



Everything Michigan

## 200 Jackson-area couples are attracted to K.I.S.S. date event

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### Tarryl Jackson | Jackson Citizen Patriot

About 200 Jackson-area couples came out to enjoy a night on the town at Marriage Matters Jackson's K.I.S.S. (Keep It Sweet and Simple) event Saturday night.

The pre-Valentine's Day event was part of the organization's Date-Your-Mate series.

Couples enjoyed a romantic dinner at Daryl's Downtown before heading over to The Michigan Theatre to watch "Return to Me," a romantic comedy starring Dave Duchovny and Minnie Driver.

"If it was five times the price, it would be worth it," said Jackson resident Brianne Dunn, who attended the event with her husband, Paul.

Events like this have helped boost their marriage, Paul Dunn said. "It's helped us communicate better," he said. "We've made that connection."

Saturday's event was simply about couples getting out of the house and having fun with each other, said Shelby Raines, coordinator for Marriage Matters Jackson.

"Reconnecting on the level of being a couple is so important," Raines said. "We want people to feel good that they are putting in some time to invest in their marriage."

Marriage Matters promotes prudent planning for marriages and provides educational activities and events that help to enrich and prepare couples throughout the Jackson area.

The organization offers workshops in marriage enrichment and restoration, as well as for single people and engaged couples.

Marriage Matters Jackson's mission is to strengthen marriages and families, decrease divorce and communicate the importance of a healthy marriage.

This year's dinner was sold out, just like last year's event.

"It's a cheap date, and so many people can afford it," said Cement City resident Gary Querfeld, who attended the event with fiancé Melissa Huff.

"It's been fabulous, just to get out," Huff said.

For more information about Marriage Matters Jackson, call 796-5116 or visit [www.marriagemattersjackson.org](http://www.marriagemattersjackson.org).

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