



2023-2024 Grant Finalist Summary

Take Stock in Children Palm Beach County | Program Expansion for Central and Northern Palm Beach County Impact Focus Area: Education

The Organization

Founded in 1995, Take Stock in Children is the only college attainment-focused mentoring program of its kind in Florida. No other mentoring program in Florida includes a guaranteed 2-year college scholarship and wraparound college access support services that spans 8+ years of direct service (beginning as early as the 6th grade.) Take Stock's mission is to promote self-worth and academic success for disadvantaged youth by providing evidence-based wraparound services: one-on-one mentoring, college readiness coaching, post-secondary retention and a guaranteed college scholarship. Since its founding, Take Stock has impacted over 2,000 students in Palm Beach County and awarded over \$20M in full-tuition scholarships to underserved youth, 100% of whom live at/below the federal poverty guideline.

The Program

Take Stock in Children is an existing college readiness program that effectively provides a pathway to success for underserved youth by providing the resources they need to achieve academic success. The program targets at-risk students (94% are minority and 80% are first generation college students) attending Title 1 schools. Take Stock's multi-year program model provides wraparound support services to students throughout middle and high school and continues throughout their entire college experience. The agency currently serves 365 middle/high school students in central and northern Palm Beach County, and has a long wait list of underserved students in need of program services. Currently, the agency is not able to enroll new students without additional funding. An Impact the Palm Beaches grant would allow Take Stock to enroll 20 additional students.

Every student is assigned a College Readiness Coach who monitors success indicators to identify when the student is getting off track. Take Stock in Children's goal is to prevent students from falling behind in school by providing the educational and social/emotional support services they need to succeed. Each student receives:

- Weekly One-on-One Youth Mentoring
- Weekly Academic Coaching & SAT/ACT Prep
- Monthly Afterschool Club-Meetings & Workshops
- College Access and Transition Services
- Guaranteed 2-year College Scholarship
- Post-Secondary Advising
- Workforce Development Opportunities

How will this program impact Palm Beach County?

With the benefit of mentorship, college readiness coaching, and scholarship services, Take Stock Scholars graduate from high school, attend college, and earn postsecondary credentials at a 60% higher rate than their peers in Florida. Take Stock students are more likely to secure higher-paying jobs, which helps to lift their families out of poverty and contributes to the overall long-term economic growth of the community. The agency targets areas with higher poverty rates, lower educational attainment, and limited access to resources and services, offering an evidence-based opportunity to succeed, while ensuring economic equity, thus allowing students to go to college and become valued members of the workforce. Student outcomes create a positive ripple effect on their families and the wider community.

Measurable Outcomes

95% of students will graduate high school and receive a 2-year college scholarship (vs. 80% of at-risk-students)

96% will enroll in college (vs. 30% of at-risk-students)

74% will complete a post-secondary credential (vs. only 29% of at-risk-students)

While in the program, 85% of students will meet regularly with their assigned mentor and their college readiness coach.

How will Impact Palm Beaches grant be used?

\$80,000 of the Impact grant will be used to purchase 2-year Florida Prepaid college scholarships; \$5,000 for mentor recruitment, training and background checks; \$2,000 for 1-on-1 support in college; \$15,000 for the partial salary of a college readiness coach