

Fatherhood Case Study (Telacu, Los Angeles)

Organization:	Telacu
URL:	www.FuturoNow.org
Program Name:	FuturoNow – Fatherhood Project
Funding:	Responsible Fatherhood (OFA)
Curricula used:	Love Notes (LN) English and Spanish
Curricula benefits:	<p>LN is highly engaging with their population of young ethnic dads. It speaks to the challenges they encounter in regards to relationships.</p> <p>LN is very interactive. It uses videos and music and activities to reinforce the concepts being taught.</p> <p>It starts at a place where this hard to reach population is with their relationships and their mistakes. The program accepts where their population is but helps them rethink future relationships and get to a better place.</p>
Population:	<p>Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and LA counties</p> <p>Goal – 225 dads a year</p> <p>Actual – 300 dads a year</p>
Audience Demographics:	<p>Gender: Male 100%</p> <p>Education Level: 41% have no high school diploma; 50% have a high school diploma; remainder have some advanced education.</p> <p>Income: 70% make less than \$10k per year; 13% between \$10 and \$20k (90% make less than 30k per year). 57% of participants are currently unemployed.</p> <p>Primary Ethnicity: 70% Hispanic – 30% everyone else. Many Spanish only speakers – 30% of classes are held in Spanish.</p> <p>Age: 20% 18-24; 40% - 25-34; 30% - 35-44; 10% - 45-54</p> <p>Relationship Status: 33% married; 16% committed relationship; 45% single never married; remainder – divorced</p>
Class size:	Classes range in size from 10-20 students and sometimes up to 40)

Location of instruction:	Recovery facilities (mainly prisoner re-entry populations who go to a rehab facility funded by MediCal). Also community based – at churches or community centers. Recruitment for the community based program is mainly through Head Start, other pre-schools and after school programs.
Length of instruction (number of sessions and hours per session):	<p>Recovery classes are held during the day and community classes are held in the evening.</p> <p>Community based classes are held once a week for 2 hours per session and meet a total of four times.</p> <p>Recovery classes are held twice a week for two weeks.</p> <p>Parenting education is the pillar of the program and the case manager recommends what further instruction they may need including: 24/7 Dad, Love Notes and or Money Smarts.</p>
Instructors:	Direct service partners – community based non-profit organizations. Each partner has 2-3 trained facilitators. Facilitators are from the community with backgrounds similar to the dads. 50% of the facilitators were prior participants. It's a way for some dads to continue their training. They get a small stipend for doing the training.
Instructor Training Protocol:	<p>Facilitators participate in an eight-hour Love Notes training. They are taken through the curriculum. They do a full mock session to see how the program is taught. They then break into groups and prepare to present lesson themselves. Instructors demonstrate five of the sessions and the facilitators who are being trained present the last three lessons.</p> <p>The facilitators also go through 8 hours of Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment training.</p> <p>The facilitators are observed periodically and if they are doing a good job, then no additional training is needed. Every partner gets two site visits a year. Every year each facilitator has additional Domestic Violence and and Child Maltreatment training (4 hours) by the House of Ruth in Pomona.</p>
Utilization of teacher and student materials:	<p>Each participant gets a Love Notes workbook. Workbook are kept on site until the class is completed. Then they get to take it home with them. Each participant gets a COLORS personality sorter.</p> <p>Each organization gets two instructor's manual each year to make sure all facilitators have their own manuals instead of needing to share them.</p>

<p>Program Recruitment Process:</p>	<p>Direct Service Partners that are well-known in their communities refer participants. Trusted messengers who are established in their communities have credibility to find participants.</p> <p>They partner with recovery programs in their communities to reach participants in rehab.</p> <p>Other community-based organizations also promote the program to fathers already using their other services. They recruit dads by having a mandatory father orientation meeting at the first of the school year to talk about the role of fathers and sign up dads who want to go deeper.</p>
<p>Incentives to teachers and students:</p>	<p>Direct service providers are paid for each participant that completes the program.</p> <p>Recovery facility participants get a certificate to use in court, with parole officer, and with the mother of their child. The certificate shows they are striving to become a better father and a better citizen.</p> <p>Participants in the community program receive gift cards for completion and other incentives to increase participation and attendance; The community program finishes with a potluck family meal to show what they learned.</p>
<p>Outcomes:</p>	<p>From their pre and post test surveys their participants report things such as:</p> <p><i>“I am more intentional about my relationship.”</i></p>
<p>Challenges:</p>	<p>Keeping participants engaged with the 40 hours of fatherhood project instruction and helping the participants to complete the entire program.</p>
<p>Tips:</p>	<p>They have found that providing 8 classes of relationship skills followed by 5 supplemental classes is a successful way of providing the information to the participants.</p> <p>They have found that Love Notes can be used to increase English literacy.</p> <p>Their partners use Love Notes as a way to get the dads engaged in the program prior to the fatherhood instruction.</p>