



DHR Maryland Department of Human Resources
Maryland's Human Services Agency

Media Advisory:
Thursday, August 21, 2008

Dr. Jeffrey Johnson to Keynote Community Strong Fathers/Strong Families Training Event to Strengthen Family Ties

Project focuses on developing fatherhood skills and building stronger families

BALTIMORE, MD – On Saturday, August 23, 2008, Dr. Jeffrey Johnson, President of the National Partnership for Community Leadership will deliver the keynote address to approximately 120 fathers who attend the Strong Fathers/Strong Families Project's *Economic Stability Training* event. This is an all-day training event for fathers, ages 21 & over, focusing on the priority activity area of economic stability and criminal record expungement and workforce development.

This free training will provide supportive services designed to promote the positive emotional and economic involvement of fathers in the lives of their children. It will also increase awareness of the resources available to fathers during the free 12 week training.

Members of the media are encouraged to attend.

When Saturday, August 23, 2008.
8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Where Doubletree Hotel
4 West University Parkway
Baltimore, MD 21218

Participants

- Dr. Jeffrey Johnson, *National Partnership for Community Leadership*
- Mark Matthews, *Matthews Motivation & Instruction (MMI)*
- John Bugg & Thomas Hardnett, *Bugg, Hardnett & Associates*
- Marvin McFadden, *Coordinator for Strong Fathers, Strong Families*
- Ciera Laury, *Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing & Regulation*
- **Mark Hooper**, *Mayor's Office of Employment Development*



• Martin O'Malley, Governor

• Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor

• Brenda Donald, Secretary

About Strong Fathers, Strong Families

Funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Strong Fathers/Strong Families project is a collaborative effort between the Baltimore City Department of Social Services, Campaign for our Children, Bugg, Hardnett & Associates T/A Phyllis Wheatley Educational Centers, Optimal Solutions Group and the House of Ruth Maryland.

It is designed to encourage fathers and all other eligible persons, ages 21 and older, to develop healthy relationships in their home and community through class instruction and individualized case management services.

The free 12-week program is voluntary and offers training and counseling in the following areas: Relationship Enhancement and Healthy Marriage; Job Readiness and Job Placement Services; GED and Educational Counseling; Parenting and Life Skills; Domestic Violence and other Supportive Services.

-End-

Contact: Paula Tolson, ptolson@dhr.state.md.us 410-767-8947



- Martin O'Malley, Governor
- Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor
- Brenda Donald, Secretary