

For Immediate Release

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## FFCF announces Honorary Chairs for 2016 Boots & Boogie Bash

(November 23, 2015 – Naples, FL) Friends of Foster Children Forever (FFCF) is proud to announce Trisha and Eric Borges as this year's Honorary Chairs for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Boots & Boogie Bash. The annual fundraiser will be held on Saturday, April 2, 2016 at the Grey Oaks Country Club in Naples. Proceeds from the event will help fund educational mentoring for local foster children and help fulfill the FFCF mission.

The Borges' are the founders and owners of First Class Plumbing of Florida, Inc., a family owned and operated, leading plumbing service company in Southwest Florida. Aside from their booming business, the Borges' actively donate their time and treasures to FFCF and other non-profits organizations throughout the community.

"We're very fortunate to have volunteers like Trisha and Eric," says FFCF Executive Director, Jane Billings. "Not only do they have a thriving local business, they are wonderful people happy to donate their time, talents and treasures to help make our event a success."

The Borges' are now busy meeting with committee members gearing up for the fundraiser this coming April and ask the community to consider involvement or sponsorship of annual event.

This year's Bash will begin with a cocktail reception followed by a Texas-style dinner, silent and live auctions, entertainment by P'zazz, and dancing to the fabulous Blue Stone Circle Band. Celebrity emcees for the event will be ABC-7 anchor, Krista Fogelsong, and chief, Brian Roland. Auctioneer, Scott Robertson will be auctioning eight incredible items including a custom-built Harley Davidson motorcycle and more.

For information about becoming a sponsor, please email Tara@friendsoffosterchildren.net.

Tickets for the Boots & Boogie Bash may be purchased online at <a href="www.friendsoffosterchildren.net">www.friendsoffosterchildren.net</a> for \$250 per person, \$350 per patron and \$3,000 per table, or by calling 239-262-1808.

The mission of Friends of Foster Children Forever (FFCF) is to focus on the children they serve by providing targeted educational and enrichment opportunities that allow each child to fulfill his or her potential. FFCF, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, works to fulfill the unmet needs of every child who enters, or is at risk of entering the foster care system in Southwest Florida. FFCF will follow the child wherever they are placed.

For more information about Friends of Foster Children Forever (FFCF) or how to help, visit www.friendsoffosterchildren.net or call (239) 262–1808.

FFCF provides academic mentoring to local foster children. Tutors are contracted to work with students for an estimated 45 weeks of the school year. The new partnership with Collier County Public Schools allows for the tutoring to take place in the child's classroom in school time with three hours of one-on-one, professional sessions per week.

FFCF's academic mentoring program has been helping foster children including those sheltered at Youth Haven for over ten years with a proven history of success. The program's tutors are highly trained, paid professionals with the majority of them being retired or current teachers in the Collier County School system. The majority of children are able to keep the same tutor throughout their course of study even when they are moved to a different home or school, providing each student much needed educational stability.

FFCF is unique in its role of having forged excellent working relationships between its tutors, Youth Haven, Collier County Public Schools, the case managers and the Guardian ad Litem program who are the key players in facilitating the on-going academic success of these children.