

Improving **visibility, recognition, and support** for young fathers

Young fathers face many challenges:

Negative portrayals of their abilities in the national media, unbalanced treatment from the benefits system, difficulties with finances, and generally damaging attitudes from society as a whole.

The Young Dads TV project was launched to improve young fathers' visibility and recognition, and to help address the complex web of challenges and barriers which often result in young fathers being distant figures in their children's lives.

PROJECT OUTCOMES

YOUNGDADS.TV WEBSITE



YOUNG DADS COUNCIL

- Attended All-party Parliamentary Group

LOCAL SUPPORT GROUPS

- Worked with 100 young dads from 11 local authorities

AWARDS

- Nominet Internet Award for empowering Young People and Citizens
- Runner-Up in international award for supporting UN's Millennium Development Goals

PROJECT COMPONENTS



- Features the 'Dads' Map' to find local support
- Challenges social stigma young fathers face

YOUNG DADS COUNCIL

- Members involved in policy-making for other young fathers
- Contributed to government's 'Young Fathers Steering Group'
- Recommendations in the 'Are we nearly there yet, Dad?' report (Dec' 2012)

LOCAL SUPPORT GROUPS

- Council members set up informal local groups
- Young Dads TV supported nine local groups

It has given the young fathers I have seen in my city more confidence and belief, self-worth and self-esteem, which is hugely valuable.

It doesn't guarantee they will go on to be excellent fathers, but it improves the chances of bringing out the very best in young dads.

- Increased confidence
- Improved parenting skills
- Enhanced capabilities and functioning
- Positive attitudinal changes
- Young fathers gaining self-worth