



Handout 6-1: What's in It for..

What's in It for Caseworkers?

- Possible increase in safety and well-being when you have more eyes on the child
- An increased ability to access the physical, financial and emotional resources and support of the father and his family
- Increase in placement and permanency options for the child
- Positive outcomes for children when their fathers have a safe and healthy presence in their lives
- Employment of family involvement strategies, making locating, identifying and engaging non-resident fathers in the child welfare process less cumbersome

What's in It for Children?

- Significantly increased likelihood to do well in school, have healthy self-esteem, exhibit empathy and social behavior, and avoid high-risk behaviors
- Better educational outcomes
- More friendships due to better social skills and fewer behavioral concerns and/or mental health issues
- Healthier well-being
- Parents as partners in raising them, even when they do not live in the same household
- Increased number of family and support persons involved who can ensure their safety, emotional well-being and connection to all caring adults

What's in It for Mothers?

- Positive outcomes for their children in cognitive, emotional and social development
- Additional support from the father and the paternal family -- they don't have to do it alone
- A greater sense of commitment to family, which can be modeled for the children
- More competence as a parent as evidenced by a demonstration of more patience, flexibility and emotional responsiveness to their children
- Through co-parenting, more consistent messages about what's right and what's wrong.