83% of youth receive their high school diploma or GED
93% remain free from involvement in the juvenile justice system
98% wait to parent until after their teen years
92% of youth go on to enroll in post-secondary education, serve our country or enter the workforce

We believe that every child who needs it, deserves a Friend.

Published January 2020.
OUR APPROACH TO MEASUREMENT + EVALUATION

We evaluate, measure, and improve. We are assessed annually by an independent third-party evaluator. This allows us to continue to identify ways to make our program stronger.

The National Institutes of Health, Edna McConnell Clark Foundation and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation invested in a multi-site, longitudinal randomized controlled trial study of the Friends of the Children model. Now in its 12th year, the study is already showing positive preliminary results. The Harvard Business School Association of Oregon (HBSAO) conducted a Return on Investment (ROI) analysis of our model and found that for every $1 invested in Friends of the Children, there is a savings to society of over $7. Over the lifetime of each graduate, that is $900,000 in savings. The Annie E. Casey Foundation recently completed a qualitative caregiver study that re-affirmed the ripple effect on siblings and caregivers in our youth’s lives. The results of this study have informed our Two-Generation (2Gen) approach for supporting youth and families.

OPPORTUNITY FOR REAL CHANGE

We have an incredible opportunity to partner with you for real, sustainable change. Your investments will empower more vulnerable children to change the trajectories of entire communities:

- $1M - Launch 1x additional site. Friends will secure additional $500K in matching funds.
- $5M - Launch 5x additional sites. Friends will secure additional $1.5M in matching funds.
- $10M - Launch 10x additional sites. Friends will secure additional $5M in matching funds.

To achieve our goals, we will leverage the following activities:

Planning + Evaluation
- Hire Local Expansion Officer & select city for expansion.
- Hire evaluator & create the program & implementation evaluation for scaling to new city.
- Hold champion meetings: bring together social entrepreneurs & leaders from education, child welfare, nonprofit, government & philanthropic communities in the local city.
- Vet feasibility of each city for implementation & sustainability.
- Hire Executive Director.

Training, Program Implementation & Sustainability
- Hire & train Program Director, Development Director & Friends for each community.
- Select children from foster care system & high poverty schools in each community.
- Select a control group of an equal number of children in each city for evaluation comparison.
- Establish baseline data on all children and program implementation.

Grow Program & Fundraising Capacity for Sustainability
- Hire Friends and select new class of children.
- Evaluate data and outcomes, implement learnings and share with the community.
- Build fundraising sustainability in each community with diverse revenue streams.

We were recently featured in the The New York Times and Stanford Social Innovation Review.

We also have support from Michael Jordan and Russell Wilson.

Learn more at friendsofthechildren.org