

FR1ENDS of the CH1LDREN

FRIENDS OF THE CHILDREN- SCHOLARSHIP BOARD

MISSION: Friends of the Children (FOTC) is a revolutionary mentoring program. The mission is to provide our most vulnerable children a nurturing relationship with an adult role model who teaches positive values and has attainable expectations for each child in order that they become healthy, productive members of our community.

Through the Friends program, commitments are made to children for 12.5 years. One of our three long-term goals for program participants is success in school. This is evidenced by obtaining a high school diploma or a GED (General Educational Diploma) which eighty-two percent do.

As the students and finish the formal Friends program, many of them want to further their education by attending college or a trade school. We have come to the realization that we should be helping these kids reach their long-term goals.

The scholarship board is a group of FOTC supporters committed to assisting students who have completed our program in paying for tuition and expenses at traditional four-year colleges, community colleges and trade and vocational schools.

We need your help to make their dreams come true. **Please consider a \$2,500 investment to be directed one of three ways:**

- Endowed fund in the FOTC scholarship account
- Scholarships awarded to current graduates
- Fast Friends Board discretion

Youth Risk Factors

- **90% or more qualify for free or reduced lunch**
- **70% have at least one parent with a known history of substance abuse**
- **At least 50% are known to have been impacted by domestic violence and have had a report of abuse or neglect filed on their behalf**
- **50% have a biological father involved in their lives and 70% of these fathers have a known history of criminal activity and/or incarceration**
- **Nearly 50% have lived in foster care or with relatives in their lifetime**

Goal 1	Goal 2	Goal 3
Success in school with a minimum of H.S. diploma (<i>preferred</i>) or GED	Avoid involvement in the juvenile justice system	Avoid early parenting
<i>Friends Success Rate</i>	<i>Friends Success Rate</i>	<i>Friends Success Rate</i>
92% attend school regularly; 82% of our program graduates have earned a H.S. diploma or GED while more than 40% of our youth have a parent that did not complete high school	92% have avoided the juvenile justice system despite at least 60% having one or more parents who have been incarcerated	98% of adolescents avoid early parenting despite at least 60% having been born to a teen parent