PATERNITY MAKES A "REAL" DIFFERENCE AND IT TAKES A COMMUNITY

WHAT IS PATERNITY?

Paternity means fatherhood. Establishing paternity is the process of determining a legal father of the child.

UNMARRIED BIRTHS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

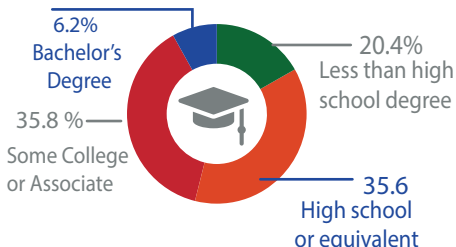| 2018	24,876	46.8%
2019	24,941	47.1%
2020	24,922	48.0%

UNMARRIED BIRTHS BY FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL IN S.C.

46.9% BELOW POVERTY LEVEL

28.3% 100-199% OF POVERTY LEVEL
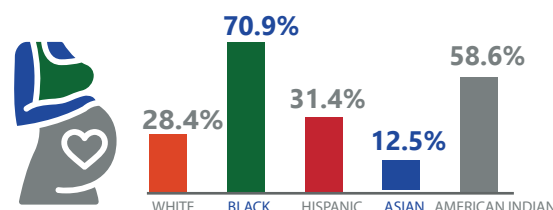
24.8% 200% OR GREATER

UNMARRIED BIRTHS BY EDUCATION LEVEL

- 6.2% Bachelor's Degree
- 20.4% Less than high school degree
- 35.8% Some College or Associate
- 35.6 High school or equivalent

UNMARRIED BIRTHS BY AGE IN S.C.

- 12% 35-50 YEAR OLDS
- 15-19 YEAR OLDS 8.3%
- 79.7% 20-34 YEAR OLDS
- AGE
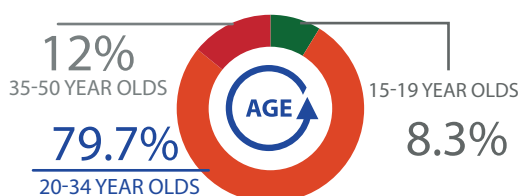
UNMARRIED BIRTH RATE BY RACE IN S.C.

WHITE	BLACK	HISPANIC	ASIAN	AMERICAN INDIAN
28.4%	70.9%	31.4%	12.5%	58.6%

PATERNITY AFFECTS EVERY CHILD THAT IS BORN TO UNMARRIED PARENTS:

✓ If paternity is established there is a legal relationship between father and child, and child is afforded all the same benefits/rights as being born to a married couple.

✓ Research shows that when fathers are involved with their children they have:

- Less criminal involvement
- Less behavioral problems and acting out
- Less drug usage
- Less teenage pregnancy
- Improved school successes and a greater likelihood to graduate from high school

CHILDREN WHO GROW UP WITH INVOLVED FATHERS ARE:

39% More likely to earn mostly A's in school

45% Less likely to repeat a grade

60% Less likely to be suspended or expelled from school

2X As likely to go to college and find stable employment after high school

75% Less likely to have a teen birth

80% Less likely to spend time in jail

(Demographics data available from Town Charts & Kids Count South Carolina)