



UNITED WAY
KING COUNTY
*Your Community
Safety Net.*

August 6, 2002

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Dear Office of Child Support Enforcement:

I am writing to support the proposal by Divine Alternatives for Dads Services (DADS) for Special Improvement Project funding.

I believe DADS is an excellent organization with an inspirational leader in Marvin Charles. I first became acquainted with Marvin at the Atlantic Street Center, where I served as Executive Director, and Marvin was a participant in our parenting programs. As I got to know Marvin and the tremendous obstacles he had overcome as a father, my respect for him has grown. He currently is the Executive Director of DADS and has established a clear vision for it. DADS has been highly effective in bringing high risk fathers back to their families in positive and productive ways.

At United Way of King County we have established a Children's Initiative, which focuses on the development of healthy children. One of our main strategies is father involvement and the DADS program exemplifies specific ways we can increase the positive relationship between children and fathers. I strongly urge you to support their request for funding.

Sincerely,

David Okimoto, MSW
Vice President, Community Services

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