



## Reconnecting Families and Dads

Registration Issue

March 2014

# Registration Begins!

You can now register your Father's Day Initiative event, [here](http://www.hud.gov/emarc/index.cfm?fuseaction=emar.registerEvent&eventId=1991&update=N):  
<http://www.hud.gov/emarc/index.cfm?fuseaction=emar.registerEvent&eventId=1991&update=N>

When registering:

- Please be sure you register to support the coordination of federal, national and local resources.
- If you encounter a problem when inputting your telephone number, try using an alternative browser such as Firefox.
- Please be sure to complete all fields carefully.
- Please do not register your housing authority more than once.

**We're excited for Father's Day 2014!**

**Learn more about the Initiative by visiting our [webpage](http://www.hud.gov/fathersday):  
[hud.gov/fathersday](http://www.hud.gov/fathersday) be sure to check back regularly for updates!**

**Follow all the Father's Day Initiative news on Twitter with our hashtag #FDI2014**

## Event Idea: Host Healthcare Sign-Up

One of the truest sayings in the English language is: "If you don't have your health, you don't have anything." Good health is the foundation for a good life and everything—going to school, looking for work, even just getting around—it's harder when you don't feel well. However, too many have not had access to good health care because they could not afford it. This is changing under the new health care law, the Affordable Care Act, which has made health care available for a larger group of Americans.

One change to the law may have an especially strong impact on public housing families. In some states, the Affordable Care Act Medicaid is expanding to offer coverage to include childless adults.\* You can help residents get access to health care by hosting a healthcare sign-up event.

Also, open enrollment under the Affordable Care Act lasts until March 31st. Spread the word and help all residents take advantage of this opportunity to access health care.

\*Not all states are participating in the expansion of the program; you can find out which states are expanding their program by going to [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov).

## HUD Partnership Offers Books to PHAs

Having books to read – at home and in the classroom – is the number one predictor of reading success. But the reality for millions of children from low-income families is that books are an unaffordable luxury. Without books, and the intervention of great programs and schools, these children are at risk of falling behind in the classroom, the workforce and beyond.

That's why the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) would like to introduce you to First Book to help you get brand new, age-appropriate free or low-cost books for the kids you serve. First Book is an international nonprofit social enterprise that provides access to new books and educational resources for programs and classrooms working with kids from low-income families.

There are two great opportunities available to you, and one is a **limited-time funding opportunity**:

1. [First Book](#) is offering a limited-time funding opportunity to help you get free and low-cost new books that celebrate the diversity and richness of Latino culture and heritage in the U.S.

First Book has a great new [Latino culture collection](#) of books on the First Book Marketplace. This expertly curated selection features hundreds of books written by Latino authors and illustrators, full of characters and storylines that reflect the U.S. Latino experience. Don't miss out! **This opportunity is available on a first-come, first-serve basis through March 21, 2014.**

Just follow these easy steps:

**Step 1:** [Click here](#) to sign up with First Book – it's free and takes only minutes.

**Step 2:** Visit the First Book Marketplace and fill your shopping cart with our amazing [Latino Culture and Heritage Collection of 50 Books for Elementary School, or select \\$200 in your choice](#) of books from [the Latino Culture category](#).

**Step 3:** Apply code [HUDlibros](#) at checkout and watch your balance drop from \$200 to FREE!

**OPTIONAL Step 4:** First Book will double your budget for books— for FREE! First Book will match every \$200 you spend with \$200 more to spend on books from the [Latino Culture category](#) (up to \$400). This means you can get \$800 in books for just \$400! Just use promo code [HUDlatino](#).

2. If you don't have a need for Latino culture books, once you complete Step 1 above, you will have immediate and ongoing access to free books through the [First Book National Book Bank](#), and low-cost books through the [First Book Marketplace](#). Anyone working with kids in need can sign up, and everyone in your organization can register. You can use these books for anything--local resident meetings, book fairs, community events, and yes, the annual HUD Father's Day event!

If you have questions, please contact the First Book Help Team by calling (866) READ-NOW or emailing [help@firstbook.org](mailto:help@firstbook.org). Please also feel free to share the two attached flyers with your service providers. Finally, if you would like to contact First Book to explore additional partnership opportunities, please contact Ms. Shannon Burke-Kranzberg whose contact information is listed below.

**Shannon Burke-Kranzberg | Manager, National Engagement**  
[sburkekranzberg@firstbook.org](mailto:sburkekranzberg@firstbook.org) | 202.470.4260

## Fatherhood in the News



["Dads and Daughters Bond at Annual Dance"](#)- *Milwaukee- Wisconsin Journal Sentinel* (Milwaukee, WI)

["Dads and Daughters: The Blessing of a Stepfather Who Steps Up for His New Daughter"](#) – *The Oregonian* (Portland, Oregon)

["Why Dads Matter"](#) *The Atlantic* (National Magazine)