



****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

New Book Released: Unleashing Radical Hospitality

*Offering a Compelling Approach that Redefines
How Socially Isolated Families are Cared for and Supported*



June 2024- Chicago, IL. Safe Families for Children (SFFC) is excited to announce the publication of Founder and Executive Director, Dr. Dave Anderson's first book, *Unleashing Radical Hospitality: A Journey to Make the Safety of Children and Support of Parents A Priority for Us All*. This book provides a blueprint for those who also wish to be part of the "family solution, not family separation."

What started over 20 years ago, with Dave and his wife, Karen, opening their hearts and homes to host children, has blossomed into a global movement to keep children safe and from unnecessarily entering the foster care system. Founded in 2003, Safe Families for Children is an evidence-based, community-driven nonprofit that seeks to reframe how families are cared for and supported when facing challenging and unmanageable circumstances. The goal is to provide a safe and innovative alternative for parents, helping to build strong, resilient families in local communities.

"Safe Families presents a challenge to our current child welfare system," explains BJ Walker (former Acting Director of Illinois Department of Children & Family Services), "an offer to exchange long-term relationships for short-term fixes that too often result in the separation of children from their parents." She goes on to say, "This book, for me, is about expanding our circle of hope, proving that we can do better by children if we would only decide that we are as worried about the adults in the families as we are about their children and then decide to be radical, disruptive, and intentional. Safe Families does not disappoint them!"

The Safe Families model was recently recognized as an evidence-based model following the completion of a rigorous Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT). The trial **affirmed SFFC's effectiveness, with 78% of families who received SFFC care being deflected from foster care**, compared with the 47% of families receiving prevention services as usual. This community-based model focuses on creating supportive relationships, not separation, and it is working: with 97% of families who engage with Safe Families remaining safely together.

To date, Safe Families has served over 45,000 families while providing 1.3 million bed nights of safety for children. The movement has grown nationally, with over 97 local chapters in 27 states, and has expanded globally to Canada, the UK, Hong Kong, the Philippines, and is also developing in Africa and Southeast Asia.

If you would like more information or to schedule an interview, you can contact Cheri Jimenez, Director of Communications, at cjimenez@safefamilies.net.