

EDUCATION

MIDDLE SCHOOL SUCCESS/HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

TOTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM INVESTMENTS: \$111,000

TARGET OUTCOME: YOUTH CONSISTENTLY ATTEND SCHOOL AND GRADUATE

Habitat for Humanity (www.habitatpbc.org)

Seminole Ridge High School: \$10,100

The partnership between the Weitz Academy of Construction at Seminole Ridge High School and Habitat for Humanity of Palm Beach County equips **175** teens with vocational skills while providing housing to an income-eligible family, serving about **300** people in total. Students become industry certified to build a three-bedroom house as module units at school and the home is then transported to the build site, where construction is completed. **Zip Code served: 33470**

Why is this program necessary?

This program is necessary to ensure the largest number of students graduate with either a college acceptance or a skilled trade. In 2011, 100% of the students who applied were accepted into their chosen apprenticeship programs. This program also provides a deserving and low-income family with affordable housing and better skills to be able to improve their self-sufficiency.

Home Safe (www.helphomesafe.org)

Life Skills and Education: \$20,000

Due to a life marked by traumatic experiences, at-risk youth frequently lack the basic skills necessary for successful independence. Home Safe's Life Skills & Education services provide tangible training to **100** resident teen boys and girls in order to succeed in the areas of academic progress, financial literacy, daily living skills, relationship and team building strategies, and employment/career development.

Zip Code served: 33461

Why is this program necessary?

In Palm Beach County 75-100 youth age out of the foster care system each year. These youth lack major skills required for independent living. In Florida, over 1,300 foster care youth are identified as suffering from some kind of emotional disability and need emotional support, educational support, independent living skills, and aftercare stability with this vulnerable population.

Literacy Coalition (www.literacypbc.org)

AmeriCorps: \$17,000

Annually, the Literacy Coalition's Literacy AmeriCorps program recruits, trains, places and supervises up to 40 recent college graduates who provide a year of service as reading tutors, mentors, graduation coaches and college readiness coaches in Palm Beach County. Seventy-eight percent of the members work with about **1,450** children or youth who have been identified by partner agencies as being at-risk of failing to graduate. Services are delivered at schools, libraries and social service agencies throughout Palm Beach County. **Zip Codes Served: Multiple**

Why is this program necessary?

This program is a cost effective method of helping individuals through partnerships with a wide range of agencies and schools located throughout the county. There is a desperate need to improve the reading, writing and English language skills of children, adolescents and adults in Palm Beach County.

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Take Stock in Children (www.takestockpalmbeach.org)

Student Mentor Support: \$59,000

The Take Stock in Children program provides a unique opportunity for **1,010** deserving low-income students to escape the cycle of poverty through education. The innovative multi-year program model provides wrap around services to its students throughout their middle and high school years and continues through post-secondary education. Program outputs include one-on-one mentoring, college readiness coaching, monthly academic workshops, student advocacy, a 2-4 year full tuition college scholarship, and post-secondary retention services. **Zip Codes Served: Multiple**

Why is this program necessary?

This program was created in response to the three major problems faced by our youth: high school dropout crisis, high youth crime rate, and the endless cycle of poverty. The root of the problems of unemployment, underemployment, and high crime are students who have no hope for secondary education because of their family's income and because their parents cannot guide them through an educational experience they have never had. The mentoring program provides guidance, support, and leadership, as well as academic support systems to these students throughout their journey through high school.

Urban League

Project Ready NULITES: \$5,000

The Project Ready NULITES program is a best practice program that has received national awards for its work with low income minority students ages 10-18. This program prepares **120** at risk students (8th-12th grade) for college, work and life through academic enrichment, college pre-planning, service learning and work skills development. **Zip Code Served: Multiple**

Why is this program necessary?

In Palm Beach County, the high school rate of African Americans is 64.8%, Hispanics 76.7% and Caucasians 80.5%. The need to prepare students for success in higher education is magnified in schools with low graduation rates and requires an intensive college readiness and life skills program. The NULITES program keeps youth in urban communities in Delray, Boynton Beach, West Palm Beach and Riviera Beach crime free and focused on developing long term goals that will lead to sustainability.