

Fall 2024

DADS Newsletter

 @aboutdads

 @dads_206

 @D.A.D.S

Thankful for our *fathers*

Mr. Ernest Austin

The story of Mr. Ernest Austin is a powerful tale of redemption and transformation. Mr. Austin first visited DADS in April 2019 seeking support with getting on his child's birth certificate. At that time, he was in regular contact with his 3-year-old daughter. In December 2023, Mr. Austin returned to DADS. The mother of his child had passed away, and while he was in favor of his daughters temporary placement with a family member, he became increasingly motivated to establish paternity and gain custody of his daughter.



While fighting for custody, he became a regular participant in DADS' weekly Bible fellowship and got involved in a program to support his mental health.

In addition to custody hardships, Mr. Austin was also facing a 15-year prison sentence. Because of the relationships he built at DADS, he was able to have his Bible study attend his sentencing hearing. He was granted probation, rather than a prison sentence.

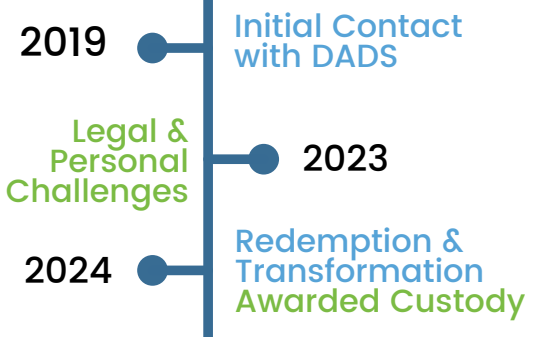
Now, Mr. Austin has custody of his 8-year-old daughter and has secured a job with King County Light Rail. This journey demonstrates the transformative power of faith and community support, and the importance of second chances.

Becoming DADS: Parenting Classes

"We have generated a productive learning experience for these fathers that will be meaningful as they grow and learn to raise their children.

When these men put on their caps and gowns for graduation, they feel a sense of accomplishment they share with their family and friends." - Gregory Adams

Check out Becoming DADS Data on page 2!



DADS Support Group

Call Gregory for more information: 206-722-3137

Our Impact – 2024 Data at DADS

406

fathers
served

962

children
served

1K+

services
provided

500+

service
hours

48

dads class
participants

10

states
served

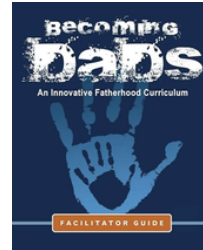
Becoming DADS Data

2019 to 2024



Attendance Rates

Since 2019, the Becoming DADS Fathering Class attendance rate has increased from 71% to 80%.



5 Years at a Glance

Each Class: **13 Sessions**
Completed: **21 Classes**
Completed: **220 Sessions**
Graduated: **160+ Dads**

"I wasn't even sure where to start. I came in here lost, regarding what steps to take. This class gave me a new perspective, hope and a support team, and confidence to go with it."

internships at DADS

Over the past two years, with support from the Murdock Charitable Trust, DADS has established an Internship Program with 5 interns. These Interns work with DADS for 6+ years, merging the interns' spiritual faith with their professional pursuits. Interns bring their education and experiences to support DADS' mission with:



Mental Health Services

Providing mental health education in DADS parenting classes and supporting DADS staff to address mental health issues with DADS clients.



Marketing + Technology

Managing the production of the DADS Podcast. working with DADS Podcast studio to ensure fathers' voices and stories reach a broader audience.



Journalism + Storytelling

Developing a strategy to share the stories of DADS fathers to inspire the community to address issues stemming from fatherlessness.



Performing Arts

Organizing events and activities for DADS fathers and their children, fostering meaningful family connections through creative engagement.

Color Him DADS Podcast

Color Him DADS addresses the barriers confronting fathers struggling with entering or re-entering the lives of their children and families. Over 22 episodes (so far!) Marvin and guests share their stories of faith, love and redemption. Watch, listen, and subscribe on your favorite platforms!

YouTube



Spotify



Apple



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