
NEWS RELEASE

Fatherhood Awareness Month 2023 Community Events

San Bernardino, CA, May 26, 2023

On June 24, 2023, one of the many community events that San Bernardino Fatherhood will host in celebration of Fatherhood Awareness Month, is the “Walter Beasley Jazz Concert: A Tribute to Fathers” as a highlight in bringing awareness to the importance of fathers in the lives of children, families, and communities. This event will spotlight the importance of all fathers, especially African-American/Black fathers supporting maternal health and infant care as an intervention in decreasing African-American/Black infant deaths in San Bernardino County.

According to the California Department of Public Health, in 2019 the mortality rate for African-American/Black infants in San Bernardino County was 13.1%, whereas the statewide Black infant mortality rate was 9.8%.

In 2018, the State of California established the Perinatal Equity Initiative (PEI) to address African-American/Black infant mortality statewide to address the causes of persistent inequality in African-American pregnancy outcomes and identify best practices to deal with health disparities in infant mortality by promoting the use of specific interventions designed to fill gaps in current programming offered through the Black Infant Health (BIH) Program.” Fatherhood services were one of the interventions recommended by the State of California.

In September 2021, San Bernardino Fatherhood was contracted with the San Bernardino County, Public Health Department, to provide fatherhood services to “fathers/partners of pregnant/parenting African-American/Black women with a child under one year” under the Perinatal Equity Initiative (PEI). Historically, African-American/Black fathers have been ignored in maternal health and infant care systems. However, research shows significant evidence that babies and mothers are healthier when fathers are involved in maternal health and infant care.

Also, in addition to the “Walter Beasley Jazz Concert: A Tribute to Fathers”, the following community events are planned in the month of June in celebration of Fatherhood Awareness Month:

- June 3rd, Boot Camp for New Dads at Dignity Family Resource Center.
- June 10th, Father’s Day Weekend with Inland Empire 66ers Baseball at San Manuel Stadium.
- June 24th, Walter Beasley Jazz Concert, “A Tribute to Fathers” at San Bernardino Valley College.
- June 28th, “Dads, Kids and Family at SB Raceway” in San Bernardino.



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In order to adequately provide fatherhood intervention services in addressing Black infant mortality in San Bernardino County, our goal is to raise \$25,000 in the month of June.

All proceeds and sponsorships will be used to support San Bernardino Fatherhood, a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization, in supporting fathers, families, and communities through our programs, and services, such as: “24/7 Dad Fathering”, “Boot Camp for New Dads”, “Fathering in 15”, “Understanding Dad for Moms”, et cetera.

Walter Beasley is a saxophonist, recording artist, performer and composer who released his first album in 1987. Since 1998, Walter has been one of the top ten best-selling saxophonists in the world. Walter’s style of music falls between contemporary R&B and contemporary jazz, a blend called “smooth jazz”. This event seeks to soften its guests’ hearts, minds, and souls in a meaningful tribute to the importance of fathers in the lives of their children, families and communities.

San Bernardino Fatherhood serves fathers and families of all demographics and economic backgrounds by providing educational services, resources and advocacy. For more information, visit: www.sbfatherhood.com or contact Ryan Berryman at (909) 567-9508