

HELP FOR BOTH PARENTS

All parents, regardless of age and regardless of whether they have custody of their children, may receive child support services. However, services provided to custodial parents *differ* from those provided to non-custodial parents.



Parents *not* receiving public assistance can apply for services at the Office of Child Support Services. They are charged a one-time \$20.00 fee.

Parents who receive public or medical assistance for a child whose other parent does not live with them are automatically referred for services. They do not pay any fee for child support services.

If you would like to schedule a presentation of the "PAPA" program at your school or organization, please contact our Community Outreach Liason, Valerie Laguerre, at:

**Child Support Services
ATTN: Valerie Laguerre
(401) - 458-4425
vlaguerre@dhs.ri.gov**



77 Dorrance Street
Providence, RI 02903
(401) - 458-4400
www.cse.ri.gov

Department of Human Services
OFFICE OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES



"P A P A" - Parents & Paternity Awareness Program

Our goal is to reach and educate every young person in Rhode Island regarding the legal and financial responsibilities of parenthood! That is the reason why we need to collaborate with all programs working with youth throughout the state.

77 Dorrance Street
Providence, RI 02903
(401) - 458-4400
www.cse.ri.gov

WHAT IS THE "PAPA" PROGRAM?

Parents & Paternity Awareness

The PAPA presentation and material is designed to provide much-needed information about the legal and financial responsibilities of parenthood. The Office of Child Support Services (OCSS) PAPA program was modeled after the original PAPA program in Texas but modified to serve our community. Our Community Outreach Liaison is working hard to develop relationships with schools and youth programs throughout Rhode Island to reach every young person in the state with a very important message:

That all parents in this state, both mothers and fathers, are responsible for supporting their children, whether their children live with them or not.

Our office is not able to do this alone and that is why we need your help to disseminate this very important information.



SERVICES OFFERED AT THE OFFICE OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

Locating parents: OCSS will help to locate biological parents.



THIS PROGRAM IS INTENDED TO HELP YOUTH UNDERSTAND:

- **Rights and Responsibilities of Parenthood**
- **Establishing Paternity**
- **Understanding and Navigating the Child Support Process**
- **Realities of Parenting**
- **Their Future as a Parent**



Establishing paternity: When an individual has been legally determined the father of a child, his paternity has been established. When parents are married and a child is born, the husband is the legal father and his name appears on the child's birth certificate. To create the same legal relationship between unmarried parents and children, paternity must be established

Establishing child and medical support orders: OCSS will help parents take the necessary steps to establish a child and/or medical support order. Medical support means the other parent will provide either health insurance coverage for the child or a cash contribution.

Enforcement of orders: If payments are made on time and medical coverage for the child is maintained, enforcement is not necessary. When enforcement is necessary, it is carried out through administrative means by the agency or through the court.



KIDS CARD or Direct Deposit: Electronic payments of child support that can be directly deposited into a KIDS CARD or the transfer of child support payments into the checking or savings account of the Custodial Parent.