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ANNUAL WINE WOMEN & SHOES EVENT NETS OVER \$90K FOR EPISCOPAL CHILDREN'S SERVICES AS COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE PHILANTHROPY

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., June 1, 2022 – Hundreds of guests slipped into their most fashionable shoes at the second annual Wine, Women & Shoes Jacksonville for an evening of shopping and fun, with the common purpose of supporting Episcopal Children's Services (ECS). Colleagues, daughters, mothers and grandmothers, sisters and friends throughout the Northeast Florida area gathered at Timuquana Country Club on May 12, 2022, to raise over \$90,000 net to benefit Episcopal Children's Services.

First Coast News and First Coast Living anchor Jordan Wilkerson served as the host for the evening as guests sipped, shopped, and supported the agency which serves more than more than 25,000 children and their families in 14 counties in Florida offering School Readiness, Head Start and Early Head Start programs and services. Attendees were treated to a never-before-seen fashion show featuring fashions from Zags, Cedric Brown Collections and local business, An Unlikely Pear. They also enjoyed a sophisticated evening of wine tastings, a live auction featuring lavish trips and experiences, a silent auction featuring incredible products and retail goodies and a fun fashion marketplace.

Guests also enjoyed a spectacular marketplace with the latest trends and go-to finds and a lucky resident won the "Key to the Getaway," a luxurious trip to Sonoma, California. With the agency raising over \$90,000 net through this second annual event, all the funds will be used to directly benefit the children and families of North and Central Florida.

"This event exceeded our expectations, and we are beyond pleased with the generosity of the Jacksonville community and their support of ECS," said Chief Development Officer Lauren Hopkins. "We are looking forward to next year's event and raising even more funds for the well-being of the children and families in North and Central Florida."

Generous community sponsors for the event included Jacksonville Business Journal, Florida Blue, Timucuan Asset Management, VyStar Credit Union, LassiterWare, Black Knight, Jaguars Foundation, Pajcic & Pajcic, Delores Barr Weaver Legacy Fund, Kathy & Jerry Weedon, Best Bet, Baptist Health & Wolfson Children's Hospital, Gate Foundation, Kaplan, Sight & Sound Productions, An Unlikely Pear, Florida Insurance Trust, The Florida Times-Union, The Episcopal Diocese of Florida, THE PLAYERS, Martha & Tom Baker, Jeanne Dillard, Pamela Y Paul, Connie Stophel, Smith Hulsey & Busey, UnitedHealthcare, Dex Imaging, Davy and John Parrish, Julia and John Taylor, Paula and Jay McGarvey, Eric and Destinee Swanson, Temple and David DePlato, Ross and Sally Singletary, TD Bank, Money Pages, First Coast News, Newmark Phoenix Realty Group, Minuteman Press and Inspirations at Town Center.

"We are so grateful to have the help of our many sponsors and thankful for their fervent support of our ECS community," stated Chief Executive Officer Connie Stophel. "We could not do what we do without our community partners, and we are appreciative of their investment in our children and families."

About Episcopal Children's Services

Episcopal Children's Services serves more than 25,000 children and their families in 14 counties in Florida. ECS offers School Readiness, Head Start and Early Head Start programs in Baker, Bradford, Clay, Duval, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns, Marion, Dixie, Gilchrist, Lake, Levy, Citrus and Alachua counties.

ECS uses research and best practices to help families ensure their children enter school ready to learn. Talented, dedicated teachers and staff work proactively with children from birth to age five and their families to build a strong educational foundation.

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