



# \$139,460 FOR PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION

Your donations go to improving mental health care for kids and teens, which helps us foster a generation of resilient adults. This year, with your support, we funded programs that provided addiction recovery for male adolescents, recreation and leisure therapy for at-risk youth, and play therapy resources for young children.

## ALL IN FOR YOUTH

The end of the 2016–2017 year also marked the end of the first year of All in for Youth (AIFY), to which the Foundation has committed \$500,000 over 5 years. All in for Youth is a local initiative that provides wraparound services for at-risk children, with programs offered inside their schools. The Foundation's investment helps provide full-time Mental Health Therapists, Success Coaches, and Roots and Wings (family-focused support) staff throughout the school year.



## ALICE'S STORY

Alice\* is the 6-year-old daughter of a single mother of 3. She and her sisters attend an AIFY School. Her mother's severe childhood trauma impacted her ability to recognize what is normal and what a healthy relationship looks like. Sadly, this led to Alice experiencing similar trauma.

Fortunately, Alice was able to access a community-based Mental Health Therapist at her school. When the therapist first met Alice she was having a meltdown under a stairwell and it took a long time to calm her down. Alice had meltdowns almost daily, in the hallways, in bathrooms, under the stairs, in classrooms. Now, they meet regularly and Alice is learning to not blame herself and to think positively.

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*Being present in the school at all times means that the Mental Health Therapist can be at the side of children like Alice in moments when they become distressed, and offer support.*

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If Alice had been referred to a therapist outside of her school, she may not have had the same opportunity to foster a relationship built on regular interaction in a familiar environment, and the understanding and acceptance that Alice felt in moments of alarm would not have been possible. A team of staff is on site with Alice every step of the way.

Alice's story is not unique; many of her peers have similarly traumatic pasts. Thanks to your support, we can ensure that children like Alice have what they need to avoid more serious long-term issues and build resiliency.

\*Name has been changed for privacy purposes