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Give Kids A Chance Celebrates 20 Years of Making an Impact for Low-Income Students Attending College

MIAMI, FL —November 2024 – [Give Kids A Chance](#), a donor-advised fund that provides college scholarships to children of low-income families statewide, is proud to celebrate its 20th anniversary. Give Kids A Chance was founded in 2004 by [Brian McDonough](#), a partner at the law firm of Stearns Weaver Miller and Chair of its Affordable Housing practice group.

Several years into his law practice, Brian realized that many families served by the affordable housing industry could not afford the cost of a college education for their children. In response, he started Give Kids A Chance in order to provide partial college scholarships for students of these low income families. Brian solicited donations from business associates in the affordable housing industry who shared his desire to help less fortunate families, and the response was overwhelming. During its first year, the charity targeted exclusively high school seniors living in affordable housing properties. Since then, it has broadened its reach and now solicits applications from low-income households statewide. Annually, Give Kids A Chance awards a minimum of 25, \$5,000 scholarships (\$1,250 paid out to awardees each year for four years).

Over the past two decades, the fund:

- Raised over \$2.9 million in contributions
- Awarded 450 scholarships (nearly 70% to minority students)
- Impacted students in almost every county in Florida
- Grew to one of the largest funds in The Miami Foundation's portfolio (see below regarding the role of The Miami Foundation)

The charity's main fundraising event is an annual golf tournament held in Miami Beach, Florida. Cohosted by Stearns Weaver Miller and CohnReznick, the tournament brings together the majority of the affordable housing developers in the state as well as many of the lenders and investors with whom such developers do business. On October 6-7, 2024 nearly 100 affordable housing industry leaders and professionals from across the country came together for a cocktail reception at Perez Art Museum Miami (PAMM) and golf tournament at Le Gorce Country Club. The event was one of the charity's most successful, raising nearly \$230,000.

The charity has also benefitted greatly from partnering with The Miami Foundation. In addition to the organization's continued administrative and business support, Give Kids a Chance continues to gain substantial funding from participating in The Miami Foundation's high-profile, annual 24-hour online giving campaign, [Give Miami Day](#). Early Giving for this year's campaign begins November 17, 2024. Donations can be made [using this link](#) any time from now through 11:59 p.m. on Give Miami Day, Thursday, November 21, 2024.

"We are immensely proud to mark this momentous occasion of our 20th anniversary," said McDonough. "I am deeply appreciative of the dedication of The Miami Foundation and our business associates in the affordable housing industry whose support and generosity has been instrumental to the fund's success. We remain steadfast in our commitment to helping

financially disadvantaged students further their education and realize their dreams. Here's to 20 more years!"

For more information, please visit www.gkac.org.



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