

How do I become a Friend of Children?

Your tax-deductible contribution to the Children's Fund qualifies you as one of the Friends of Children in an ongoing drive to enrich the lives of hundreds of children who have experienced abuse, neglect or other difficult home conditions. It will be used exclusively to provide extra tools for children, such as summer camps, sporting events, music and artistic or educational opportunities. Individual requests tailored to the needs of each child are considered and carefully reviewed on their merits.

How can I help?

Donations to the Children's Fund may also be made by credit card online at the FCCS Website: www.franklincountyohio.gov/children_services

We are seeking minimum donations of \$20 from individuals and \$100 from area businesses, but you could also qualify for special recognition with these premium donor levels.

I am a Friend of Children

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____

Please check one of the following:

- Platinum - \$100** **Silver - \$50**
 Gold - \$75 **Bronze - \$25**

Please include this card with your check made payable to

Franklin County Children Services Children's Fund
855 W. Mound St. • Columbus, OH 43223

TEAR OFF AND RETURN IN ENVELOPE PROVIDED...THANK YOU!

The goal of the Citizens Advisory Committee is to reach **100 Friends of Children** each year!



Friends of Children....



Protecting Children by Strengthening Families

The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) of Franklin County Children Services is looking for Friends of Children, whose contribution to the Children's Fund will enhance and enrich the lives of hundreds of abused, neglected and dependent children and teens under agency care. We hope you will consider joining us and donating to the Children's Fund to become a Friend of Children.

CITIZENS
Advisory
COMMITTEE

What is the Children's Fund?

The Children's Fund is a separate Franklin County Children Services account that was started more than 40 years ago after the agency was named in several wills. The donors wanted to provide children served by the agency with "special things" that Children Services, as a public agency, could not use tax dollars to provide. Tax-deductible donations by caring citizens of our community built the Children's Fund into a valuable asset that can be tapped for helping individual children and teens.

...your help is important.

Why are Friends of Children Important to Children Services and the CAC?

Requests for enrichment activities and tools for agency youth have grown over the past several years, and interest rates have declined, leading to reductions in the Children's Fund. To assure that children will have memory-making opportunities that help bring normalcy to their lives, a campaign to raise funds is needed. Finding Friends of Children is one of the ongoing initiatives to make sure the Children's Fund is there for those who need it in the future.

What special things are provided to children and teens under care?

Children can attend specialized summer camps ... take part in sports, music and artistic opportunities ... go on school trips ... and participate in other activities that help build confidence and self-esteem. Older teens are eligible for college scholarships, tools and uniforms needed for tech school, college tours and SAT expenses. And all children can apply for funds for tutoring, school clubs, and senior expenses such as pictures, proms, class rings and graduation announcements. Individual requests tailored to the needs of each child are considered and carefully reviewed on their merits. More than 100 children and teens receive help from the Children's Fund each year.



“Just wanted to let you know that the basketball camp you approved for me to attend a couple of years ago paid off. I know it helped me make the team here at my college.

Thank you so much for believing in me.”



“I loved my art classes at Columbus College of Art & Design! I will be bringing in my portfolio to show the committee what I have done.

Thank you for helping me decide about my future!”

What can I expect as a Friend of Children?

As one of the Friends of Children you will be a member of a group that is committed to making sure the Children's Fund can continue to help children realize dreams that will enable them to grow into well-rounded and productive adults.

You will also:

- ▶ Receive a yearly report on how many kids were helped and in what ways;
- ▶ Be acknowledged as one of the hundreds of Friends of Children in print and at the Children Services Administrative offices;
- ▶ Receive an invitation to the annual Child Abuse Prevention Breakfast where youth are honored for their achievements;
- ▶ Receive Connects, our monthly e-newsletter and copies of Accent, our quarterly publication about FCCS;
- ▶ Get the satisfaction of knowing that you helped a child.

Who approves the requests to make sure the money is well spent?

Members of CAC have established guidelines for requests. A sub-committee reviews each request and speaks with the child and caseworker about it. Then the full Citizens Advisory Committee approves the spending of the money. All members are community volunteers who donate their time to serve on CAC, and they come from a variety of professional backgrounds.

Franklin County Children Services is the agency mandated by Ohio law to provide protection and care to abused and neglected children. We provide services to strengthen family life to enable children to remain safe in their own homes. But, if children cannot remain with their own families, we provide temporary care in foster homes or in residential facilities, or permanent homes with loving adoptive families. Children Services provides help for more than 25,000 children annually.



Please make your check payable to:
Franklin County Children Services Children's Fund

and send to:
855 W. Mound St.
Columbus, OH 43223

The Citizens Advisory Committee is comprised of volunteers representing very diverse backgrounds within our community. All members are reviewed by application and then appointed by the Children Services Board. We are a caring group of individuals devoted to giving children additional opportunities that are not a part of the traditional child welfare experience.

CITIZENS Advisory COMMITTEE

Helping children and teens realize their dreams.