



FATHERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE NEWSLETTER

Being involved with your child makes all the difference in the world

October 2015 Issue 3



"You're helping me build better skills on being a dad. I like it!"

- Robert,

*A 24:7 Dad Participant and
Father of 4 in San Marcos, TX*

Because being a Father is a 24/7 Responsibility

Ready To Take Your Fathering Skills To The Next Level?

Thirteen fathers across Hays County have committed to adding to the skills they have in their fathering tool belt. They have enrolled in our 24:7 Dad Group. These fathers vary in age from teen fathers to late 30's; from new dads to the father of 3 plus children.

Currently we have 3 groups going. We are looking to expand into evening groups in Kyle and Wimberley very soon. In our 24:7 Dad Groups, fathers can come and explore topics such as what it means to be a man, taking care of yourself, co-parenting, discipline, and more. We have seen that dads quickly feel comfortable sharing stories about raising their children which helps in forming bonds and accountability between the fathers in the group. Dads are finding out what they do impacts the lives of their children, whether they realize it or not. Contact us for more information on what it means to be a 24:7 Dad.



Time with his children



Dad and son working on activity

WIC Is For Men Too

I remember walking into a Women Infants and Children's Center when my wife was pregnant. I was a bit nervous and felt out of place. I mean what if other guys saw me. "What would they think"? These were some of the thoughts I was thinking at that time.

You may be able to identify with this, but WIC is for Men too. WIC offers nutrition counseling, baby food and formulas, and helps families buy foods full of the nutrients your children need. Dad, can this help your family? Yes. If your baby's mother is pregnant WIC also helps with breastfeeding education for both you and mom. To see if you qualify contact us or your local WIC Clinic.

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our services and program.

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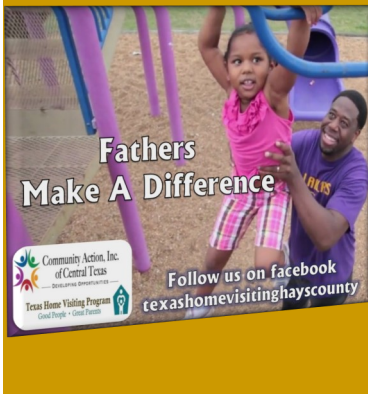
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**FATHERS IN HAYS
COUNTY**



It's Not Too Late For A Comeback

by D. David Bryant

If you are a basketball fan, you might have heard of the gentleman to the right holding the basketball. His name is Michael Jordan. Some would argue he was the best player ever to play the game. I remember watching the 1992 NBA Finals. The Chicago Bulls, Jordan's team, were playing the Portland Trailblazers and were losing the game. The Bulls were down by 14 in the final quarter. Michael Jordan was able to help lead his team to a 4 point victory in the final seconds. A truly exciting game!



Well, let's bring you to this century and to last year's 2014 football season. Andrew Luck and the Indianapolis Colts had the 2nd largest comeback of the NFL post season history when they faced the Kansas City Chiefs. The Colts were down 38-10 in the 3rd quarter. Despite what the critics said and despite what it looked like, Andrew Luck was able to come back and lead his team to a 45-44 victory.

So David, what do you say to the father who may not be the best example to his children; the father who is not there for his children or may be there physically, but absent emotionally? I would tell that father that "it's not too late for a comeback. Just as Michael Jordan and Andrew Luck were able to engineer great comebacks for their teams, you too, can engineer a great comeback for your child. The best time to have started to be a great dad to your 5 year old was 5 years ago. The next best time is now. Despite what your critics may say, you can put forth a great effort and show your child, you care."

"When the Colts and Bulls were behind in their games, they didn't try to go for the win every play. They played to win, but the comeback started one play at a time. The same goes for you dad. You may have some ground to make up. Don't try to win your child over in one day. It may start with a phone call, a text, asking them about their day, coloring with them, reading to them, or showing interest in what they are interested in. Despite what the scoreboard of life may say, be intentional about your interactions. Over time, it will speak volumes to your child, your family and community. Good luck and I am here for you, sir." That's what I would say.



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