



**we encourage and empower boys
to follow their dreams**



why we exist

NO BOY DREAMS of

- going to prison
- abusing drugs
- or dropping out of school

“One of the most reliable predictors of whether a boy will succeed or fail in school rests on a single question:

Does he have a man in his life to look up to?

Too often, the answer is NO.”

Newsweek article,
“The Trouble with Boys”



the problem

NO BOY CHOOSES TO GROW UP

- without a DAD to look up to
- with no man to guide them
- with no positive male role models

YET MILLIONS DO!

High divorce rates and out-of-wedlock births have created a problem of **epidemic proportions**.

Every day boys are joining gangs, dropping out of school and turning to drugs and alcohol to help them cope with the pain of growing up **without a man who cares about them**.



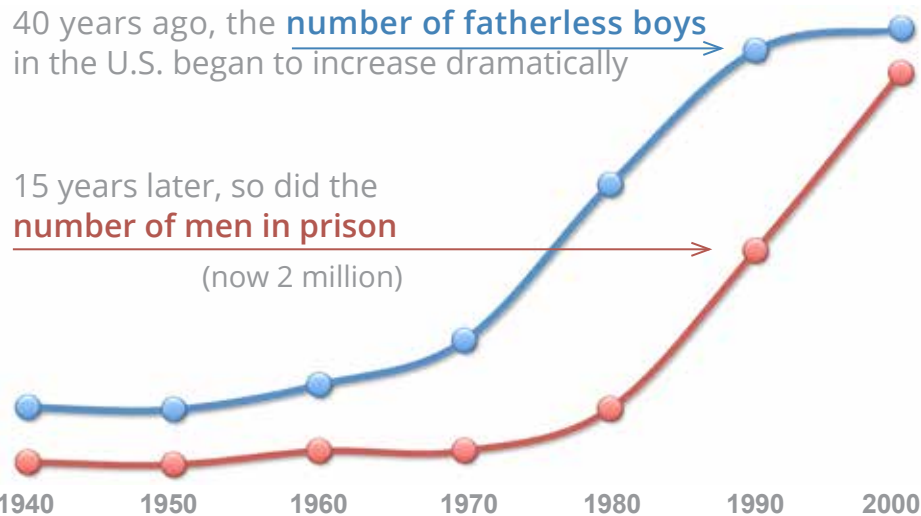
the sad facts

- Divorce rates are over 50%
- 33% of teenage boys are growing up without a father in their home
- Since 1960, the number of American children without fathers has quadrupled, from 6 million to 24 million

2010 U.S. Census

Boys without fathers are:

- 9 times more likely to drop out of school
 - 10 times more likely to abuse drugs
 - 20 times more likely to go to prison
- ...than boys who grow up with a father.



the critical window

Our 18 years of experience working with teenage boys have taught us that the middle school years are an important time in a boy's development, when a boy makes choices that shape the man he will become.

This is an especially critical window of time for boys without fathers.

With no male role models to guide them, middle school is when boys start to lose their way, start to get in trouble, and often fall through the cracks of the educational system and land in the prison system.

- **the average age of first drug use is 13**
- **the average age of first alcohol use is 12**

85% of youths in prison grew up in a fatherless home

Texas Department of Corrections



our program

Boys to Men is a community-based mentoring model serving middle and high school boys identified by school administration to be at-risk of dropping out of school, juvenile delinquency or gang involvement.

Every week Boys to Men mentors go into schools to provide the male role models these fatherless boys are missing.

Not just one man, but a community of mentors and peers who offer the hope, support and guidance boys require in the critical window, **when choices can impact a lifetime.**

Our community-based approach gives boys a safe place to get real and talk about the problems all teenage boys keep inside, and a community where boys know they are NOT ALONE in their feelings.

Fears, sadness, successes, hopes, anger, and gratitude are often revealed. We ask guys to raise a hand when someone shares something they have going on too.

There's a comfort in seeing other's hands go up.



73% of the boys in the program do not have a father active in their life.

we offer 3 program models

In-school groups: Boys with academic and/or behavior issues are required by school administration to attend BTM groups during school hours. (90% fatherless)

After-school groups: Boys choose to attend these weekly meetings. (67% fatherless)

Evening groups: Open to all San Diego boys.

The meetings follow a 32-week curriculum designed to help boys cope with issues at home and school, and bring awareness and intention to important choices all teenage boys face.



boys adventure weekend

After 12 weeks of group meetings the boys and mentors are invited to attend the Boys Adventure Weekend. During this weekend, boys are challenged and supported through a series of carefully facilitated activities designed to help boys cope with the ordeals they will face during adolescence.

This 3-day training is led by experienced facilitators and trained staff, and provides a 2:1 ratio of men to boys.

Each day has a specific intention:

FRIDAY: WHO I AM NOW?

SATURDAY: CHOOSING THE MAN I WANT TO BE.

SUNDAY: WHAT'S IN MY WAY?

This creates a powerful experience that helps boys cope with the ordeals they will face during adolescence. They learn about integrity. They bond with a tribe. They learn about mission and service. This weekend is a life-changing experience boys never forget.



Our boys and mentors spend more time together on this weekend than a typical mentor program provides in 6 months.

what sets us apart

COMMUNITY. We build communities of good men, who attend weekly group meetings with boys who want to become good men. The consistency of weekly group meetings creates the connection and trust that allows the boys to talk openly about the challenges in their lives.

ROLE MODELS. Boys have multiple, positive role models, including mentors, group facilitators and their older peers.

STRUCTURED, TEEN-FOCUSED CURRICULUM provides both boys and mentors a chance to learn from each other and work together to achieve a common goal. This curriculum is designed to allow boys to process and interpret their feelings week by week.

PARTNERING WITH SCHOOLS and working closely with school administrators allows us to identify and serve boys most in need of our program.

IT'S A SIMPLE CONCEPT. Boys and men spending time together, having fun, listening to, learning from and counting on each other.



the boy's perspective

"Boys to men helped me so much in life, I went from the bottomless pit of hell to the best place I have been. I found answers I have been looking for and all that weight on my shoulders is gone because of Boys to Men and I thank them for helping get through life."

- Chanse

"When my father went to jail, I stopped caring about everything because I lost the man that taught me everything. Boys to Men gives me a place where I can let out my emotions and be myself."

- Andrew

"Boys to Men is a family that understands and cares. I know when I attend a group meeting that we all go through the same problems and that I am not alone."

- Aaron

"Before Boys to Men, I was always getting into fights and making the wrong decisions. I was headed to juvenile hall or worse, death. Boys to Men means a lot to me. It's a group of men I can trust."

- Isaias

"My dad's not around and before boys to men I was a very angry and unhappy person. I didn't like anybody. Boys to Men helped me let out all my anger. To me this organization is a place where people understand what I am going through."

- Zac

school testimonials

"In my 24 years as a school counselor, I have never witnessed a program as powerful and effective as Boys to Men. I have seen this program make remarkable changes in our toughest boys."

- Bruce Crenshaw, Counselor, Spring Valley Middle School

"I find words inadequate to describe the profound impact Boys to Men has had on the lives of our students. Boys to Men should be in every middle school."

- Dana Wright, Principal, Spring Valley Middle School

"The impact of Boys to Men has been incredibly powerful! We are truly thankful for their work with our young men."

- Rob Myrick, Dean of Students, La Mesa Middle School

"Boys to Men has been an incredible resource for our male students. Our boys know there is a safe place for them to be real and feel understood. We are so grateful that Boys to Men is at La Mesa Middle School. They are truly changing lives."

- Bonnie Hayman, Counselor, La Mesa Middle School

"I can't say enough positive things about Boys to Men! Our students have a history of behavioral challenges and family trauma. If Boys to Men can engage our students, I am confident that they can reach any student."

- Jenine Henry, Principal, Reach Academy



we are growing

In 18 years we have grown from a local San Diego program to a worldwide network of 27 independent Boys to Men communities in the U.S., Canada, Europe and Africa.

In 2009, we took our program into the schools, and started an after school group mentoring program in San Diego targeting “at-risk” middle school boys.

After seeing the positive changes in the boys attending the after school program, Principal Wright asked us to start a Boys to Men program during the school day, for her most at risk boys.

5 years later, this school program has been a remarkable success. Today we offer 14 in-school programs, 4 after-school programs and 2 evening programs serving 385 San Diego boys (73% fatherless).



We offer our program FREE of CHARGE as 70% of our boys live below the poverty level in single mother homes.

it works

Our community mentoring approach is drawing high praise from school administrators for its documented ability to improve boys grades, attendance and self esteem, and reduce discipline issues, expulsion and dropout rates of even their most at-risk boys.

Program Evaluation

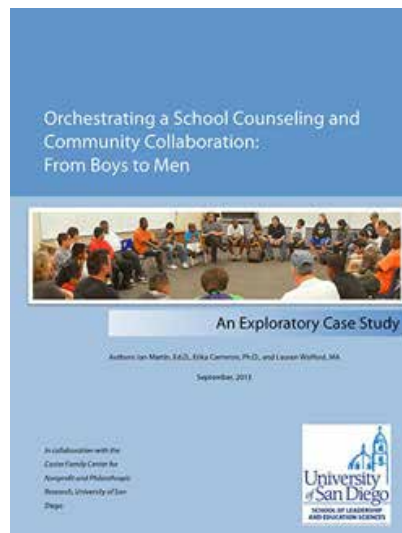
School records show boys who participated for one school year improved their GPA by an average of 27% and reduced their discipline incidents by 85%.

University of San Diego case study of Boys to Men

Researchers conclusion:

“Boys to Men played a significant role in improving the lives and educational trajectories of the boys that participated in the program.

Based upon these findings, we highly recommend investing in the further development, research and evaluation of the Boys to Men organization.”



boys to men in every middle school

Every day, at every Boys to Men school meeting, we see the devastating impact that growing up without a dad has on a teenage boy, and ultimately on his community.

We know our community-based mentoring program has the potential to give millions of fatherless boys the support they deserve.

Our goal is to have a Boys to Men program in every middle school in San Diego (200 schools).

Our dream is a Boys to Men program in every middle school in America.

BECAUSE EVERY BOY DESERVES A GOOD MAN IN HIS LIFE.



"If I were King, I would put Boys to Men in every middle school in America."

- David Geck, Dean of Students, Spring Valley Middle School

a wise investment

It costs \$47,102 a year to incarcerate one inmate!

It costs \$500 to give one boy a year in Boys to Men.

"Boys to Men gave me a voice that says it's OK to cry, it's OK to love, it's OK to say you're sorry, it's OK to forgive even though somebody has hurt you."

- O'Naje after one year in BTM

\$250 sends a boy to the Boy's Adventure Weekend.

"Just one weekend answered so many questions I've had about myself and life, and I've had those questions for years. Boys to Men touched my heart, and changed my life."

- Joe after one BTM weekend

\$100 gives a boy 10 weeks of mentors who listen, encourage and believe in him.

"Without Boys to Men I would still be smoking weed, doing nothing, doing drugs. The first meeting I went to BTM is when I decided to stop."

- Cody after 10 Weeks in BTM

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Donate today and give a boy the hope, support and guidance he needs to say YES TO HIS DREAMS.

When we invest in our boys, and support them at this critical time, the payback will last a lifetime!

BOYS = MEN MENTORING



www.boystomen.org

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"IT IS EASIER TO BUILD STRONG CHILDREN THAN
TO REPAIR BROKEN MEN."

- FREDRICK DOUGLASS