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For Immediate Release

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Thirty-six students looking for mentors to secure their college scholarships

For the last 25 years, Take Stock in Children, a non-profit organization, has provided low-income, high-achieving students with an opportunity to go to college on a scholarship. After successfully graduating from high school, each Take Stock in Children scholar is awarded a 2-year Florida Prepaid Scholarship to use at any technical school, college or university.

Take Stock in Children, a program of The Education Foundation of Alachua County, currently serves 330 students. It will induct 36 new students into the program during May 2020. To secure the scholarships for the new students, TSIC Alachua is looking to recruit 36 volunteer mentors.

Mentoring is a critical component of the success of Take Stock in Children. Now more than ever, students need support to face the everyday challenges associated with school closures and quarantine. Mentors help students understand that they are never truly alone. By consistently meeting with their students, mentors develop strong relationships that positively impact the lives of students.

New mentors will train virtually before being matched with a student. Additionally, mentors will receive support from the Take Stock in Children staff. Mentoring will start at the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year in Alachua County.

The Education Foundation of Alachua County has been an affiliate of the Take Stock in Children program since 1996. In that time, TSIC Alachua has graduated 465 students from the program. The majority of these students are currently enrolled in college or have already received degrees. The program will graduate 60 more alumni on May 29, 2020, when the Class of 2020 graduates from high schools across the Alachua County school district.

To become a mentor with Take Stock in Children in Alachua County, please visit www.edfoundationac.org/mentors.

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The Education Foundation of Alachua County, Inc. is a 501(C)3 organization founded in 1986 to support the Alachua County Public Schools. The Foundation has three programs: Senior Scholarship, Take Stock in Children and Catalyst for Change. For more information, please visit <http://edfoundationac.org/about-us/>.