

DCF COVID-19 Daily Update Supporting Children, Families and Staff June 11, 2020

FATHERS AND TEENAGERS GET OPPORTUNITY FOR GUIDED CONVERSATIONS

Fathers have a critically important role to play in the lives of their teenage children, even though the teenagers may not always act like they welcome that involvement. That's why Abdul-Rahmaan I. Muhammad, LMSW, the executive

director of <u>My People Clinical Services</u>, is hosting a Zoom video conference on Saturday June 13 at 10:00 a.m. to facilitate communication between fathers and their teenage children. The conference, "A Little Fatherly Advice," is the beginning of a new series of video conversations that typically include 25-30 men, most of whom are from Hartford but whom also include men from around the country.

"Some of the things we need to talk to our teens about, we can't let other people talk to them instead," Mr. Muhammad said. "We don't want television, music and friends to frame how they see themselves. For fathers, the point is to have conversations with your children that gives them the freedom to be themselves, to be healthy and to be good."

This conversation on Saturday will be different because the fathers are invited to participate with their teen children. Mr. Muhammad will prompt the fathers and teens to discuss specific topics - for example, "be your amazing self" -- and the families will mute themselves and have a brief conversation. Then the larger group will talk about the family conversations.



A Little Fatherly ADVICE

Things we should be talking to our kids about but don't

A Little Fatherly Advice is a discussion with fathers and their teenage children (12-18) around a list of over 100 topics we should be talking to our kids about but we don't. This group discussion is for fathers to share their thoughts on each topic, answer questions and hear the responses from their teens. Most importantly, the goal of the program is to open the door to increase communication and conversations between fathers and their teens during a time when most teens are trying to push away.

Host: Abdul-Rahmaan I. Muhammad and Demetrius Chamblee



To join this important opportunity for a meaningful conversation, please click here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86464645845?pwd=Rm5ITTJNU01kM080NHZTNTlkZEowQT09