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For Immediate Release

Surry County Office on Youth
Surry, VA

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757.294.5278

Title: An Evening with Mom

Written by: Kianni Johnson

The Surry County Office on Youth along with Surry County Proud Fathers and Promoting Safe and Stable Families Act sponsored their first “An Evening with Mom” gala event. On Friday, March 11, 2011, males 10-19 years old attended the gala. It gave mothers and sons a chance to celebrate bonds.

“An Evening with Mom” brought out approximately 50 participants. They bonded through activities, dances, and during dinner. Mothers and sons participated in activities to create periods of bonding. “What Makes the Shoe Fit,” actually searched the inner most parts to discover how the boys and mothers visualized how their family life works in the household. The second activity, “Foundational Blocks” focuses on bonding forces within the home.

The essay contest was a special event. Each son had to submit a short essay explaining why his mother or motherly role model is always there for him. Surry County High School freshman Darius Edler won first place. He described his mother, De’Relle Edler, “I know she has my back. She is overprotective but it’s for the best. She is the bomb, the world’s greatest mom. I am proud to be her son.” Darius won an MP3 player and a \$25 gift card. His mother received a tiara.

Shawn Wooden, a sixth grader at Luther Porter Jackson Middle School placed second. He wrote a poem showing his admiration for his motherly role model, Mrs. Marion Logan. In his poem, Shawn writes, “She says Shawn, ‘I know you can do it. My soul is full; my heart is full of love.’” Shawn received a \$10 gift card.

Mrs. Constance Howard was the speaker for the evening. She spoke directly to the young men with empowering and positive thoughts. She reminded them to stand for what is right and be the seed of true change.

Each participant was rewarded with a trophy and frame holding a poem. The night ended with the waltz and old school-new school renditions of dances. This activity transformed from a formal night into an explosion of fun.

Anyone interested in participating in program sponsored by the Proud Fathers Program, contact LaJeune Stone or Spencer Logan at 757-294-5278.