



PRESS RELEASE

Key West, November 5, 2012

**61 TO BE INDUCTED INTO TAKE STOCK IN CHILDREN**

The week of November 13 students in grades 7-10 will be signing their contracts with Take Stock In Children. Ceremonies for each student are being held at schools in Sugarloaf, Marathon, Key West, Coral Shores, and Key Largo.

These 61 handpicked students are being given the "chance of a lifetime" to further develop their skills and graduate from college. All the students with the desire, motivation, and potential to go to college, from low-income families in Monroe County, are awarded scholarships.

Each student in the program is matched with a mentor and Take Stock in Children is looking for new mentors to be matched up with our new students. TSIC is looking for caring, compassionate adults who would like to devote time to these scholars. Weekly mentoring sessions range from 30-60 minutes and occur on school grounds. If you are interested in becoming a mentor you can contact Jeremy Wilkerson at 305-293-1400 ext 53303.

Take Stock In Children is a ten-year program beginning in the seventh grade with the formal contract signing. Students must keep their grades at the A, B, or C levels through high school, obey the code of student conduct, stay crime- and drug-free, and meet their mentor once each week.

In return, Take Stock In Children and the Monroe County Education Foundation promise to pay all tuition and student fees for all 4 years of college. Students can choose to attend any of Florida's 28 community colleges for two years, followed by two more years at any of Florida's 11 state universities. They finish the program as proud university graduates with their Bachelor's diploma.

"We are helping these students break the cycle of poverty," explained Leslie Holmes, program coordinator.

To get involved as a mentor or donor, or for more information, call Leslie Holmes 293-1400.

Contract Signing Week:

- November 13 – Coral Shores High School (To Include Plantation Key & Treasure Village) at Coral Shores High 1:30

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- November 13 – Key Largo School 3:30
- November 14 – Marathon High School 1:45
- November 15 - Key West High School 9:00
- November 15 – Horace O’Bryant to include Sigsbee and Key West Montessori 4:00
- November 16 – Sugarloaf School 10:00

**END**