

FR1ENDS of the CH1LDREN

Coachella Valley

Champions for Children Circle



Yasmine* with her 'Friend' Ms. Marbella, a professional mentor with Friends – Coachella Valley

Breaking the Cycle of Generational Poverty One Child at a Time

Launched in December 2024, Friends of the Children – Coachella Valley is part of a national network with 30+ years of impact, providing the nation's first and only long-term, professional mentoring program for youth.

Our Champions for Children Circle brings caring people together to use their voices and connections to raise awareness, advocate for children, and inspire support.

A ROLE THAT FITS YOUR LIFE

Your voice. A child's future.

42% of children in Coachella Valley live in poverty.

2025 HARC Coachella Valley Community Health Survey

You may want a practical way to help, but need a volunteer role that fits your schedule and strengths.

Be a Champion. Make an Impact.

Champions for Children Circle is a growing volunteer leadership network bringing people together to raise awareness, advocate for children, and inspire support.

Flexible ways to make a meaningful difference include:

- Building awareness
- Connecting people
- Hosting gatherings
- Opening doors

Please Join Us. Turn Poverty into Prosperity, Together.

friendscoachellavalley.org/get-involved/champions-for-children

FR1ENDS of the CH1LDREN

Coachella Valley

Champions for Children Circle



Simone Biles, World Champion Gymnast
Friends of the Children National Ambassador

Be the Connection That Changes a Child's Future

Join the Champions for Children leadership network and help turn poverty into prosperity.



OUR COACHELLA VALLEY CHALLENGE

Our shared future starts here.

Children experiencing poverty in Coachella Valley are part of the future of our workforce, economy, and shared prosperity.

More than 2 in 5

children live at or below the poverty line.

2025 HARC Coachella Valley Community Health Survey

3,000

children went a full day without food.

2025 HARC Coachella Valley Community Health Survey

The Consequences

Childhood poverty has lasting effects for our entire community, including:

- A shrinking local workforce
- A rise in healthcare and justice system costs
- Continued generational poverty

National Academies of Sciences, A Roadmap to Reducing Child Poverty, 2019

THE ANSWER

One child. One paid, professional mentor. 12+ years, no matter what.

Your enthusiasm and your voice make this possible.



Michael* with his 'Friend' Mr. Q, a professional mentor with Friends – Coachella Valley

98% of teachers and caregivers report children achieving significant milestones since being paired with a 'Friend'.

Friends – Coachella Valley, 2025-2026

92% of graduates across the Friends of the Children national network enroll in postsecondary education, serve our country, or enter the workforce.

Friends National outcomes, CVRM 2025-2026

THE RESULT

You create lasting change.

When we work together and encourage support for 12+ years of mentoring, a powerful ripple effect occurs:

- A child gains confidence, builds skills, and sees new possibilities for the future.
- The cycle of generational poverty can be broken.
- Our entire Coachella Valley grows stronger.

Join Champions for Children and turn poverty into prosperity, together.

If you're passionate about disrupting generational poverty and building a more prosperous community, joining the Champions for Children Circle is the right decision.

**Names changed for privacy.*



Scan to learn more and get involved.

Contact Vicki Bowen Hewes with questions: vhewes@friendscoachellavalley.org