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## Take Stock in Children\* Says Thanks!

Thanksgiving is a time to pause and give thanks for our blessings in life. Take Stock in Children (TSIC) is thankful to our community for providing scholarships, mentors and hope since 1996.

### Thanks to our generous donors

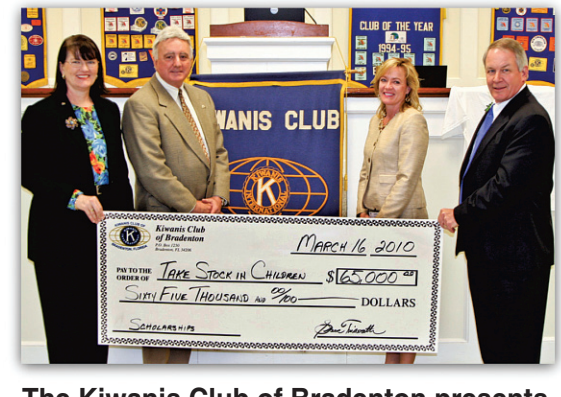
Scholarships are provided through generous donations from leaders, businesses, and individuals in our community. The scholarship dollars are matched dollar-for-dollar by the Florida Prepaid College Foundation, thereby doubling the impact of the investment. TSIC is grateful for all of the donors, especially Bank of America, Suncoast for Kids Foundation, and the Bradenton Kiwanis.



Bank of America presents a donation to Take Stock in Children. From left: Doug Sherman, SVP/Market President; Diana Dill, TSIC Executive Director; Mary Glass, Manatee Education Foundation Director; Andrew Reddish, AVP Global Commercial Banking.



(From left) Diana Dill and TSIC Board member Kelly Gettel receive a Suncoast for Kids Foundation donation from Suncoast Regional Vice President Lori Mirandilla.



The Kiwanis Club of Bradenton presents a donation. From left: Brenda Rogers, Kiwanis Scholarship Chairperson; Dr. Steven Tinsworth, President; Diana Dill, TSIC Executive Director; and David Grantham, Kiwanis Secretary/Treasurer.

### Thanks to our fabulous mentors

Mentors are the backbone of the TSIC program, and are the reason we celebrate a 96% success rate of students staying in school, graduating, attending college and entering the workforce. Last year, nearly 200 mentors volunteered over 9,000 hours to ensure the success of children in our program.

### And now...thanks from our students:



Mentor Walter Miller with student Fernando Capula.

"I would like to thank each and every one of you for helping all the students in Take Stock in Children to achieve in their life and career goals. You have given us hope and inspired me personally to try to make my community a better place. I will be forever grateful that I was part of this great experience." Fernando. (A special note of thanks to Manatee County School Board member and TSIC mentor Walter Miller, who established our Leadership Council and has served as the Chairman since 2006.)



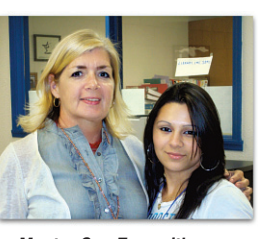
Student Katy Pierre-Charles with mentor Judith Leipold.

"I thank God that I have you as my mentor. You have been a tremendous help to me as well as a best friend. Thank you for your help, guidance, laugh-out-loud funny stories, but most of all your time. May God bless you." Katy



Student Roosevelt Brooks with mentor Moody Johnson.

"I want to thank you for providing Take Stock in Children with your generous donation. Without your donation, I wouldn't be able to attend college. Knowing you donated money to help me, I chose to stay on the right track in and out of school." Roosevelt



Mentor Sue Frey with student Mariela Barragan.

"I would like to begin by thanking you for the thoughtful & generous donation you've made to Take Stock in Children. I come from a large family of eight children, where the four oldest did not graduate or attend college. Having this scholarship has opened up a window of opportunity for me. It has had a huge impact on my life. My mentor has made a great difference in my life as well. She has been very supportive, understanding & helpful. Without (TSIC), I honestly believe that because of the difficult circumstances I've experienced, my life would have turned out very different. Today, I look forward to finishing my college education." Mariela

### Giving thanks for hope!

Hope is the motivating force for change. 90% of our TSIC students are the first person in their family to attend college and 20% are still the first person in their family to graduate high school. Our deepest gratitude goes out to our donors, mentors, leaders and community for making a difference through Take Stock in Children of Manatee County. Happy Thanksgiving.

\* **Take Stock in Children** is a comprehensive statewide program that helps selected low-income students stay in school, earn a high school diploma, graduate from college, and enter the workforce. It offers college tuition scholarships; a volunteer mentor to provide motivation, support, and tutoring; a case manager to support students' educational achievements; and college and career counseling. Children in the program sign performance contracts agreeing to earn good grades, exhibit positive behaviors, and remain drug and crime free.

## PARENT CORNER

- Remind your students to begin saving examples of their best work, certificates, awards, etc. to include in a student portfolio. Also, encourage your students to become involved in a community service organization, club, or sport. All high schools have a Key Club which provides opportunities for service.
- Help your seniors prepare their college applications. Encourage your juniors and seniors to become familiar with their school's academic and career resource room where information on colleges and scholarships are readily available.
- "Contact us today to help with mentoring or donations. All of our scholarship dollars raised are matched by the Florida Prepaid College Foundation to double the impact!" Diana Dill, Executive Director. For more information about Take Stock in Children, visit [www.TakeStockManatee.com](http://www.TakeStockManatee.com) or contact Diana at 941-751-7012 ext. 2047, [dianadill@manateeschools.net](mailto:dianadill@manateeschools.net).

## FCAT

reading comprehension QUESTION

★ How are Take Stock in Children scholarships provided?

Answer: Through generous donations from leaders, businesses, and individuals in our community. In other words, people like YOU!

What's on the WEB?

[www.TakeStockManatee.com](http://www.TakeStockManatee.com)  
[www.TakeStockInChildren.org](http://www.TakeStockInChildren.org)  
[www.Facts.org](http://www.Facts.org)  
[www.MyGoals.com](http://www.MyGoals.com)

EdVantage Strategic Objective #1: Continually demonstrate enthusiasm for the self-directed pursuit of knowledge.