

together to donate Dads are working needy families.

BY EXPRESS-NEWS STAFF WRITER VIANNA DAVILA

family this Chris Escobedo who's Abraham giving it. is Gonzales Christmas. ಶಾ young help S. a young for Vicente father his

mas parent of 20-month-old Selena. the Will across the city dnoæ Escobedo, Fatherhood Goodwill Christ-Drive. donate of San Antonio dads who He's also to this Saturday for needy the families single

dent ilies classes. diploma working the support that erything," said E charter mT, to at just get school where he is toward his high school Por and said Escobedo, a si or Vida Academy, the helping other ; the help that I taking need and evparenting a stufam-

> that I families to get the help "Tm just helping other get."

VICENTE ESCOBEDO

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Participant in the San Antonio Fatherhood Campaign

from Southwest Key were to help him for the holidays "This time there" Normally Gonzales, 25, helps other young fathers find resources as a volunteer for the Southwest Key Latino Fatherhood Program — resources that were hard to find when he became a dad at age 17. When he recently lost his job, members hood Program there

This time they're reaching out to me since I'm the one in need," Gonzales coil

putting into families, said Frank the good work the community Drive is about Fatherhood Goodwill Christmas ed," Gonzales said. And that's exactly exactly local fathers and showcasing giving back to what

See DADS/6NW



promote the role of fathers Vida Academy counselor Jose Gonzalez promote the role of fathers in families. discusses parenting techniques during a session designed

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campaign. paign, the This is San Antonio Fatherhood Cam-Castro role Jr., coordinator partnership to promote the first year for the fathers in families. of the

whether it's ecor ily," Castro said. some who 5 stances unique reach out to other families may be going of the same they're going t r it's economic wanted to make it a opportunity for fathers same through, through or famcircum-

therhood AVANCE, JOVEN, MATCH/PATCH progra therhood Campaign: American Indians in Texas-Spanish Colofrom eight local programs that Latino nial Missions, Southwest Network, are part Antonio The father volunteers come of the San Antonio Fa-Fatherhood National National Compadres
Project WORTH and program, Program, San dn on a positive note by finding men and fathers who will stand

for fathers to reach out to other families. a unique opportunity "We wanted to make

coordinator, San Antonio Fatherhood Campaign FRANK CASTRO JR.

Each program plans to nominate at least two families to receive donations, Castro said. Making Connections.

at the end of a year that has seen a series of child deaths across the state. When Castro cobedo's fatherhood class at Por Vida, students said, "No more." "I think we can end this year discussed the incidents with Es-The Christmas drive comes

something men wward," Castro said. kind of shed a bright light and this is the beginning of hing men will put for-

the Fatherhood Campaign plan to sponsor a rally next month to show their commitment to parenting. Castro and other leaders

plans to go door-to-door will the other dads in San Antonio. This And year, next Escobedo door-to-door with year, Gonzales will

gifts, although he can only atford to buy gifts for his daughter this year. The main present he hopes to give her is love. the young dad handing out the

that he will al her," he said. that she has a loving father and that he will always be there for want my baby to know

the Campaign at (210) 227-3463 For San more Antonio information, Fatherhood

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against these

things

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