

## Take Stock Tribune

Take Stock in Children <nstellway+takestockpalmbeach.org@ccsend.com>

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To:Updates <updates@gladesinitiative.org>



# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

SCHOLARSHIPS. MENTORS. HOPE.

   @takestockpbc

Dear Take Stock in Children Palm Beach County Family,

Welcome to the January edition of the Take Stock Tribune! This month marks the start of new beginnings, opportunities, and continued dedication to our mission of transforming lives through education in Palm Beach County. With January, comes National Mentoring Month in which we will share our Mentor of the Year and the importance mentorship has on the lives of our students.

Throughout the past year, your support has been the cornerstone of our success, enabling us to empower deserving students and equip them with the tools they need to thrive academically and personally. As we enter this new chapter, we're excited to share stories of inspiration, highlight the accomplishments of our scholars, and provide insights into upcoming events and ways you can be involved.

Thank you for being an essential part of the Take Stock in Children family. Together, let's make 2024 a year filled with growth, empowerment, and countless success stories.

Warmly,

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE,  
MENTOR A CHILD**

-  Mentor 1x/week  
In Person or Virtual
-  Guide At-Risk Students  
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-  Your Mentee Receives a Guaranteed  
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mentor@takestockpalmbeach.org  
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## PROGRAM NEWS



[Click here to Apply to our program today!](#)

We're seeking your support to recruit (50) 9th-grade male students into our Take Stock in Children program. We are also recruiting male mentors to guide them. Educational programs are witnessing disparities among male minority students, particularly in higher education. Recent studies highlight the challenges faced by minority males, including limited access to resources, lack of role models, and systemic barriers perpetuating inequality.

Currently, our program serves 500 high school students, with only a 30% male ratio. Through our Male Recruitment Initiative, we aim to achieve a more balanced representation of male and female students. By actively enrolling more male students and providing targeted support and scholarships, we strive to create an inclusive environment that benefits all participants and empowers students to overcome obstacles and achieve their full potential. Your support is crucial in making this initiative a success.

## MENTOR NEWS



Take Stock in Children's 2024 Mentor of the Year, Marcia Andrews. With a mentorship experience spanning since 2017, she has guided and supported a total of seven students, currently mentoring three. Ms. Andrews possesses a heart brimming with compassion and dedication. Her commitment to making a positive impact on her community is evident through her involvement in various influential positions. Notably, she serves on the School District Board, the Take Stock in Children Palm Beach County Board of Directors, and the Council of Great City Schools, among other education-focused boards and advisory councils throughout the county.

Introduced to Take Stock in Children in 2012, Ms. Andrews quickly recognized the organization's profound impact not only within her district but also statewide. She understood that Take Stock in Children is unparalleled in its ability to empower students through mentoring, college readiness, and scholarships on a large scale. This realization compelled her to become actively involved in the organization's board, as she was determined to contribute to the remarkable work being done.

After she was appointed Take Stock in Children Board Member, Ms. Andrews needed to take that next step and become a mentor. Focusing on the Belle Glade and Pahokee area, she sought to address the unique challenges faced by students in those communities. Ms. Andrews states, "Mentoring has been meaningful to me because it allows me to guide students who may get lost in the system. Through TSIC, I am partnered with students who just need a little TLC to get back on track with their schooling.

Ms. Andrews is a giving, caring, and loving woman with a very gentle spirit. However, she is strong and bold and upholds her beliefs that every student matters and she will advocate until their needs are met. She is a living example of selflessness and poised leadership. Ms. Andrew's treasure is where her heart is, and what she values the most, focuses on, and dedicates her energy and time to our children and their education. Anything she can do for children has been her mission and passion for her entire adult life.

Quote from her mentee Aamyia "Having Ms. Andrews in my life has been a blessing, without her I'm not sure how my last two years of high school would have gone. I'm grateful to have her in my life. If you ask me, every mentor should take notes from Ms. Andrews and every student needs a mentor like Ms. Andrews". Quote from her first mentee Steeve "Ms. Andrew's impact on my life cannot be overstated. Her mentorship has been a beacon of light, guiding me through the challenges of life. Her selfless dedication, boundless compassion, and exceptional mentorship truly set her apart. Her legacy as a mentor will forever be etched in my heart."

*Mentors, don't forget to check out the Mentor HUB for regular updates and info!*

**[Click Here to Access the Mentor HUB](#)**

# IN THE SPOTLIGHT

## HAPPY RETIREMENT: FAREWELL KIMBERLY BRIARD



"After dedicating 11 years to nurturing and developing the mentor program from its inception, I am filled with a profound sense of gratitude and accomplishment as I bid farewell to this esteemed organization. The cherished relationships I have cultivated with our mentors and the profound influence they have had on our students will be sorely missed. The journey has been nothing short of remarkable, and I am proud to have contributed to the growth and success of this program.

As I embark on the next chapter of my life, my focus will shift towards self-care, family, embracing new adventures, and eagerly looking forward to renovating a 200-year-old colonial farmhouse in the picturesque landscapes of New Hampshire. This endeavor represents not only a new chapter in my life but also a labor of love that will culminate in my relocation to this historic home, sometime in 2025.

As I reflect on the enriching experiences and enduring connections that have defined my tenure here, my time here has been invaluable, and I am deeply appreciative of the support and camaraderie that have shaped my professional journey. I carry with me the lessons learned and the cherished memories as I step into this new phase of my life. I am eager to embrace the opportunities that lie ahead and look forward to staying connected with the wonderful individuals I have had the privilege to work alongside. The experiences and relationships I have formed through Take Stock in Children will always hold a special place in my heart. With heartfelt thanks and warm regard."

-Kimberly Briard, Mentor Manager

# UPCOMING EVENT: BRIDGE THE GAP 5K



Mark your calendars for 2/17/24! Bridge The Gap presented by Florida Crystals returns for its annual 5k race over the Blue Heron Bridge. Join us for a day filled with fun, fitness and community spirit!

Don't miss your chance to be part of this incredible journey towards creating a brighter future for our students. All proceeds are used to purchase college tuition scholarships for low-income and at-risk students. Bring a friend and sign up today!

[Click Here to Register!](#)



Receive a free shirt and goodie bag included with your \$45 registration fee for Bridge the Gap 5k. The long sleeve, lightweight shirt is UPF and great for protecting Floridians from the sun. All goodie bag items are a \$200 value that you will receive for FREE!

Volunteers are also needed along the course to cheer on runners, handout waters and handout medals at the finish line. To volunteer, please click the link below.

[Click here to Volunteer for our event!](#)

## WAYS TO SUPPORT



We appreciate your time and interest in our organization. Take Stock in Children's program model is rated "best in class" by the Florida Legislature, with 98% of our students graduating high school and 74% obtaining a post-secondary credential (compared to only 27% of their peer group). For low-income and minority students, education is the key to success and upward mobility. Take Stock in Children is the single-largest nonprofit purchaser of Florida Prepaid College Foundation Scholarships, with assets totaling more than \$250M and over \$20M awarded to Palm Beach County students. Our scholarship plans are purchased at half-price and matched \$ for \$ through our partnership with the Florida Prepaid Foundation, enabling us to serve twice as many students.

Join us, "take stock in a child today," and help us ensure that all students, no matter their background, have equitable access to quality education.

## Donate



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