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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Celebrating Black History and Women's History

Decades of Dedication CEO, COO Celebrates 40+ Years of Women Leadership



ST. LOUIS, MO – <u>Fathers & Families Support Center (FFSC)</u> proudly recognizes the remarkable achievements of its CEO, Cheri Tillis, and COO, Destini Goodwin, who each celebrates over 20 years of dedicated service to the organization. This significant milestone coincides with Black History Month and Women's History Month, further highlighting the profound impact of their leadership and commitment to the St. Louis community.



Tillis and Goodwin have been instrumental in shaping FFSC into a leading provider of programs that strengthen families and communities. Their unwavering dedication has empowered countless individuals to become responsible parents and build brighter futures.

"Celebrating Cheri and Destini's combined 40+ years is truly a testament to their exceptional leadership and unwavering commitment to FFSC's mission," said Board Chairman Chas Eggert. "Their dedication has been pivotal in transforming the lives of so many families within our community. Their long term commitment is also a great example of dedication to our community, and to our organization's goals."

Why This Matters:

- Their long-term commitment (40+ years combined) demonstrates a deep understanding of the community's needs and effective strategies for addressing them.
- As Black women in leadership roles, Cheri and Destini serve as powerful role models, particularly during Black History and Women's History Months.

Community Impact:

Their leadership has directly contributed to the success of FFSC's programs, which strengthen families, promote responsible fatherhood, and enhance economic stability. For example:

- Between 2019 2024, FFSC helped the State of Missouri collect \$5,926,609 in child support paid by its program participants.
- In 2024, 298 FFSC participants agency-wide obtained or maintained employment, resulting in \$10.7M reinvested back into the local economy.
- In 2023, FFSC **returned \$13,727,823 to the St. Louis community** on an investment of \$3,419,304 (our 2023 program expenses).

"We are incredibly proud to celebrate Cheri and Destini's remarkable achievements," said Sharon Husmann, FFSC board member and long-time support. "Their dedication to FFSC's mission has made a lasting impact on our community, and we are grateful for their continued leadership."

About Fathers & Families Support Center (FFSC)

Celebrating over 27 years, FFSC has been a catalyst for change, **positively impacting nearly 22,000 fathers and benefitting over 53,000 children since its inception in 1998.** FFSC's hallmark six-week <u>Family Formation</u> program has been a cornerstone of this success, leading to transformative outcomes in parenting, employment, and family stability. **In 2024 alone, FFSC facilitated the growth of over 300 fathers in their parenting journey while contributing significantly to the local economy and child support collections.**

Evolved from its original focus, FFSC is now a nationally recognized agency with expansive services for fathers, mothers, at-risk youth and incarcerated fathers/men. The agency's commitment to breaking cycles of poverty and enhancing child welfare through comprehensive parenting education remains steadfast.

As FFSC envisions the future, CEO Cheri Tillis emphasizes the organization's dedication to growth and community impact, supported by a strong board and community partnerships.

FFSC is one of only 44 nonprofits out of 54,000 agencies in Missouri to have been certified by the rigorous standards and guidelines of the Council On Accreditation.

"Reaccreditation is a tremendous achievement that demonstrates that your organization is recognized as a provider that continues to successfully implement high performance standards and, as such, is delivering the highest quality services to all of its stakeholders."

~Council On Accreditation

For more information about FFSC's impactful work and details about the upcoming celebration, please contact (text/call) Sid Officer at 314-351-2818, sofficer@fatherssupport.org or visit fatherssupportcenter.org