



*May 3 at Legislative Office Building*

## **CT Fatherhood Initiative Event to Focus on State, Local Partnerships Supporting Families**

(HARTFORD, CT) – The special role fathers play in raising children and supporting healthy families will be in the spotlight Thursday, May 3, when a coalition of state and private agencies invites the public to a special event at the Legislative Office Building.

On the theme of ‘Teach, Love and Inspire,’ the event will feature speakers, a resource area, videos and presentations sponsored by the Connecticut Fatherhood Initiative, in collaboration with the Commission on Women, Children and Seniors.

Besides highlighting the role of fathers, the event will raise awareness of the work that state agencies and community partners have been doing over the past two decades to support the critical role fathers play in the lives of their children and families.

“We continue to work to support and promote the positive involvement of fathers with their children, understanding that fathers are critical forces in their children’s lives and that they must be acknowledged and assisted with the important role they play,” said Anthony Judkins, the Connecticut Fatherhood Initiative’s program manager.

The ‘Leadership Convening’ will also feature a video produced by the CT Fatherhood Initiative through funding received from the federal Department of Health and Human Services’ Promoting Responsible Fatherhood Grant, entitled “It’s About the Kids.” The video highlights how comprehensive fatherhood programming at community-based agency partners has been helpful to program participants and their families.

In attendance will be representatives from the following organizations: Departments of Social Services, Children and Families, Correction, Labor, Housing, Public Health, Education, and Mental Health and Addiction Services; Office of Early Childhood, the Judicial Branch, Commission on Women, Children and Seniors, New Haven Family Alliance, Madonna Place, GBAPP, Catholic Charities, Klingberg, Community Renewal Team, Real Dads Forever, and more.

The May 3 event runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in conference room 2E at the Legislative Office Building, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford. The General Assembly will be in session, but limited free parking may be available in the LOB parking garage (next to the State Armory), accessible from both Capitol Avenue and Broad Street. There is also limited parking on the north Capitol grounds off of Trinity Street. On-street metered parking and commercial parking lots are also nearby.

Now in its 19<sup>th</sup> year, the Connecticut Fatherhood Initiative is a broad-based, multi-agency, statewide effort led by the Department of Social Services focused on changing the systems that can improve fathers’ ability to be fully and positively involved in the lives of their children. For more event information and to preview the agenda, please visit [www.ct.gov/fatherhood](http://www.ct.gov/fatherhood).

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