



# Center Stage

The Newsletter of the  
Center for Fathers and Families

Volume 1, Issue 3 ~ Fall 2004

## The Assist of the Decade...

### The Sacramento Kings' Reading & Learning Center

In October, the Center for Fathers and Families' outreach efforts to local schools grew tremendously. Maloof Sports & Entertainment, in partnership with Pepsi Bottling Group, Health Net, and NECA/IBEW, donated the Kings' Reading & Learning Center to us. We placed the incredible gift in Parkway Elementary School to provide their high-need student population with access to technology while we supplement our current efforts to provide educational and enrichment programs directly to Parkway students and their families.

The colorful, kid-friendly Kings' Reading and Learning Center is equipped with 20 state-of-the-art computer workstations, a cozy reading area, and hundreds of books. Over 50 staff from the Maloof organization came out to Parkway to install the computers, paint incredible murals, and transform a classroom into a colorful, fun technology center. In addition, they also revived the school garden and created a fun reading area in the school library.



*Rick Jennings helps a young student utilize the new Kings' Reading & Learning Center*

*"Our goal is to show kids how important reading is to their future..."*  
-Joe Maloof

Joe Maloof commented, "We were very excited to work with the Center for Fathers and Families and Parkway Elementary School to donate a Kings' Reading and Learning Center. Giving back to the community is a major part of our business philosophy and we have the opportunity to give kids hope every day. Our goal is to show kids how important reading is to their future and by donating a reading and learning center, we hope to provide an environment that opens the doors to the world."

As Chris Webber, Bobby Jackson, Greg Ostertag, and more Kings players came for the grand opening, the students were absolutely overwhelmed. Rick Jennings, CEO of the Center for Fathers and Families stated, "We're so grateful to Maloof Sports & Entertainment and all of our partners for this tremendous gift. We are dedicated to expanding literacy and bridging the digital divide for our youth. This important community resource will bring the world to the very deserving Parkway elementary students and their parents."

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THE CENTER FOR  
*Fathers and Families*

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www.fathersandfamilies.com

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Newsletter Production:  
Noelle Koster

## A Message From Rick...

Community partnerships help us define success at the Center for Fathers and Families. We are always seeking new collaboratives and creating new relationships with others who share our passion for strengthening families and rebuilding communities.

Over the summer, we were fortunate enough to build a partnership with the Sacramento City Department of Parks & Rec. Today, through the Sam Pannell Meadowview Community Center, youth can benefit from a new program which features both of our strengths. We call the program REACH Youth After School.



*Rick Jennings, II*  
CEO



*Youth from the REACH program work together on a project*

REACH, or Recreation & Education Are Creating Hope, blends the recreational opportunities of the Pannell Center with our successful after-school literacy education instruction. This dynamic new program reaches 50 elementary school students a day with a unique blend of activities that promote physical and academic growth.

Our goal is to increase the number of students involved each day from 50 to 80. If you know of a child who would benefit from REACH, please call Jamil at 433.4059.

## College Student Update...

So many people have been asking us how Karega is doing at college, we decided to give a quick update. At the Center, we are proud of every one of our youth who go on to college. Here is an email from Karega...



*Karega Bailey*  
*AWARE Class of '01 & Hampton University Freshman*

*"I am currently doing well at Hampton University. I am a first year sociology major and I currently have 18 credit hours. I am taking a lot of general education requirements consisting of: English, math, biology, university 101, health, oral communication and an online computer technology course. Though 18 credit hours may be a lot to some, I find that I have been successful with this workload. I recently took my midterms and all is well. Outside of academics, I am a member of the Freshman Executive Council where I serve as a committee member on the community service board. I was selected after completing an interview process with the Office of Freshman Studies. There were a total of 200 applicants and I was chosen to be 1 of 40 members. I feel very fortunate to have the support of the Center and I appreciate your care and concern. Thank you all very much!"*

We try to send monthly care packages to Karega and our other college students. If you would like to help, please call us at 424.3237 x200 and ask for Mama Carmen.

***"A truly rich man is one whose children run into his arms when his hands are empty."***

*~ Author Unknown*

## Summer Recap...

### Father of the Year 2004

The second annual Salute to Fatherhood Banquet was another great success! This year, ten local men were honored for being outstanding fathers or father-figures.



2004 Father of the Year Jack Sioukas (third from left) with his family and Rick (second from left) at the Salute to Fatherhood Banquet.

#### The 2004 Fathers of the Year are:

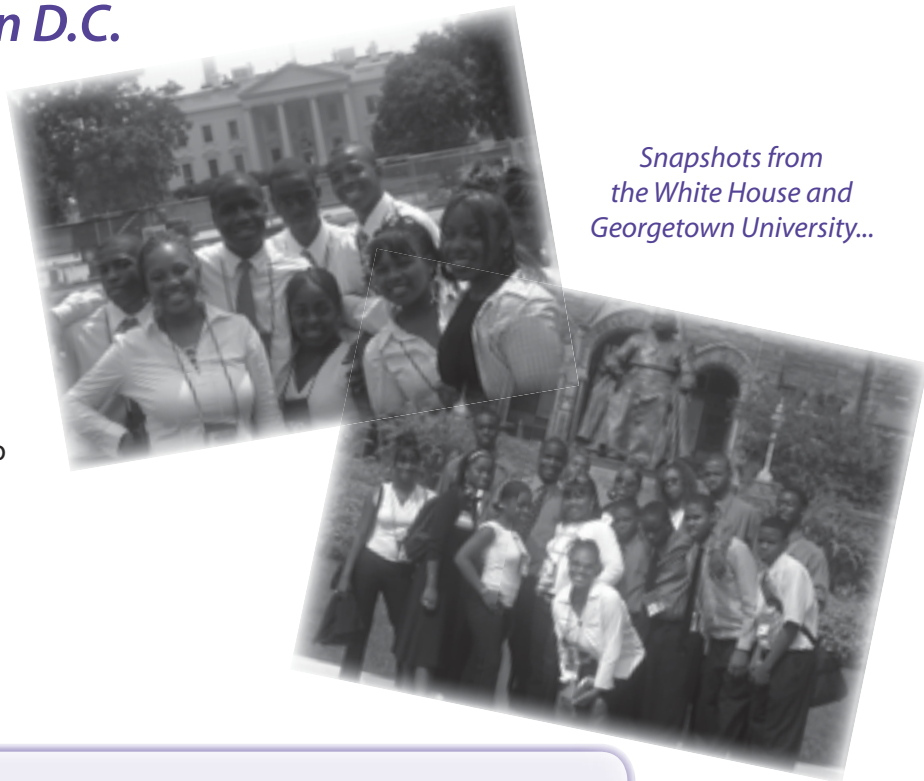
Kelly Brothers  
Councilmember Dave Jones  
Tim Nelson  
Congressman Doug Ose  
Randy Powell  
Dr. Jack Sioukas  
Brent Tuggle  
Roger Tafoya, Sr.  
Brent Tuggle  
Allen Wayne Warren

On June 15, 2005 – we will honor Fathers of the Year at the 3rd annual Salute to Fatherhood Banquet. Nominations are already coming in. You can nominate the Father of the Year by April 30 through our website at [www.fathersandfamilies.com](http://www.fathersandfamilies.com).

### College Tour to Washington D.C.

This year's Summer College Tour took 20 young graduates of the AWARE and SISTAS programs to Washington D.C. There, the group visited Georgetown University, Howard University, George Washington University, the White House, and much more. One student commented, "This trip was better than I ever imagined it would be... I used to think about going to Howard, and now I've really been there. I know that college is in my future and I plan to attend Howard University in August '06. This trip made all the difference!"

Plans are already underway for next year's college tour to New York City. If you would like to sponsor a youth, please contact Rashid at 916.424.3237 x214.



Snapshots from the White House and Georgetown University...



**The Center for Fathers and Families is a certified partner with United Way. You can support us by designating number 5773.**

**"Life affords no greater responsibility, no greater privilege than the raising of the next generation."**

**- C. Everett Koop**



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**Strengthening Families and Building Communities**

**We're on the web**  
**www.fathersandfamilies.com**



**THANK YOU!**

To help, please call us at 424.3237

- ◆ A house for our emancipated foster youth
- ◆ Tickets to local cultural & sports events (we can use 2-40 per event)
- ◆ Care packages for our college students
- ◆ Mentors to work with our youth
- ◆ Gift cards for our families over the holidays and throughout the year - Grocery store cards, Wal Mart, etc.

**~WISH LIST~**

**Sign Up Today!**

**Friday, June 3, 2005 at noon**  
**Rick Jennings Golf Jam 7**  
**Chip in Fore Charity**  
Golf Course TBA  
Hole Sponsorships start at \$2,500  
(foursome included)

**Wednesday, June 15, 2005 from 6pm - 9pm**  
**The 3rd Annual**  
**Salute to Fatherhood Banquet**  
Radisson Hotel Sacramento  
Tickets are \$125 each, Sponsorships available  
Nominations accepted through 4/30/05

To participate in either event, please call Noelle at  
916.424.3237 x203

