



Fathers & Families
SUPPORT CENTER
HELP FOR FATHERS. HOPE FOR FAMILIES.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The \$10M Fatherhood Effect: How a "Wild West" Trivia Night is Saving STL Families



ST. LOUIS, MO — In a region searching for solutions to cycles of crime and economic instability, **Fathers & Families Support Center (FFSC)** is spotlighting a proven deterrent: the presence of a responsible father. On **Saturday, February 7, 2026**, FFSC will host its **16th Annual Trivia Night: "Wild, Wild West"** at IBEW Local 1 Union Hall, headlined by legendary Sportscaster **Randy Karraker**.



While the evening promises competitive fun and Western-themed festivities, the "stakes" involve a massive economic and social impact. FFSC's data-driven approach has become a benchmark for community stabilization in St. Louis, transforming "absentee dad" statistics into "active" community members.



"The data is clear," explains FFSC's CEO Cheri Tillis. "Kids with involved dads are **twice as likely** to find stable employment after high school, **80% less likely** to spend time in jail and **75% less likely** to experience a teen pregnancy. At FFSC, we know that an active father is the most effective intervention we have for breaking the cycle of poverty in St. Louis."

The \$10.7 Million Economic Engine

FFSC isn't just providing social services; **it is fueling the local economy. In 2024, the center's graduates achieved an average wage of \$18.16 per hour, collectively injecting \$10.7 million** into the St. Louis region. This economic mobility is paired with a staggering **3% recidivism rate** among Re-Entry Project participants—a sharp contrast to the 35% Missouri state average.

“Our programs return nearly **\$5.00 to the community** for every \$1 invested,” says Tillis. “When we help a father or mother heal from trauma and find a career, we aren’t just helping one man; we are lifting an entire family out of poverty and keeping our neighborhoods safer.”

The Human Faces of the "Frontier"

The funds raised at Trivia Night provide support for dads like **Joseph M.**, a graduate who credits the program with saving his relationship with his children.

"I was lost and didn't know how to be the father my kids deserved," says **Joseph**. "FFSC didn't just give me a certificate; they gave me my life back. Because of the support I received—and the people who donate at events like Trivia Night—I am now employed, present, and the hero my children see me as."

Marcus J., another graduate, notes that the community support at the event is a visual reminder of his worth:

"FFSC helped me navigate the legal system and find stable housing. Seeing a guy like Randy Karraker there to cheer us on reminds us that we aren't walking this trail alone."

Event Details & Visuals

The "Wild, Wild West" Trivia Night will feature:

- **Host Randy Karraker:** Bringing his signature sports wit to 10 rounds of trivia.
- **Impact Visuals:** Hundreds of community members in Western attire, creative table decor, and a high-energy atmosphere.
- **Auction & Raffles:** Featuring premium memorabilia and local experiences.

Interview & Camera Opportunities:

- **Cheri Tillis (CEO):** On the "Fatherhood ROI" and the data behind St. Louis family stabilization.
- **Randy Karraker:** On why he supports the mission of responsible parenting.
- **Program Graduates** are available to share their journey from hardship to successful fatherhood.

Tickets & Registration: To join the posse or learn more about the event, visit fatherssupportcenter.org/events/trivia-night/ or call **314-333-4170**.

About Fathers & Families Support Center (FFSC)

FFSC is a 501(c)(3) comprehensive social service agency dedicated to fostering healthy relationships by strengthening families and promoting responsible fatherhood. Since 1997, FFSC has supported nearly 22,000 parents and impacted the lives of more than 53,000 children in the St. Louis region.

A Proven Return on Investment: Building Stable Families

FFSC's holistic approach, which couples trauma therapy with job training, life skills and parenting tools, yields tangible results that demonstrate the power of healing to stabilize entire communities:

- **Stronger Families:** **259** parents graduated in 2024, positively impacting **782** children. **83%** reported increased parenting skills.
- **Economic Stability:** Graduates achieved an average wage of **\$18.16 per hour**. The program helped secure or maintain employment for **298** participants, injecting **\$10.7 million** 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.
- **Reduced Recidivism:** The Re-Entry Project boasts a remarkable **3% recidivism rate**—a fraction of the 35% Missouri average—showing that emotional healing and job readiness are powerful deterrents to re-offense.
- **Fiscal Responsibility:** FFSC returns nearly **\$5.00 to the community for every \$1 invested**.

FFSC is not just treating symptoms; it's transforming individuals into responsible, emotionally resilient parents who can support their children—materially, emotionally, and developmentally.

Contact: Sid Officer at 314-351-2818 (text/call) or visit our website at <https://www.fatherssupportcenter.org/>; [Press Kit](#)