



# Center Stage

The Newsletter of the  
Center for Fathers and Families

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## Teens & Technology...

Exciting projects made by local youth are pouring out of the Hewlett Packard Community Technology Center in North Sacramento.

The HP Center houses the CORAL Youth Leadership Institute. An amazing (award-winning) collection of documentaries, public service announcements, and more have been created – all entirely researched, filmed, produced, and edited by teens.

CORAL (Communities Organizing Resources to Advance Learning) is an after-school program improving education in five California cities. Funded by the James Irvine Foundation, Sacramento CORAL is led by the Center for Fathers and Families in partnership with the Sacramento Children’s Home, and it annually reaches 1,000 elementary and high school students in eight locations.

The Youth Institute works with diverse teens from Luther Burbank and Grant High schools. It exposes them to a variety of life experiences and unifies them in an intensive, eight-week summer leadership and media literacy program. In turn, these teens work during the school year as peer mentors to elementary school children enrolled in CORAL programs.

The HP Center boasts 14 workstations, a video editing & animation studio, a sound room, a mini-theatre, and more. Projects created include a documentary on the Holocaust and a documentary on teen homelessness. A series of public service announcements won 3<sup>rd</sup> place at the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Teen Digital Film Festival. Currently, the teens are producing *Together We Speak*, an oral history project which will capture the history of Central Valley immigrants. It will be on display at the Golden State Museum from Sept – Nov 2004.

In February 2004, Zenneah Benson, Youth Institute member, was one of four teens invited to represent the United States at an International Media Conference in Munich, Germany. Nick Kalbach, Youth Institute Director, was selected to be the U.S. team leader. They joined 24 other youth from Bavaria, Quebec, Italy, China, South Africa, and Austria. Together, this talented young group prepared a video and an International Teen Magazine. Samples of their work can be viewed on the project website -- [www.i-see-u.net](http://www.i-see-u.net).

In the near future, the Youth Institute will work with CNN’s Student Bureau on a new project.



*Nick and Zenneah at the International Media Conference in Munich, Germany*

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“The skills our youth have obtained at CORAL’s HP Community Technology Center are constantly opening new doors,” comments Kalbach. “The technology in our Center allows our teens to advance their skills, dream, explore and see places they never thought imaginable.”

The Center for Fathers and Families is deeply grateful to Hewlett Packard for all their generous support of the CORAL Youth Institute. Without HP and their incredible equipment, these projects would not be possible.

To view a Youth Institute media project, or to find out more, please contact Nick Kalbach at 916.679.0602.



THE CENTER FOR  
*Fathers and Families*

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# *A Message From Rick...*

At the Center, we are always looking for new ways to meet the needs of the communities we serve. I am very excited to announce our latest program ~ KEYS (Knowledge & Education Yield Success).

The KEYS program will provide a variety of real-life opportunities to the youth in our summer enrichment and year-round programs. We've found that many of the teens we serve have had limited exposure to corporate business, performing arts, and opportunities for higher education. KEYS will change this. Through this program our teens will have many new opportunities including; touring local radio stations and seeing how the studio works, having lunch with the CEOs of local businesses and discussing options for the future, staying in UC Davis dorms and making a reservation for college, and so much more.

KEYS will provide our teens with new opportunities and introduce them to many possibilities for their future. If your business or organization would like to participate, please call me at 916.424.3237. Together we can give our youth the KEYS to their future.



## *Holiday Thanks...*

For the first time in our history, the Center for Fathers and Families organized a Holiday Giving drive to aid the children and families in our programs and other families-in-need from our community. Simply put, we were overwhelmed by the generosity and support from local businesses, clubs, and individuals. We reached over 30 families and 40 children who otherwise would not have had food and gifts to celebrate the Holidays.

Many thanks to those who adopted families or donated gifts or money during the 2003 Holiday Season! Below is a list of those who touched the lives of a family-in-need:

103.5 The Bomb

Amos G.W. Holts

Anonymous

B. J. Braswell

Betty Jo Hill

Consuelo Hernandez and family

EdFund - Default Prevention Unit

Fernando Alexander

Dawn Snyder

Delbert V. Henry, Jr.

Delta Sigma Theta

Denise Arend

Home Depot

James D. Hare

Jan Schori

Jennifer Jeffers and family

John & Ann Platt

Karen Young

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Rob Christensen

Sacramento Ballet

Sarah Richey

Shelton and Barbara Conerly

Total HR Solutions

William & Doris Aldrich

William & Pauline Simmons

William & Tracy Reed

Willie J. Deon

Our sincere apologies to anyone whose name is inadvertently omitted or misspelled!

*"Strengthen a parent and you strengthen a child." - Fred Rogers*

# Spotlight on Youth...

At the Center for Fathers and Families, we have a core group of youth who are dedicated members of our enrichment programs. We are so proud of each of them-- from the young ladies of SISTAS (Sophisticated Individuals Striving Toward Academic Success) to the young men of AWARE (Adolescents Willing to Act Responsibly Everyday).

We would like to share a story of a young man, and AWARE graduate, who is working hard to pave the way toward a bright future. We would also like to share a poem from a young member of SISTAS that she recently wrote for the Center's Black History Month Celebration...



**Karega Bailey** Karega Jahmal Bailey currently attends Kennedy High School where his senior year GPA is 3.75. In addition to excelling academically, Karega also finds time to participate in activities including poetry, music, and AAU Basketball. Karega was a graduate of the Center's 2001 class of AWARE and has been active in the music studio and other aspects of our Intel Computer Clubhouse ever since. Karega is a member of the Black Student Union at Kennedy, a student advisor with the 100 Black Men of Sacramento, and holds a part-time job at Champs Sports. He is also a participant in the 2003-04 Achievers Program sponsored by the Links Incorporated, Sacramento Chapter.

Karega has recently been offered a scholarship to Grambling State University and to Alabama A&M

University. He has also been accepted to Lincoln University, Tuskegee University, and Langston University. Karega intends to major in Sociology and minor in public speaking. It is his fervent hope to become a motivational speaker and inspire masses across this country and abroad. When asked of his central message as a speaker, Karega simply replied,

"no matter what walk of life you come from, you can choose your own destiny."

The Center and Karega's family are extremely proud of his remarkable achievements.

Whichever college he

chooses, we know that he is headed for great success. And we know he will make a difference in the lives of others.

*"No matter what walk of life you come from, you can choose your own destiny."  
-Karega Bailey*

## Best Friends

Written with a pen, sealed with a kiss,  
If you're my friend answer me this,  
Are we friends or are we not,  
You told me once but I forgot,  
So tell me and tell me true,  
So I can say I'm here for you,  
Of all the friends I've ever met,  
You're the one I won't forget  
And if I die before you do,  
I'll go to heaven and wait for you,  
I'll give the angels back their wings,  
And risk the loss of everything,  
There isn't a thing I wouldn't do  
To have a friend just like you.

By Camille Petty

age 12

member

SISTAS & Intel Computer Clubhouse



The Center for Fathers and Families is a certified partner with United Way. You can support us by designating number 5773.

*"The greatest measure of a man is the mark he has left on the hearts and minds of his children"  
- Author Unknown*



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*Strengthening Families and Building Communities*

*Who should be the  
2004 Father of the Year?*

**Friday, May 21, 2004 – Rick Jennings Golf Jam 6 - Apple Mountain Golf Resort**  
Come enjoy the most unique golf tournament ever! Fun and prizes on every hole, and professional football and baseball players will join in with every group. Foursomes are going fast! Call Rick at 916.424.3237 x202 today to reserve your spot!

**Thursday, June 17, 2004 – the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Salute to Fatherhood Banquet.**  
Join us as we announce the 2004 Father of the Year winners! This inspiring event will be held at the Sacramento Hilton Hotel. Special guest host is KFBK's own Kelly Brothers. To reserve your table, call Noelle at 916.424.3237 x203.

**Nominate a Father of the Year!** Do you know of a father – or father-figure/mentor – who deserves this recognition? Tell us! In one or two paragraphs, let us know what this person means to you or the family he touches. Fax your nomination to 916.424.3232 – be sure to include your contact information. You can also email your nomination to [noelle@fathersandfamilies.com](mailto:noelle@fathersandfamilies.com). The deadline is April 30<sup>th</sup>!

**Questions about either event? Call Noelle at 916.424.3237 x203.**

*Upcoming Events!*