



♥ Fatherhood Forward Fellowships

Overview: Supporting Fatherhood Through the D.A.D.S. Initiative

While our community baby showers uplift mothers and newborns, “**Fatherhood Forward Fellowships**” ensure fathers are equally equipped to nurture, protect, and lead. This initiative—**Developing Active Dedicated Support (D.A.D.S.)**—redefines fatherhood as a lifelong commitment to presence, partnership, and purpose.

1. Fatherhood Forward: From Inception to Legacy

For expectant and new fathers

Fatherhood doesn’t begin in the delivery room—it begins with intention. “Fatherhood Forward” walks with men from the moment they learn they’re expecting, through the sleepless nights, first steps, school years, and beyond. This journey equips fathers to be emotionally present, spiritually grounded, and practically prepared to raise children with love, structure, and legacy in mind. From baby showers to bedtime prayers, we’re building strong starts and stronger futures—one father at a time.

2. Fatherhood Forward: From Reconnection to Redemption

For fathers seeking to rebuild relationships with their children

It’s never too late to move forward. Whether separated by distance, decisions, or silence, “Fatherhood Forward” offers a path for reconnection rooted in grace, accountability, and healing. Through mentoring, peer support, and faith-based guidance, fathers learn how to re-enter their children’s lives with humility and hope. This isn’t about perfection—it’s about presence. Every step forward is a seed planted for restoration, trust, and generational change.

3. Fatherhood Forward: From Re-entry to Responsibility

For fathers returning from incarceration

Re-entry is more than a second chance—it’s a sacred opportunity. “Fatherhood Forward” supports men transitioning from incarceration into fatherhood with dignity, structure, and support. We address the real barriers—employment, stigma, parenting skills, and emotional wounds—while affirming each man’s God-given role as protector, provider, and nurturer. This is about rewriting the narrative: from locked out to locked in—with love, purpose, and legacy.

4. Fatherhood Forward: From Presence to Purpose

For all fathers seeking deeper impact

You’re already showing up—now let’s go deeper. “Fatherhood Forward” is for men who want to move from being physically present to spiritually intentional. Whether you’re a stepdad, granddad, mentor, or biological father, this journey invites you to lead with wisdom, love with courage, and leave a legacy that outlives you. Through workshops, devotionals, and community circles, we equip fathers to raise whole children in a fractured world.

Fatherhood Forward Fellowship Event Outline **Empowering Fathers with Faith, Family, and Fellowship**

Event Goals

- Celebrate and equip fathers at every stage—new, reconnecting, re-entering, or mentoring.
- Promote emotional wellness, parenting skills, and legacy-minded leadership.
- Connect fathers to Oak Hill’s D.A.D.S. initiative and community resources.
- Foster intergenerational mentorship and faith-rooted encouragement.

Session Breakdown

1. Welcome & Devotional

- Opening prayer or scripture on fatherhood (e.g., Proverbs 20:7 or Luke 15)
- Brief message on the power of presence, purpose, and legacy
- Acknowledge diverse fatherhood journeys: first-time dads, stepdads, grandfathers, re-entry fathers

2. Fatherhood Forward Panel or Speaker

- Invite local pastors, coaches, or mentors to share wisdom
- Include testimonies from fathers who’ve reconnected or re-entered
- Highlight Oak Hill’s D.A.D.S. program and how to get involved

3. Breakout Sessions (Choose 2–3 Tracks)

- *Fatherhood Foundations*: parenting basics, co-parenting, bonding with infants
- *Faith & Forgiveness*: healing from absence, rebuilding trust
- *Re-entry & Responsibility*: navigating fatherhood after incarceration
- *Legacy & Leadership*: mentoring youth, building generational impact

4. Interactive Activities

- “Dad Talk” circles: small group sharing and encouragement
- Fatherhood pledge or journaling exercise
- Resource tables: GetCoveredMS, Healthy Kids MS, mental health, employment, legal aid
- Optional: barbershop booth, photo station, or “Dad & Me” activity corner

5. Closing & Commissioning

- Group prayer or blessing for fathers
- Invite dads to join ongoing D.A.D.S. mentoring circles or workshops
- Distribute branded folders or tote bags with devotionals, resource guides, and contact info

Event Materials

- Flyers and social media graphics with “Fatherhood Forward: Faith, Family, Fellowship” branding
- Sign-in sheets and consent forms
- Devotional handouts and journaling prompts
- QR codes linking to Oak Hill’s fatherhood resources and app
- Feedback forms and follow-up interest cards



✓ **Fatherhood Forward Fellowship Planning Checklist**

Empowering fathers through presence, purpose, and legacy

Resource Coordination

- Secure venue (church hall, community center, school gym, or outdoor pavilion)
- Ask individuals, churches, and fraternal organizations for financial donations.
- Use Oak Hill’s donation portal to direct supporters to D.A.D.S.-specific giving.
- Request donations: journals, devotional books, hygiene kits, gift cards, snacks
- Engage local barbers, counselors, coaches, and fatherhood mentors
- Partner with re-entry programs, workforce development, and D.A.D.S. initiative
- Recruit volunteers for setup, hospitality, breakout sessions, and prayer support
- Prepare branded folders or tote bags with take-home materials

Promotion and Outreach

- Design flyers with “Fatherhood Forward” branding and triple-F title (e.g., *Fatherhood Forward: Faith, Family, Fellowship*)
- Share on Oak Hill website, Facebook, and Healthy Together MS streams
- Distribute flyers at churches, barbershops, schools, and re-entry centers
- Send SMS/email invitations to dads, mentors, and community partners
- Include culturally resonant and faith-rooted messaging
- Promote D.A.D.S. program and fatherhood resources

Content Development

- Schedule sessions on parenting, emotional wellness, re-entry, and legacy-building
- Invite speakers: pastors, coaches, mental health professionals, and fatherhood advocates
- Open with a devotional or prayer circle for fathers
- Include testimonies from fathers who’ve reconnected, re-entered, or recommitted
- Plan interactive activities (fatherhood pledge, journaling, “Dad Talk” circles)
- Set up resource tables for GetCoveredMS, Healthy Kids MS, and Oak Hill’s M.O.M.S. program
- Include QR codes linking to Oak Hill’s fatherhood resources and app

Compliance and Follow-Up

- Ensure privacy notice distribution and HIPAA-compliant engagement
- Track attendance and collect feedback
- Share event highlights on social media and newsletters
- Document impact stories for future grant reporting and outreach
- Invite participants to join ongoing D.A.D.S. mentoring circles or workshops