



THREE PROGRAMS, ONE MISSION

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Serving College for Kids, Take Stock in Children, and TradeUp



@collegeforkidsfl



@takestockpbc

Dear Community Partners,

Welcome to the July edition of the Three Programs, One Mission Community Newsletter! This summer, 20 of our students stepped outside their comfort zones and explored exciting career pathways through immersive camps at Palm Beach Atlantic University and Florida Atlantic University. From leading simulated companies and building entrepreneurship skills to investigating crime scenes and participating in mock trials, these hands-on experiences inspired students to dream bigger, build confidence, and envision their future college and career paths.

As we celebrate their growth, we're also preparing for a special day, the 18th Annual Back to School Shopping event on July 23 at Target. This event gives students the opportunity to shop for everything they need to start the school year with confidence.

A gift of \$200 sponsors one student's back to school shopping experience, providing essential school supplies, clothing, shoes, and the confidence to begin the new school year ready to succeed. Together, we can ensure every student walks into school prepared, supported, and excited for the year ahead.

Thank you for being part of our College for Kids family. Your support continues to open doors, strengthen pathways, and shape brighter futures for students across Palm Beach County. We're grateful to step into another month of impact together.

Warmly,

College for Kids, Take Stock in Children PBC, and the TradeUp Team.



PROGRAM NEWS

FAU CRIMINAL JUSTICE CAMP AND FREE ENTERPRISE LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE





This June, 20 of our College for Kids students explored new learning opportunities, team-building experiences, and grew their visions for their futures at two amazing summer camps. At Palm Beach Atlantic's West Palm Beach campus, students attended the Free Enterprise Leadership Challenge, growing their business, entrepreneurship, and public speaking skills. F.E.L.C. was an amazing opportunity for students to learn not just about business, but about the college experience as well. Students spent the week sleeping in Palm Beach Atlantic's dorms, eating in the dining hall, and envisioning what their future college schedule might look like.

At Florida Atlantic University, students were also growing their professional vision. Criminal Justice Camp provided a variety of unique, engaging experiences to campers, including a visit to the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, an up-close viewing of a police helicopter, and captivating lectures and activities on forensic anthropology, crime scene investigation, and law. Students also participated in a mock trial, simulating a courtroom. Alongside criminal justice content, students were able to experience what future university lectures might look like on FAU's beautiful Boca Raton campus.

While the camps focused on different fields, both experiences challenged students to step outside their comfort zones, collaborate with their peers, and think critically about their futures. They left with a greater sense of confidence and a stronger vision for the goals they hope to achieve.

We are proud of our student campers and their initiative, and look forward to seeing how they apply what they learned as they continue their educational and career journeys.

MENTOR NEWS

Happy Summer Mentors!



As we wrap up the 2025–2026 school year, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks for the incredible support our mentors have provided to students throughout Palm Beach County. This year, mentors logged an amazing **15,312 mentoring sessions**—that's approximately **459,360 minutes** spent encouraging, guiding, and changing lives. Their dedication is making a lasting impact, and we are so grateful for each and every one of you.

Thank you to everyone who has already completed the Mentor Intentions Survey. If you haven't had a chance yet, we would greatly appreciate you taking a few minutes to share your plans for next year.

Your feedback helps us prepare and plan for a successful school year ahead. Click Here: [Mentor Intentions Survey](#)

We were also excited to welcome several new students into our program in May. These outstanding students are looking for caring, committed mentors to support them on their journey. If you know someone who would be interested in making a meaningful difference in a young person's life, please have them contact Elissa at 561-320-8464 or ESorel@CollegeForKids.org.

Finally, please note that the Take Stock App will be unavailable for scheduled maintenance from June 26 through August 3.

Thank you again for all you do. We wish you a wonderful, relaxing summer and look forward to another great year together!

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

18th Annual Target Back to School Shopping Event



Our annual Back to School Shopping Event supports our mission by equipping a rotating group of students selected through our annual lottery with the essentials they need for a confident start to the school year.

On **July 23, 2026**, a new group of students selected through our annual lottery will receive the essentials they need to start the school year prepared and proud. To make this possible, we're inviting our community to help sponsor their Back to School Shopping experience. A gift of **\$200 sponsors one student**, providing a gift card for school supplies and clothing while also teaching valuable budgeting skills that last far beyond the first day of school.

Your contribution not only provides essential resources for the students but also equips them with important life skills for the future.

[SPONSOR A STUDENT HERE](#)

ALUMNI NEWS

Where are they now? Alumni Check-In

Every College for Kids journey looks a little different after graduation: some alumni are earning degrees, building careers, discovering new passions, or taking unexpected paths toward their goals. No matter where life has taken you, we want to celebrate your progress and stay connected along the way.

We're launching our Alumni Check-In Survey to learn more about where our alumni are today, what milestones you've reached, and what support or opportunities would be most valuable as you continue growing.

Your updates help us better understand the impact of the College for Kids experience and create opportunities that connect alumni with each other, our partners, and the next generation of students.

So... **where are you now? What's new? What's next?** We'd love to hear from you!

Graduation may have been the milestone, but your College for Kids story is still unfolding.

Complete the Alumni Check-In Survey: [HERE](#).

DREAM INVESTORS



This month we celebrate our partnership with BallenIsles Charities Foundation, which has been a valued partner in our mission since 2019.

We also want to take this opportunity to honor and thank Jody Passov following her recent announcement that she is retiring as Grants Committee Chair. Jody has been so instrumental to the foundation's success and to the impact it has had on the many nonprofits serving families in northern Palm Beach County.

Just this past May, the Foundation awarded nearly \$1.6 million in grants to 56 organizations, its largest annual total in the foundation's 15-year history. The generosity of the BallenIsles community has made a huge impact on so many families in its surrounding communities, including countless students and families in the College for Kids program.

Jody is passing the torch to Frankie Edenzon, who has served on the Grants Committee for 10 years and also on the Executive Committee. Welcome Frankie! We look forward to working with you.

WAYS TO SUPPORT



WE NEED MENTORS!

GUIDE, INSPIRE, EMPOWER: BECOME A MENTOR

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

-  You Commit to 1 School Year of School-Based Mentoring, 3x/p month either In Person or Virtual.
-  Be a Friend and Motivator. Help Guide Under-Resourced Students Toward Success.
-  As a Result, Your Mentee Receives a Guaranteed 2-Year College Scholarship!

Become a mentor with Take Stock in Children and make a lasting impact on the lives of underserved students in Palm Beach County. Just 1 hour a week can inspire and guide a young person towards a brighter future and provide them with the opportunity to pursue higher education.

No experience necessary. All backgrounds welcome.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE?



SCAN AND APPLY

www.TakeStockPalmBeach.org/Mentors



Current Take Stock Mentors, don't forget to check out the Mentor HUB for regular updates and info!

[Click Here to Access the Mentor HUB](#)

Building Futures. Changing Lives. Together.

Imagine a child waiting for the support and guidance that could change their life - knowing time is slipping by. If 400 of us give just \$10 a month, we can move one student off the waitlist every month and give them the chance they've been hoping for. **That's the impact of showing up together when it matters most.**

YOUR MONTHLY GIFT FUELS:

-  A guaranteed 2-year college scholarship
-  Weekly one-on-one mentoring with a caring adult
-  In-school academic coaching
-  Career guidance and college readiness workshops
-  College transition and retention support

Every day, students in our community carry burdens far heavier than most people realize - instability at home, financial uncertainty, and the pressure of being the first in their family to imagine a different future. Yet they continue to show up, work hard, and hold onto the hope that education can change everything.

A \$10 monthly Stockholder gift gives the students we serve the stability, mentorship, and opportunity they need to stay on track and keep moving toward the futures they deserve.

Become a Stockholder today - a child's future shouldn't have to wait.

[Join Stockholders](#)

We appreciate your time and interest in our organization. Through College for Kids, Take Stock in Children, and TradeUp, we serve Palm Beach County students across every stage of their journey — from middle school to college to skilled trades. College for Kids provides academic enrichment and group mentoring starting in 6th grade, building the foundation for future success. TradeUp offers hands-on training and industry certifications in high-demand skilled trades, creating direct pathways to stable careers. Our Take Stock program alone holds a "best in class" rating from the Florida Legislature, with students achieving 99% high school graduation and a 74% attainment of postsecondary credentials. Take Stock in Children is the single-largest nonprofit purchaser of Florida Prepaid College Foundation Scholarships, with assets over \$250M, and over \$23M awarded locally. Scholarship plans are purchased at half price and matched dollar-for-dollar, enabling us to use your funds to serve twice as many students. Together, we're not just changing individual lives, we're strengthening our entire community, one student at a time. Thank you for being part of this mission.

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