

Terrene Ray +  
Curtis Marshall



Milwaukee  
Fatherhood  
Initiative

# Milwaukee Fatherhood Summit

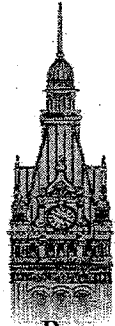
*"Strengthening Fathers and Families"*

October 13 and 14, 2006

Presented by



A Project of the Black Health Coalition of Wisconsin



**Tom Barrett**  
Mayor, City of Milwaukee

---

October 13, 2006

Dear Fathers,

I have made it my number one priority to make Milwaukee a stronger and safer city for all of our residents, a key component of which is making sure we start with strong families. To do so, we must address the growing rate of absentee fathers and encourage fathers to be involved in their children's lives.

As the dad of four children myself, this is an issue that is very important to me. Recent studies have found that involved fathers have a profound influence on the success of their children. Children who have an active father are more inclined to graduate from high school and pursue higher education. Children with an active father are more likely not to engage in criminal activity. Lastly, research has shown a direct correlation between teen pregnancy and absentee fathers.

Children are students of their environment, and that is why I want to use this forum to promote the great things that involved fathers bring to their families and their communities.

I want to thank all of you for participating this weekend. I also want to say a special thank-you to our partners in this effort, especially the committee members who have shown a dedicated and strong commitment to this issue. Without your support, this event would not be possible.

This is only the beginning. Remember, any man can be a father but it takes a real man to be a dad.

Sincerely,

Tom Barrett

Mayor

## Milwaukee Fatherhood Initiative

### The Mission of the Milwaukee Fatherhood Initiative

*“To improve the well being  
of children growing up with  
involved, responsible and  
committed fathers in their  
lives.”*



Milwaukee  
Fatherhood  
Initiative

## Thank You

Thank you to the following individuals and organizations that have volunteered and supported the planning of this summit and the development of the Milwaukee Fatherhood Initiative.

### The Milwaukee Summit Planning Committee

**Exhibitors**  
**Moderators**  
**Presenters**  
**Volunteers**

### Milwaukee Fatherhood Collaborative Members

Agape Community Center  
Barbara White  
Big Brothers and Sisters of Greater Milwaukee  
Boys and Girls Club of Greater Milwaukee—  
Daniels-Mardak Branch  
Charter West Mortgage Company  
Church of God in Christ Social Services  
City of Milwaukee Health and Housing Departments  
City of Milwaukee – Mayor’s Office  
F.U.T.U.R.E Inc.  
Milwaukee Brighter Futures/Community  
Milwaukee Public Schools  
Milwaukee Urban League  
New Concept Self Development Center  
Next Door Foundation  
Parents Plus, Inc.  
Parklawn Assembly of God Church  
Peter Keer  
Rosalie Manor Community Health and Family Services  
Running Rebels Community Organization  
Social Development Commission  
United Migrant Opportunities Service  
University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee Continuing Education  
Vincent Family Resource Center  
YWCA of Greater Milwaukee

# Milwaukee Fatherhood Initiative

## AGENDA AT A GLANCE

### Friday, October 13, 2006

2:00-3:00 p.m.  
Pre-Conference Session

3:45-5:00 p.m.  
Pre-Summit Session

5:15- 6:15 p.m.  
Networking Reception

6:30-7:30 p.m.  
Pre-Summit Session

### Saturday, October 14, 2006

8:00-9:00 a.m.  
Registration / Continental Breakfast /  
Exhibit Tables

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.  
Opening Session

10:15 – 11:45 a.m.  
First Round Workshops

11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Awards Luncheon  
Afternoon Keynote

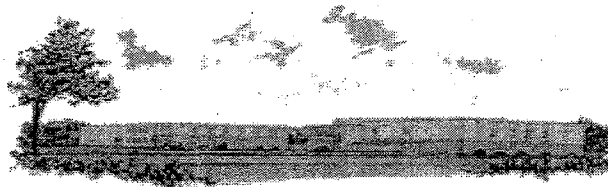
1:15 – 2:45 p.m.  
Second Round Workshops

2:45 – 3:00 p.m.  
Break and Exhibits

3:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Closing Ceremony  
Next Steps

# Mother Kathryn Daniels Conference Center

The Mother Kathryn Daniels Community  
Conference Center is the non-sectarian  
educational affiliate of Holy Redeemer  
Institutional COGIC. This state-of-the-art  
conference center houses a  
technology center, classrooms,  
instructional media center, natorium,  
fine arts symposium, exercise and job  
training centers and much more.



**Pre-Summit Session \* 2:00-3:00 p.m. \* Friday**

**National Fatherhood Initiative Workshop for Fatherhood Leaders**

**Genesis Hall**

This workshop is designed for agency and program directors, managers of the Milwaukee Fatherhood Collaborative member organizations, for Fatherhood Summit Planning Committee Members, and for Milwaukee Fatherhood leaders. Participants will learn what the National Fatherhood Initiative (NFI) has done and is doing in Milwaukee, in cooperation with the Milwaukee Fatherhood Initiative and what programs will be jointly organized by the Milwaukee Fatherhood Initiative and NFI.

**Presenters:**

**Erik Vecere**, Associate Vice President; National Fatherhood Initiative

**Milt Scott**, Program Specialist-National Fatherhood Initiative

**Pre-Summit Session \* 3:45-5:00 p.m. \* Friday**

**An African Centered Rites of Passage – A Critical Part of Effective Fatherhood in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

**Cafetorium**

Participants will learn the importance of cultural traditions to the wholesomeness of the family to develop and embrace a personal mission to being responsible.

**Presenters:**

**Kweku Johnnie and Efua Debra Fields, Nana Dr. Anthony Mensah and Demetrius Kowdjo Brown**

**Networking Reception \* 5:15-6:15 p.m. Friday**

Please join the community in welcoming special guests, **Rev. and Mrs. James Redd** (*parents of Milwaukee Bucks' Michael Redd*), in the atrium at 5:15 p.m. for refreshments, networking and special entertainment, with **Mayor Tom Barrett, Congresswoman Gwen Moore**, Honorary Co-Chairs of the Milwaukee Fatherhood Summit, community and political leaders and members of the Milwaukee Fatherhood Collaborative.

**Pre-Summit Session \* 6:30-7:45 p.m. \* Friday**

**A FATHER'S MOTIVATION**

**Cafetorium**

A Musical Journey of Fatherhood, Manhood, Love, Peace, Respect and Spirit. You will be motivated to feel good about yourself, the community and being a good father.

**Presenter: Tyrone P. Dumas**

**Continental Breakfast \* 8:00-9:00 a.m. \* Saturday**

Cafetorium

Plan to arrive early to register; enjoy breakfast, and browse the fatherhood service resource tables and exhibitors. These exhibitors offer valuable resource information for fathers, family service practitioners and advocates in Milwaukee. The exhibits will be available until 3:00 p.m.

**Morning Plenary Session \* 9:00-10:00 a.m. \* Saturday**

Cafetorium

Welcome.....Terence Ray

Invocation.....Bishop Sedgwick Daniels

A Father's Song.....Cincere

Introduction of Emcee.....Terence Ray

National Fatherhood Initiative, Mayor's Task Force.....Mayor Tom Barrett

Remarks .....Governor Jim Doyle (*Invited*)

Remarks.....County Executive Scott Walker

Remarks..... Common Council President, Willie Hines

Remarks.....Alderman Joe Davis

Remarks.....Alderman Ashanti Hamilton

Remarks..... State Assembly District 11 Representative Jason Fields

Remarks.....Patricia McManus, PhD

Overview of Day's Events.....Terence Ray, Curtis Marshall

*One night a father overheard his son pray: "Dear God, make me the kind of man my Daddy is." Later that night, the Father prayed, "Dear God, make me the kind of man my son wants me to be."*

**Please note that throughout the conference Holy Redeemer COGIC has elders and ministers available to provide spiritual counseling for men and individuals who desire it.**



Milwaukee  
Fatherhood  
Initiative

# GROUND RULES

- Everyone's opinion is important.
- Only one conversation at a time.
- Respect the speaker or speakers.
- No idea is a bad idea.
- Respect differences.
- Be supportive of each other.
- Support everyone's right to be heard.
- Be open to new ways of thinking and new ideas.
- No one has a job title.
- Understand other people's needs and interests.
- No cell phone calls or conversations
- Respect the ground rules.
- ENJOY YOUR WORKSHOP!!!!!!!

**Throughout the conference Holy Redeemer COGIC has elders and ministers available to provide spiritual counseling for men and individuals who desire it.**

**First Round Workshops \* 10:15-11:45 a.m. \* Saturday**

**Healthy Births: The Importance of the Father's Role During Pregnancy; Labor/Delivery and after Birth** **Room 527**

This workshop will be a chance to understand the importance of the father during a woman's pregnancy, labor/delivery and after birth, and the importance of the father's involvement from a doctor's perspective.

**Presenters:** Jim Addison, Lea Champion, LaTonya Walls, Craig Sanders, Janie Washington, MD

---

**Fathers of Children in the Welfare System** **Room 5120**

Discussion will increase father's awareness of the legal process when children are placed out of homes. Fathers will be able to identify steps to take to get their children placed in their care or other relatives who may be able and willing to care for the child/ren.

**Presenters:** Attorney Lindsey Draper, Marcus Martin, CSW, Lisa Taylor, MSW

---

**Overcoming Barriers to Health Care for Uninsured and Underinsured Men** **Symposium 5136**

A common barrier to health care is the lack of information available. This workshop will provide a basic, clear understanding of the medical assistance programs and health care providers available; learn where and how to apply for medical assistance programs; understand and learn how to solve medical assistance problems and; understand how to become an advocate for you.

**Presenters:** Lisa Ortiz, (Yet to be named)

---

**Building Strong Families through Strong Marriages** **Room 5124**

An interactive teaching to help workshop participants identify the purposes, enemies and steps to building strong marriages.

**Presenters:** Lynda Jackson, Ministers Michael and Joann Harden

**Couples:** John & Marcella Riley (51 years of marriage) Edward & Ardella Montgomery (53 years of marriage)

---

**Myths of the Single Father and Co-Parenting Through Separation and Divorce** **Room 5129**

This workshop will help participants measure true manhood against the false beliefs of single parenting; and take steps to strengthen male and female co-parenting relations

**Presenters:** Senior Pastor Walter Harvey, Pastor Darnell Robinson

---

**Climbing Jacob's Ladder; The Influence of Religion on Fatherhood and Parenting** **Room 5149**

Participants can "call out" the importance for families to clearly understand that the "family who prays together – stays together." And understand why worshipping the Creator is important for the family.

**Presenter:** Dr. William Rogers



**Getting on the Road to Driving Legally (Session A)**

**Library 5139**

This workshop will help participants have a greater understanding of the licensing law, and obtain information to resolve licensing issues for themselves.

**Presenters:** Judge James Grambling, Judge Derrick Mosley

---

**FOR TEENS ONLY (Session A)**

**Room 5137**

**Increasing Your Relationship Smarts---Why it Really Matters to Your Child**

This interactive workshop will help teens understand how relationship choices influence child growth and development; identify reasons that negatively influence relationships; learn and develop effective ways to communicate to handle conflict and; identify ways and guidelines for healthy relationships.

**Presenter:** Geraldo Vilacruz, PhD

---

***A Father's Prayer***

*Heavenly Father, through your love and guidance, help me be a caring and devoted father. Give me patience to listen with sincerity and wisdom to answer with truth. Help me not to insult that which is important to my child.*

*Grant us opportunities Lord for quality time. Help me always point to you. Let me teach courage in adversity and to learn from my child's simple faith.*

*Cause occasion to demonstrate respect for the elderly and those in authority. Give me the inspiration to forewarn my child of the world's evils and empty promises.*

*Thank you Lord for the mother of my child. Through our love may we guide our child to a loving mate someday.*

***Help me be a good example to other fathers***

**AMEN**

**AWARDS LUNCHEON \* 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. \* Saturday**

Leonard Pitts Jr. is a nationally-syndicated African American columnist. A former writer on Casey Kasem's radio program "American Top 40," he was a pop music critic hired by the Miami Herald in 1991. By 1994 he was writing about race, politics and culture. He has won awards for his writing from the Society of Professional Journalists and the American Society of Newspaper Editors, and was first nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in 1993, eventually claiming the honor in 2004 for his commentary. He is also the author of the best selling book titled, *Becoming Dad: Black Men and the Journey to Fatherhood*. He is Married and resides with his wife and children in Bowie, Maryland.



Opening Remarks.....	Terence Ray
Invocation.....	Bishop Sedgwick Daniels
Lunch.....	Servers; AFRAM Wisconsin, African American Caucus of SEIU
Fatherhood Awards.....	Milwaukee Fatherhood Collaborative
Introduction of Leonard Pitts.....	Terence Ray
Keynote Speaker.....	Leonard Pitts
Summary.....	Curtis Marshall

## ME2U Youth Mentoring Program

*Milwaukee's major initiative to help kids  
by caring adults willing to spend a little quality time.  
**Become a Mentor Today — We Need You!***

[www.me2unetwork.org](http://www.me2unetwork.org)

**Second Round Workshops \* 1:15-2:45 p.m. \* Saturday**

**Avoiding Baby's Mama Drama**

**Symposium 5136**

Participants will learn that the group is a safe place and the workshop leaders are caring, understanding and capable individuals. Group members will become aware of basic human needs and the role unmet needs play in their lives.

**Presenters:** Carmen Ray, Mary Pat O'Hara

---

**What Non-Custodial Dads Need to Know**

**Room 5124**

**Objective:** This workshop will help non-custodial dads understand their legal rights and how to exercise them. Questions such as, "Why is the child support office involved?" and "How is child support set?" will be answered. Discussion will also include drivers license reinstatement and the Children's First Program.

**Presenters:** Lisa Marks, Darryl Simmons

---

**Male Empowerment; What is My Purpose?**

**Room 5129**

This interactive workshop will help participants understand how the strengths and weakness of manhood influences their abilities as fathers.

**Presenter:** Derrick McClendon

---

**Helping Fathers Reconnect to Families after Incarceration**

**Room 5120**

**Presenter:** Michael Cockroft

---

**Mental Health and Depression: A Men's Only Workshop**

**Room 5126**

This *men's only* interactive workshop will provide a historical overview how stress has negatively impacted families to identify survival skills for overcoming and successfully handling stress and depression in everyday life.

**Presenter:** Phillip Donnel, M.D.

---

**Getting on the Road to Driving Legally (Session B)**

**Library 5139**

This workshop will help participants have a greater understanding of the licensing law, and obtain information to resolve licensing issues for themselves.

**Presenters:** Judge James Grambling, Judge Derrick Mosley

FOR TEENS ONLY (Session B)

Room 5137

**P.R.O.U.D; Productive, Resourceful, Optimistic, Understanding and Determined**

Young fathers will receive an understanding of the issues related to fatherhood. Fathers will participate in a discussion concerning fatherhood and issues important to today's teens.

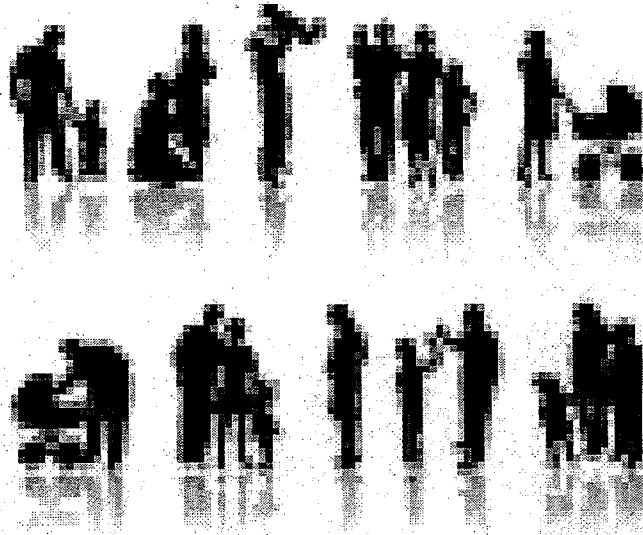
**Presenters:** Ron Johnson, Todd Beadle, Talaya MacIntyre, Alphonso Pettis

**Closing Ceremony \* 3:00-4:00 p.m. \* Saturday**

**Main Conference Room**

## A Circle of Strong Fathers and Families

### Reflections



**Closing Remarks**  
**HARAMBEE CHANT**





## THE STRENGTH OF A MAN

The strength of a man isn't seen in the width of his shoulders. It's seen in the width of his arms that encircle and protect you.

The strength of a man isn't in the deep tone of his voice. It's in the gentle words he whispers.

The strength of a man isn't in the words he speaks. It's in how he keeps his word.

The strength of a man isn't how many buddies he has. It's how good a buddy he is with his or "your" children.

The strength of a man isn't in how respected he is at work. It's in how he is respected at home.

The strength of a man isn't in how hard he hits. It's in how tender he touches

The strength of a man isn't in the hair on his chest. It's in the heart . . . that lies within his chest.

The strength of a man isn't in how many women he's loved. It's in whether he can be true to the ONE woman he's trying to love.

The strength of a man isn't in the weight he can lift. It's in the burdens he can carry.

The strength of a man isn't in how much food he eats from your table. It's in the effort he puts forth when you are unable.

The strength of a man isn't in how he makes love. It's in the understanding that there is more to making love . . . than making love.

A strong man puts God first,

. . . family second

. . . and his work third.

*"Building boys is easier than mending men."*