

FR1ENDS of the CH1LDREN

Generational Change,
One Child at a Time

Boston

Join *Friends of the Children-Boston's* Corporate Circle of Friends Program!

What is a Corporate Circle of Friends?

Circle of Friends is the newest fundraising and social venture within *Friends of the Children-Boston* (www.friendsboston.org) geared towards professionals. However, Circle of Friends is open to all individuals interested in getting involved and staying connected with fun social events and meaningful service opportunities supporting *Friends of the Children*.

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 ten – twelve 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!

What is a Corporate Giving Circle?

A Corporate Giving Circle is a group of friends and coworkers who join together to raise a combined total of \$1,000-10,000 in gifts through Circle of Friends events and individual Circle solicitation. There is no maximum or minimum size for Circles. As a long-term intensive mentoring organization, we encourage multi-year commitments to support our Achievers.

- Two (2) year commitment: Corporate Circle of Friends commit to support middle school Achievers transition from 7th grade to 9th grade (preparing for high school)
- Two (2) year commitment: Corporate Circle of Friends commit to support elementary school Achievers transition from 1st grade to 3rd grade (preparing for school success)
- Four (4) year commitment: Corporate Circle of Friends can commit to support freshman Achievers through high school graduation (high school graduation and college preparation)
- Twelve (12) year commitment: Corporate Circle of Friends can commit to support in-coming first graders through graduation – first grade through high school graduation no matter what!

Why Support the Mission and Work *Friends-Boston*?

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. To some, a \$10,000 yearly investment per child seems like a lot. We think it's just right and we have the research to support it. The 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 *Friends-Boston* program.

How do I become involved in Circle of Friends?

Contact *Friends of the Children* to join an existing Circle, become a Leader and start your own, or get updates on upcoming Circle of Friends events.

What is the time commitment of being a Circle Member?

The time commitment varies from Circle to Circle depending on the Leader.

What is the time commitment for being a Circle Leader?

At minimum, Circle Leaders are responsible for promoting and attending the *Friends-Boston* sponsored Circle events (Friendly Hour, Gingerbread Celebration, End of Summer Celebration, Service events, etc.). Each Leader's Circle goals will determine the amount of time needed.

How many Circle Members can be in each Circle?

There is no maximum or minimum size for Circles.

Who can come to Friends-sponsored events?

Anyone is welcome and encouraged to attend events.

How much fundraising outside of the *Friends-Boston* sponsored events is expected of individual Circles?

You can do as much or as little outside fundraising (from hosting your own parties to simply calling and asking a friend for a donation) as you want; whatever you feel will help your Circle reach its goal.

How will Friends support us?

If you choose to host your own Circle events, *Friends of the Children* staff will be there to assist you in any role you play, including providing solicitation material, fundraising training and event resources. Staff will keep you up-to-date on every aspect of the project.

How much of the money raised by Circle of Friends will go to *Friends of the Children*?

All the funds raised by individual Circles and Circle of Friends events will be used to support our mentors (Friends) who provide caring and consistent intensive relationships to children (Achievers) living in challenged communities throughout Greater Boston.

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 office at 617-983-FOTC (3682).