

Here's To The
Children

Paternity and Fathers

You Owe It
To Your Child

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

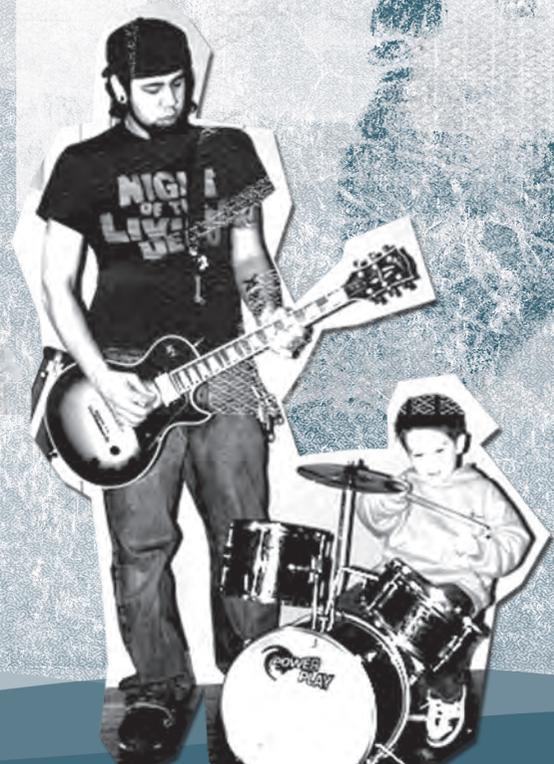
DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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AA/EOE/ADA

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Helping People Live Better Lives





Need More Information Regarding Establishing Paternity?

**Nebraska Department of
Health and Human Services
Child Support Enforcement Unit**

P.O. Box 94728
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4728
1-877-631-9973

Vital Records Management

1033 O Street – Suite 130
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509
402-471-2871

**If your child was born
in Douglas County,
contact the office below:**

**Vital Records Management
Douglas County Health Department**

402 Civic Center
Omaha, Nebraska 68183
402-444-7205

www.dhhs.ne.gov/CSE

How Do I Take Responsibility For My Child?

The easiest way to legally establish paternity in Nebraska is for both parents to sign a Voluntary Acknowledgement of Paternity. You can complete this form at the hospital upon the birth of your child. If paternity wasn't established at birth, you can get the form at one of the offices listed on the back of this brochure.

Signing this form is completely voluntary. If you are under the age of 19, you should talk to your parents before signing an Acknowledgement of Paternity form.

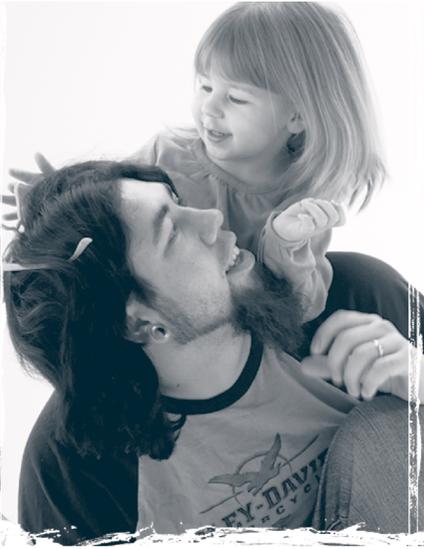


What Is Paternity?

Fatherhood is a big step and it takes a man to face up to it. Ask any fatherless child what he or she wants most in life and the answer won't be a computer or video game. What they want is a dad to help them grow. When you establish paternity for your child, you also establish yourself as the legal father in the eyes of the law.

Children who grow up without dads are more likely to drop out of school and become involved in drugs or criminal activities. All of these risk factors can be lessened if children have a strong family bond and a family support system – including positive influence from you, even if you do not live in your child's home.

Taking responsibility is as simple as being there for them. To love, hug and comfort them from their first baby steps to scoring the game-winning run. Responsibility is being there for the big and little things, you're there for them...and they depend on you.



What Rewards Does Your Child Receive?

By taking responsibility:

- Your child can have the emotional stability of knowing and interacting with both parents.
- Your child can receive the financial support and security of both parents to grow into a strong person who will be proud to carry your name.
- Your child will have potentially life-saving access to family medical records.
- Your child will have the right to inheritance as well as any available Social Security and Veteran's benefits in the case of your death or disability.

What Rewards Do You Receive?

By establishing paternity:

- You can be there for your child's first steps, your child's first words, and your child's first dance recital or little league game. Most importantly, you will be there to give your child a hero for life.
- You may legally request your parental rights to custody and visitation.
- You have the opportunity to proudly give your child your name.
- You can be assured that your child will be taken care of in the event of your death.

