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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fathers & Families Support Center Hosts Sold-Out 10th Annual Pull For Fathers Clayshoot, Celebrating a Decade of Impact

ST. LOUIS, MO – [August 1, 2025] – <u>Fathers & Families Support Center</u> (FFSC) is proud to announce its **10th annual Pull For Fathers Clayshoot**, a landmark event that has officially sold out, demonstrating overwhelming community support for FFSC's vital mission. This milestone event, **sponsored by the Maritz Family**, will take place on **Friday**, **August 22**, **2025**, **from 2:00 PM** - **6:00 PM at the historic Strathalbyn Farms Club**.

<u>Pull For Fathers Clayshoot</u> has grown significantly over the past decade, becoming a cornerstone fundraiser that directly supports FFSC's programs. These programs empower fathers to become more responsible parents, better providers, and more engaged community members, ultimately strengthening families and communities across the St. Louis metropolitan area.

"We are incredibly humbled and energized by the sold-out success of our 10th annual Clayshoot," said CEO of Fathers & Families Support Center Cheri Tillis. "This event is not just a fundraiser; it's a powerful testament to the community's belief in the transformative work we do. For ten years, this event has helped us provide essential services that equip fathers with the tools they need to build stronger bonds with their children and contribute positively to society. We are deeply grateful to all our sponsors, participants, and volunteers for their unwavering dedication."

Rodney Bahr, Event Chairman, echoed this sentiment. "Reaching our 10th anniversary and selling out is a tremendous achievement that reflects the dedication of everyone involved. The enthusiasm for this event year after year speaks volumes about the impact FFSC has on countless lives. It's truly inspiring to see so many come together to support fathers and families, and I'm honored to be a part of this incredible effort."

Funds raised from the Clayshoot are critical for FFSC to continue offering comprehensive services, including workforce development, parenting skills training, healthy relationship education, and legal

assistance. These programs help fathers overcome barriers, secure employment, and become positive role models for their children.

FFSC extends its sincere gratitude to all sponsors, participants, volunteers, and partners who have contributed to the success of the Pull For Fathers Clayshoot over the past decade. Their support has been instrumental in helping FFSC achieve its mission and make a lasting difference in the lives of fathers, children, and families.

About Fathers & Families Support Center: Fathers & Families Support Center (FFSC) is a nationally-recognized non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening families by empowering fathers to be responsible parents, better providers, and more engaged community members. Through comprehensive programs and services, FFSC helps fathers (and mothers) overcome challenges, develop essential life skills, and build positive relationships with their children.

Since its first class in 1998, FFSC has supported nearly 22,000 men on their journey to responsible fatherhood, positively impacting over 53,000 sons and daughters who have more responsible parents today!

2024 Stats:

- 72% of participants reported increased co-parenting relationship skills.
- 83% of participants reported increased parenting skills.
- 75% of FFSC participants report increased interaction with their children.
- 3% Recidivism rate for participants of FFSC's Re-Entry Project. 2024 Missouri average recidivism rate is 35%.
- Average wage that FFSC participants earned in 2024 was \$18.16/hour compared to the state's minimum wage of \$12.30.
- 298 participants agency-wide obtained or maintained employment, resulting in \$10.7M reinvested back into the local economy.
- Between 2019 2024, FFSC helped the State of Missouri collect \$5,926,609 in child support paid by Family Formation participants.
- A current, conservative estimate shows that in 2024, Fathers & Families Support Center returned \$16,423,312 to the St. Louis community on an investment of \$3.5M (our 2024 program expenses).