

"Our mission is to help assure every child a father they can count on, no matter what."



Bob Ruthazer, CFLE First Things First (804) 288-3431 x-13 bob@firstthingsrichmond.org

Strengthening families for a better community...

COLLABORATION OBJECTIVES

Partner with Local Hospitals

HCA Henrico Doctors + CJW, Richmond Community, VCU Hospital

- Implement Unique Program
- Bring Out the Best in New Dads
- Develop Role Models and Mentors for Fathers in Our

Community: Trained Coaches, Veteran Dads,

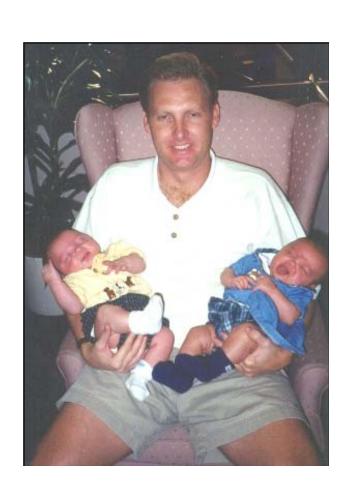
Fatherhood Support Group

Serve <u>all</u> fathers

Bringing Out the Best in New Fathers

History

- 1990 An immediate success.
- Operated as "hobby" at local hospital for six years.
- Discovered by media, leading to requests from other hospitals.
- Replicated at United Hospital in Grand Forks, North Dakota (1996).
- US Navy Southwest Region (2000).
- Expanded to Liverpool, England (2007).
- FTF Richmond June 2007



Bringing Out the Best in New Fathers

Participants

- Rookie fathers-to-be
- Veteran new dads
- 2-10 month old babies
- Coach
- All dads regardless of cultural, economic or age levels

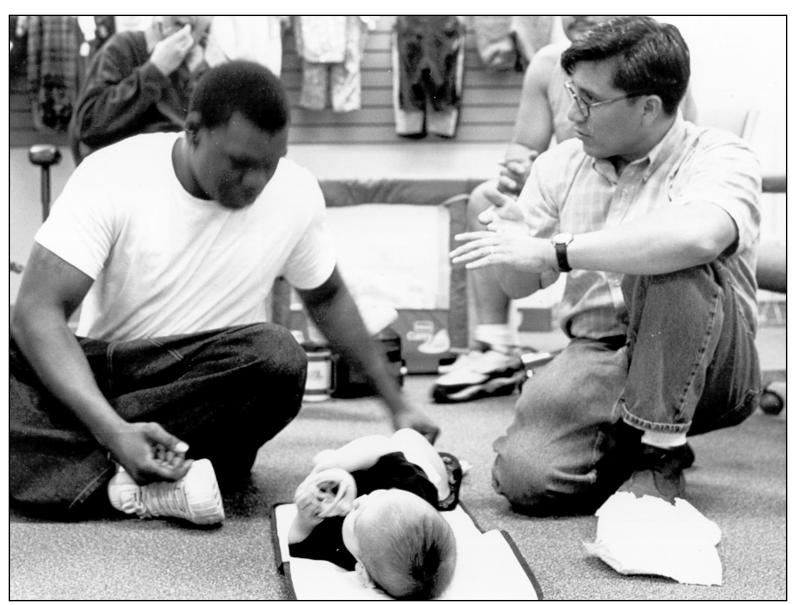


Bringing Out the Best in New Fathers

Topics Discussed In Workshop:



- Forming Families
- Communication
- Team Work
- New Moms
- New Babies
- Long Work Hours
- Safety





Boot Camp For New Dads Safety

- The majority of traumatic injuries to children are accidental and could have been prevented.
- The excuse used most in Shaken Baby situations is "I DIDN'T KNOW".
- At Boot Camp strong emphasis is placed on:

Proper Baby Holds
Controlling your Anger
Making your Home Baby Safe
Shaken Baby Syndrome
Product Safety

Bringing Out the Best in New Fathers

Lessons Learned

- Veteran dads make great role models and mentors.
- Men are very receptive to advice as they become fathers.
- Information from veterans that fathers can trust is essential.
- Men teaching men the ropes is a very effective formula.



Bringing Out the Best in New Fathers

Lessons Learned

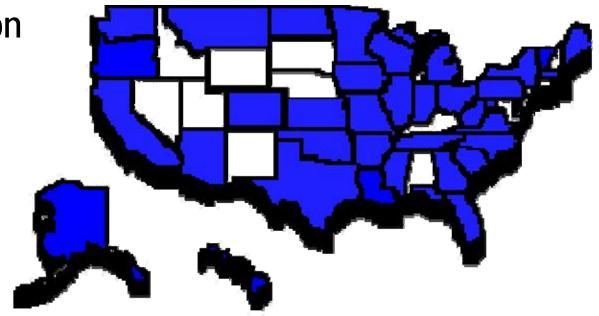
- Dads of all ages, creeds, colors, economic status, etc. learn from each other.
- Patterns of involvement with children, both good and bad, are set early.
- Humor is often the best anti-dote to the stress of change as men become dads.



Over 260 Communities in 43 States, the Military, Japan Sicily and UK!

For More Information Call BCND Headquarters at (949) 754 9067 or

First Things First (804) 288-3431



WWW. BCND.ORG

www. firstthingsrichmond.org

Need for success

- Full partnership with hospital
- Referrals from childbirth classes & tours
- Listing with offered classes (on line and print)
- Promotion to OB/GYN Partners
- Publicity in hospital and joint PRESS RELEASE
- Support for our fund development: LOS etc
- Space for class

We need to raise additional community partners and funding...

QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

Will you help us Strengthen Families for a Better Community

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