



## **FRIENDS OF FOSTER CHILDREN FOREVER CELEBRATES FOSTER CARE AWARENESS MONTH**

NAPLES, Fla – (May 2023) May is National Foster Care Awareness Month. This month is about bringing attention to a cause that impacts over 300 children in Collier County daily.

While this may seem like a month of sadness, it is not. It is a month to celebrate the strength and resilience of foster children, along with the passion and care of mentors, families, child welfare professionals and so many others who play such a large role in these children's lives. Foster children are some of the most vulnerable children in the community, but Friends of Foster Children Forever's goal is to do all it can to bring normalcy to the child's life.

Friends of Foster Children Forever does this in a litany of ways. The Academic Mentor program follows children all throughout their school journey, tutoring them up to three times a week and are often the most constant adult in their life. While the national average of foster children who graduate from high school is only 50%, last year, 100% of high school seniors enrolled in its programs graduated. In order to support the child in and out of the classroom, Friends of Foster Children Forever funds many enrichment activities, such as Heartstrings Arts & Music Camps, Afterschool Sports Clubs and Camps and its brand-new Thriving After Care program.

When provided the proper support, foster children can achieve anything. It is important for the community to continue to come together and rally behind foster children, foster parents, mentors and so many others who do all they can to help these children thrive.

### ***About Friends of Foster Children Forever***

*Friends of Foster Children Forever provides targeted educational and enrichment opportunities that enables foster children to fulfill their potential. The 501c3 organization works to fulfill the unmet needs of children who are or were in the foster care system. Each year over 750 foster children are helped by Friends of Foster Children Forever. For additional information visit [www.FriendsofFosterChildren.net](http://www.FriendsofFosterChildren.net) or call 239-262-1808.*