



Dear Friend,

As we reflect on this past year, one word comes to mind: **gratitude**. Thanks to the incredible support of our volunteers, Think Big for Kids has continued to make meaningful strides toward our mission of breaking the cycle of poverty for kids by preparing them for the workforce.

Kids are born into poverty and face many obstacles to overcome their situations and discover their potential. Think Big for Kids is *educating* kids on what is possible, and we are creating *opportunities* for them to go make it happen. **Our goal is to reach and serve more kids, and to do that we ask for your help by [making a donation](#) to support our program.**

The three pillars of our program define how we change a kid's journey for their future – Career Exploration, Mentorship and Job Readiness & Placement. As we approach the end of the school calendar year, I'd like to highlight some of our results.

- **Career Exploration:** During the '24-'25 school year, Think Big held 356 career showcases, field trips and skill building workshops, exposing nearly 1,600 kids to different jobs and industries. We expanded our number of program locations by 20% and have 128 partner companies volunteering with our monthly programming, serving kids in Tampa Bay, Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Greater Washington and New Jersey.
- **Mentorship Program:** 100% of our high school senior mentees are taking action toward achieving their career goals. We have an 85% retention rate between our mentor-mentee relationships, building a lifelong foundation of confidence for our students. We recently captured some thoughts from Think Big volunteers to answer, [“What Does Being a Think Big Mentor Mean to You?”](#) Please take a few minutes to hear the results happening from these relationships.
- **Job Readiness & Placement:** [Think Big awarded 110 scholarships](#) to students totaling near \$385,000 for them to pursue technical certifications, trades, two and four-year college programs. This summer, we have 52 students lined up for our internship programs across four different industries.

But there's still more work to be done. As we look ahead, we're aiming higher — and we need your help to get there. We are on track to reach **our vision of serving 10,000 kids by the end of 2025** and your support will help us reach that target.

**[Will you consider making a gift today to help us continue this meaningful work?](#)**

**We are seeing results.** Kevonne is a student who joined Think Big as a sophomore in high school through our partnership with Friendship Christian Academy. He would tell you that his favorite career showcase featured paramedics and an exciting tour of the inside of an ambulance. But it was job shadowing and internships at AVI-SPL, Appspace, NextPath Career Partners and ReliaQuest that helped him discover a variety of career paths available to him. With the support of his Think Big mentor, Zac Duffy, he has

done the hard work of preparing for life after high school and developing a plan for his future. Kevonne was recently awarded the 2025 Think Big Building Tomorrow's Leaders Scholarship and is headed to college to study cyber security.

***"Think Big has supported me in numerous ways. My mentor has helped me develop a range of skills, provided guidance and assistance on my career path, opened up valuable networking opportunities, and ensured I always have someone to reach out to," Kevonne says.***



There are many more students like Kevonne who, thanks to the collective efforts of our partner companies, mentors and supporters, are experiencing the full scope of Think Big's programming pillars. View more stories [here on our website.](#)

You know my enormous passion for our mission, so I am inviting you to join in our effort and donate to help us serve more kids. Your contribution *will* make a difference to break the cycle of poverty for kids and raise the next generation of the workforce in our communities. Your donation check can be mailed to Think Big for Kids, Inc. (EIN# 83-3978138), 1219 Rolling Woods Lane, Lakeland, FL 33813 or made directly through the donation page on our website at [www.thinkbigforkids.org](http://www.thinkbigforkids.org).

Thanks in advance for your strong commitment to Think Big. Your decision to donate is greatly appreciated!

With Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony DiBenedetto'.

Tony DiBenedetto, Founder  
Think Big for Kids

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