also held a Healthy Marriage Dinner and movie outing on 12/08/07, and a Workshop-Dinner outing on 12/19/07 to promote and enhance relationships.

The Des Plaines Healthy Marriage Workshop group was initiated on 11/08/07. This group is using the "Exploring Relationships and Marriage" Spanish curriculum. A Ford Heights Healthy Marriage Workshop was held on 12/06/07. Additional Healthy Marriage Workshop groups are being formed at other Head Start Center's.

For Love and Money: The Impact of Marriage on Economic Well-Being

November 2007: Top Ten Findings:

- Married men tend to have greater earnings than men in cohabiting relationships
- Married individuals are more likely to own homes and stocks than peers who are single or divorced
- Marriage is associated with greater likelihood of attaining affluence
- Among individuals nearing retirement age, being married is associated with maintaining household wealth

- Among individuals who rent, married individuals are more likely to apply for mortgages than peers who are single
- Married-couple households are more likely to hold savings, checking, or money accounts than peers who are single
- Among low-income households, married households are more likely to accumulate savings than non-married households
- Among children of divorced parents, those whose mothers remarried are the least likely to experience poverty
- Married individuals are less likely to default on debt than peers who are divorced
- Marriage appears to offset the negative effects of a disadvantaged family background on economic well-being for women

ECONOMIC STABILITY-EMPLOYMENT SERVICES:

CEDA-Children and Family Services have continued Economic Stability-Employment Services for parents of Head Start and Early Head Start children. These services include job skills and job training services, job search and career enhancement education. Clients attend workshops for On-the-Job training, continuing adult education, and collaboration with the CEDA Workforce Development program. Parent enrollment and information meetings have been held in each of the South, Southwest, West, and North regions, and at Head Start Center's since April 2007.

Weekly Economic Stability-Employment workshops have been held at the Cicero Center since August 2007. Additional workshops or events held throughout the CEDA service area included a Starting your own business workshop- Children's Home Center-Calumet City, Self Development workshop-Ford Heights: Blake, Developing financial stability and success workshop-Cicero, and Ideas for living a life without credit or debt workshop-Cicero. Economic Stability workshops have also been held in several of the South Region Center's including: Blue Island, Chicago Heights: St. Joseph, Ford Heights: Cottage Grove and Blake, and Harvey.

FATHERHOOD LENDING LIBRARIES:

Fatherhood Grant materials and resources have been obtained. These include books, DVD's, or videotapes related to Fatherhood, Healthy Marriage, and Economic Stability-Employment. There are four regional lending libraries located in the following areas:

South Region: Ford Heights (Cottage Grove), Illinois

Southwest Region: Orland Park, Illinois

West Region: Oak Park, Illinois

North Region: CEDA Northwest-Mt. Prospect, Illinois

Parents and clients are able to check out materials and resources from the regional lending libraries, with additional materials being made available at all of the Head Start and Early Head Start Center's.

FATHERHOOD AND HEALTHY MARRIAGE CONFERENCE:

The annual CEDA Fatherhood and Healthy Marriage Conference is scheduled for May 1-2, 2008. More information will be forthcoming.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!

Note: These services are provided to all eligible persons regardless of race, gender, age, disability or religion.

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families – Office of Family Assistance