

Circle of Friends Supporting *Friends of the Children-Boston*

What is Circle of Friends?

Circle of Friends are individuals who either individually or join together to raise a combined total of \$12,000 in individual gifts of \$500 or more per year. Each Circle sponsors one child's participation in the program for one year. This includes a portion of staffing costs for a paid, professional mentor, staff development and training, regular activities with the Achiever (academic tutoring, arts and science field trips and activities, community centers) and special activities or what we refer to as helping Achievers find their spark (dance lessons, extra academic supplies, swimming lessons).

Friends of the Children is a life-changing, early intervention mentoring program that matches children (Achievers) in first grade, one-on-one, with full-time, professional, paid mentors. Each mentor works with eight – ten children at a time and spends four intentional hours a week with each child all the way through high school graduation.

Because we make a long term investment in our Achievers, we encourage donors to consider developing relationships with the Achiever they sponsor. Getting to know an Achiever over time allows investors to see the results of their support in a direct way and can create important relationships for our Achievers as they grow up (connections to other business leaders, internships etc). Your support means the world to our kids. Become a Circle Member today!

Why Support *Friends-Boston* with a gift of or combined gift of \$12,000?

Simply put – it works. And, it's cost-effective compared to other intervention options¹. *Friends of the Children* truly gives a child a sense of purpose, determination and the tools they need for a lifetime of success.

Circle of Friends Donor Giving Levels:

- **\$12,000** Achiever Sponsorship covers the entire expense of supporting one Achiever's participation in the program for one year
- **\$5,000** Summer Enrichment Sponsor covers the cost of 20 Achievers to attend Summer Camp
- **\$2,500** Finding Your Spark Sponsor encourages Achiever's individual talents and interests by supporting enrichment activities like art and drama lessons, joining a sports team, or learning how to swim
- **\$1,000** School Success Sponsor promotes school success and future planning by helping to underwrite the cost of meetings with school staff about Achiever progress, individual goal setting, and 1-on-1 tutoring to reach those goals
- **\$500** Growth Mindset Sponsor enriches our Achiever's lives by helping us take them to museums, the theatre, sporting events and cultural events

Why Make a Multi-Year Commitment?

As a long-term intensive mentoring organization, we encourage multi-year commitments to support the long-term growth of our Achievers.

¹The Harvard Business School Association of Oregon: Estimates in total, \$3.4 million in social benefit due to mentoring each FOTC graduate. The social return on investment (SROI) is 26.8 times the cost of the FOTC program.

- ❖ Twelve (12) year commitment: Circle of Friends commits to support in-coming first graders all the way through graduation – kindergarten through high school graduation no matter what!
- ❖ Four (4) year commitment: Circle of Friends commits to support selected 8th graders to be supported throughout their high school years – school success and college preparation.
- ❖ Four (4) year commitment: Circle of Friends commits to support middle school Achievers transition from 5th grade to 8th grade – finding your spark, positive relationships and preparing for high school.
- ❖ Four (4) year commitment: Circle of Friends commits to support elementary school Achievers transition from 1st grade through the end of 4th grade – social emotional development and preparing for school success.

Benefits:

- Be a part of helping an Achiever write a new story for themselves and break the cycle of generational poverty
- Memento album (\$12,000 and above)
- Invitations to exclusive special events and parties hosted by *Friends of the Children*
- Opportunities to get to know the Friends and Achievers you sponsor through your Circle Annual newsletter
- Acknowledgement in *Friends of the Children* Annual Report and e-newsletter

Who do I contact with questions, resources, or ideas?

For any questions or help related to Circle of Friends please contact Stacy Dell'Orfano: stacy@friendsboston.org or call the *Friends-Boston* office at 617-983-FOTC (3682).