

The Opportunity for a Healthy Solution



THERE ARE NUMEROUS FLAWS WITHIN OUR NATION'S FAMILY COURT AND CHILD-SUPPORT SYSTEMS.

Here at Dads Evoking Change, we see each individual issue as an opportunity to create change and improve outcomes for fathers challenged by the complex set of laws that often hurt, rather than help, low-income families.

ACCORDING TO RESEARCH

70% of outstanding child-support debt in California is owed to the government, not to kids. Three-quarters of California child-support cases involve low-income families – disproportionately families of color – currently or previously on public assistance. Of the parents who owe payback debt, most earn less than \$10,000 a year.

FATHERS ARE OFTEN

marginalized in family courts, and the challenges are even greater for those who cannot afford lawyers. Many fathers are alone in the process, not given any support to understand the complexities of the legal system, and forced to accept subpar situations that can actually harm the child in the end.

HAVING A CHILD

is one of the most difficult experiences. Unfortunately, in low-income communities, when the parents are not together, the family courts and child support system are often used as a tool of power, control and enforcement. Instead of supporting father involvement, it can systematically separate the noncustodial father from child.



WHEN CHILD-SUPPORT PAYMENTS GO TO GOVERNMENT RATHER THAN TO FAMILIES, CHILDREN SUFFER



OUR SOCIAL POLICIES SHOULD NOT TREAT ALL LOW-INCOME FATHERS AS “DEADBEAT DADS”



REQUIRING PARENTS TO PAY BACK PUBLIC ASSISTANCE DRIVES FAMILIES APART

OUR SOLUTION

Dads Evoking Change (DEC) supports fathers as they navigate the complex child custody and/or child support process in family court. Our target population is low-income fathers, fathers of color and young fathers who may not have the legal knowledge or financial means to hire lawyers to advocate for them.



DEC provides a network of supportive ambassadors for fathers experiencing legal, socio-emotional and financial challenges with child custody and child support issues. We offer individualized guidance, educational group workshops and access to community resources.

We believe in promoting sensible child custody and child support agreements that benefit the child first, and the family overall thereafter. Our vision is a transformed family court system, that is free of bias and discrimination against low-income fathers and fathers of color who want to positively parent their children.

“A good father is one of the most unsung, unnoticed, and yet one of the most valuable assets in our society.”

FUNDRAISING GOAL FOR 2020: \$100,000.00

How your donation will help DEC

- ✦ **ONBOARD TWO CASE MANAGERS WHO WILL ADVOCATE FOR AND ASSIST FATHERS THROUGH FAMILY COURT PROCESSES**
- ✦ **FILL THE ROLE OF A CONSULTANT FOR THE FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES PROGRAM**
- ✦ **ESTABLISH A PHYSICAL LOCATION IN ALAMEDA COUNTY WHERE WE CAN PROVIDE WRAP-AROUND SERVICES**
- **CAPACITY BUILDING**



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