



News

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Sept. 3, 2009

ALBANY FATHERS ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE IN 'DADS TAKE YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL' SEPT.15

ALBANY, NY – Dads and father figures are urged to accompany their children to school on Tuesday, Sept. 15, as part of Dads: Take Your Child To School Day, a national responsible fatherhood initiative.

“We are urging fathers, grandfathers, foster fathers, stepfathers, uncles, cousins, big brothers and significant male caregivers to participate in the ‘Dads Take Your Child to School Initiative,’” said Gladys Carrión, Esq., Commissioner of the New York State Office of Children & Family Services (OCFS). “Studies show that when fathers and father figures take an active interest in their children’s education, youth do better in school, are better adjusted and more likely to succeed.”

OCFS is partnering with the New York State Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance (OTDA), to encourage participation in “Dads: Take Your Child to School Day.” While this event is designed to increase male involvement, all parents are encouraged to take their children to school. The continued participation of mothers, grandmothers, and other family members is essential to youth’s success.

“Fathers are a critical part of the family equation, and a father’s involvement in a child’s life can make a tremendous difference,” said Kristin Proud, Deputy Secretary for Human Services, Technology and Operations, who is currently overseeing the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance. "By bringing their children to school, fathers and father figures can demonstrate their commitment to the success of their children in school and in life."

In Albany, Arbor Hill Elementary School, Giffen Elementary School, North Albany Academy and Sheridan Preparatory School will participate. Community outreach through posters, fliers, and media announcements has been developed to encourage fathers and father figures to go to school on Tuesday, Sept. 15. New York State’s participation is part of a nationwide effort, in its sixth year, involving the Black Star Project USA, the National PTA and National Fatherhood Initiative.

More information about New York State’s Fatherhood Initiative can be found on the OCFS website at www.ocfs.state.ny.us and the OTDA website at www.otda.state.ny.us . To hear audio messages on the “Dads: Take Your child to School Day,” click on:

English: <http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/psa/fatherhood/Take Child to School PSA.mp3>

Spanish: <http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/psa/fatherhood/Take Child to School PSA Sp.mp3>

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