

## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the City of Flandreau, South Dakota, has long been a community defined by its commitment to one another — to neighbors, to families, and to the generations that will call this place home long after us; and

**WHEREAS**, the earliest years of a child's life — from birth through kindergarten — represent the most critical window of human development, laying the foundation for lifelong learning, health, and success; and

**WHEREAS**, working families in Flandreau and across Moody County have long faced a shortage of quality, accessible, licensed early childhood care — a gap that limits workforce participation, challenges local employers, and places an undue burden on parents striving to provide for their children; and

**WHEREAS**, beginning in 2023, the Boys & Girls Club of the Northern Plains, in partnership with the City of Flandreau and the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe, undertook a Collective Impact effort — rooted in community town hall meetings and driven by the voices of Flandreau families — to answer that need; and

**WHEREAS**, that effort has brought together tribal government, city and county government, construction partners, state funders, federal investment, and the generous support of the local business community to build The Clubhouse Early Childhood Enrichment Program — made possible in part by Moody County Commissioners, who championed the Community Development Block Grant that provided critical foundational funding, and by local business leaders including Dakota Layers, LLC, whose transformational private investment anchored the project — a licensed early learning center located at 803 W. Community Dr. in Flandreau, adjacent to Flandreau Public School and the Boys & Girls Club Traditional Club; and

**WHEREAS**, The Clubhouse will serve children from six weeks of age through entering kindergarten, offering a nurturing, professionally staffed environment grounded in social-emotional development, cultural recognition, and school readiness — and will open its doors on May 4, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, this Grand Opening on April 24, 2026 marks not only the completion of a building, but the fulfillment of a promise made by this community to its youngest members — that they matter, that they belong, and that this city will invest in their very first days; and

**WHEREAS**, Boys & Girls Clubs across the nation — and here in Flandreau — have for generations championed the belief that every young person deserves a great future, and that great futures begin long before a child ever sets foot in a classroom;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** that I, Dan Sutton, Mayor of the City of Flandreau, South Dakota, do hereby proclaim Friday, April 24, 2026 to be:

**" GREAT FUTURES DAY "**

*in the City of Flandreau, South Dakota*

*and do call upon all residents of Flandreau to join in celebrating the opening of The Clubhouse, to honor the partners and donors whose generosity made it possible, and to renew our shared commitment to the children and families who are the future of this great city.*