



Father-Son Project

Program Overview:

The **Father-Son Project (FSP)** is focused on improving the father-son dynamic, offering participants the opportunity to strengthen their father/son bond and to engage in activities to boost self-esteem and shared learning. The Father-Son Project targets males in the seventh or eighth grade level and their fathers. FSP encourages and supports the completion of high school as well as the pursuit of higher education specifically with a n interest in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). FSP provides monthly meetings with collegiate mentors, as well as bi-monthly evening sessions with fathers, and special events. FSP focuses on two essential components : Character Development and Leadership - while addressing the areas of Academic Enrichment, Career Exploration, Cultural Diversity, Community Outreach, and Social Development.

Services:

- **School Based Sessions** - 1-hour sessions held ONCE A MONTH during the week. These sessions take place during school hours and are designated for sons only. These sessions provide an opportunity for students to discuss their academic and personal needs.
- **Evening Sessions** - Sharing time sessions are 1-hour to 2-hour sessions held EVERY OTHER MONTH during the week at evening hours assigned by each school. These bimonthly sessions are designated for both fathers and sons from the same school district to spend quality time together as they develop personal growth and leadership skills.
- **Special Events** - Saturday events are for all father-son teams from all schools districts. Most events will take place at the UTRGV campus. These events are typically four to six hour workshops designed to provide an opportunity for the FSP teams to meet and share experiences with other members outside their school or district.
- **Community Service Projects**- Community Service offers activities that are pre-planned by the FSP staff that allow the FSP Teams to serve the community. These events are typically four to six hour workshops.

Objectives:

- Parental Involvement & Commitment to Educational Success
- Readiness for Higher Education & STEM Careers
- Recruitment & Retention

STEM Summer Camp

Hosted on The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley campus in Edinburg, STEM Camp is an all expense paid, one week residential summer camp program. The STEM Camp gives students the opportunity to explore exciting engineering and scientific fields through: demonstrations, classroom presentations, hands-on activities, and contact with women professionals in Science Technology Engineering Mathematics (STEM) fields during the summer. Students live on campus for approximately one week and experience college life.

Target Audience

Participating schools pay a fee per team for a minimum of 10 teams per school—boys must be in the 7th and 8th grade.

