

CHOSEN

CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM



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EIGHTWAVES
CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES

CHOSEN CHILD SPONSORSHIP

SHOWING GOD'S LOVE TO LOCAL CHILDREN IN NEED

Our goal isn't a temporary fix or short-term relief, we're committed to helping vulnerable children eradicate all forms of generational poverty in their lives – spiritual, educational, emotional, physical and social. Sponsorship means that a child is celebrated, supported, and is chosen.



WHO DOES THE PROGRAM BENEFIT?

Local children living in poverty in under-resourced communities that lack opportunities, resources, and support. Many of the students we help are below reading levels, live with a single parent and worry about where their next meal is coming from.

Without immediate intervention, the chances for these children's academic achievement are low. Children living in poverty are more vulnerable to dropping out of school, abuse and neglect, behavioral and socioemotional problems, physical health problems, and developmental delays.

CHOSEN CHILD SPONSORSHIP

\$35 PER MONTH

- Weekly reading intervention program
- Weekly mentorship and meals
- Monthly life experience
- A birthday party, cake and gift
- School supplies for the year
- Art, music, sports and more opportunities

CRISIS INTERVENTION

\$50 PER MONTH

- Chosen Child Sponsorship
- Hygiene and medical supplies
- Resources for families to work through challenging situations
- Coordinated care with medical and therapeutic services
- Ensure families have food stability

ARE YOU READY TO CHANGE LIVES?

Send an email to kcarr@eightwaves.org or visit www.eightwaves.org.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do I get to meet my chosen child?

Yes, you are absolutely able, and encouraged, to meet the child you choose to sponsor! Sponsors are welcome to attend our tutoring sessions, birthday parties, and life experiences. We also have group events planned for sponsors during the year to build connections and relationships. When you sponsor a child you're not just giving a gift and putting a picture on your fridge (although that is great). When you partner with Eight Waves, you are stepping into a child's life in a unique way; you become a supporting and encouraging character in the child's epic God-given storyline and are able to meet with them.

Can I contribute to a child's life without meeting them?

Absolutely! There is no obligation to meet with the child you are sponsoring.

Why is reading at or above grade level important for students?

The children in the Eight Waves program are all performing below grade level in academics. There is a direct correlation between reading, education, and poverty. The National Institute for Literacy estimates that 43% of adults with very low literacy skills live in poverty. About 70% of adult welfare recipients have lower-level literacy skills on the National Assessment of the Adult Literacy (NAAL).

Why are hygiene items considered under crisis intervention?

The programs most commonly used by low-wage earners to help pay at the grocery store—SNAP and WIC—do not cover hygiene supplies, leaving many of our children without necessities such as floss and toothpaste, laundry detergent, and tampons. Good hygiene is vital because it helps prevent the spreading of germs and infectious diseases.

How long is the financial commitment for?

You chose! Our goal is to maintain a partnership with our sponsors for a minimum of one year.

Is there an age requirement to be a sponsor?

We hope that the whole family can partake in sponsorship and all ages are welcome to join in for volunteering.

I would like to volunteer. How do I get started?

Great! Please email 8wavesyouth@gmail.com to get more information.

How are the children paired with sponsors?

Sponsors are connected with a child after signing up. We assign a child to a sponsor to make sure all children in the program are chosen. A package will be mailed to your home with a picture, information card on your Chosen Student. A calendar of events will be updated on our website that you may wish to attend.

Why do students need school supplies year-round?

The high cost of school supplies poses a challenge to many parents and impacts students during back-to-school season and throughout the school year. Backpacks break, books need to be purchased, pencils go missing, which may lead to the students not having a successful academic year. With your support, we supply all the student's academic needs on an ongoing basis including summer reading material.

Will I be updated on the child that I am sponsoring?

Yes! We provide a monthly newsletter that provides updates on all that is happening at Eight Waves and the children and families involved.

Is my sponsorship tax deductible?

Yes, all sponsorships are tax-deductible.

Are there corporate sponsorship options available?

Yes, we offer corporate sponsorships as well. Please contact Sara Meyer at 352-255-7350.

Can I plan something special just for the child I am sponsoring with my family?

We follow very strict rules to always protect the child as well as yourself. We do not allow the child you are sponsoring to be invited to attend anything other than what is planned and structured through Eight Waves.

How many sponsors help a child?

Based on the needs and the number of children we have enrolled in the program, we are looking for 12 monthly sponsors per child.

Can I provide gifts, treats, and educational items for the child I am sponsoring?

Yes! Items may be dropped off at the center and are greatly appreciated. A few suggestions our children use are educational games, art, tech, books, sports, craft material, music, and hygiene items.

What is 8 Waves?

Eight Waves provides high-quality care with eight innovative services for under-resourced children, youth, and families through the following programs: Reading intervention, mentoring, life experiences, crisis intervention, dream birthdays, books for babies, mothers' mentoring, and our Chosen Child Sponsorship.