



WELCOME TO BFF!

Helping foster care students put their Best Foot Forward.

Thank you for your interest in the Best Foot Forward Foundation, where students in foster care have the opportunity to succeed in school!

To get started, please read through this packet carefully and complete all sections as thoroughly as possible. When you complete the application, please return it along with a copy of your driver's license.

PACKET CHECKLIST:

- BFF Application
- Security/Criminal Background
- Drivers License (Tutors only)



BFF BACKGROUND

OUR MISSION is to empower foster care youth to maximize their potential by providing essential academic support and guidance.

OUR VISION is for foster care youth to be afforded the same educational opportunities as all other children.



WHAT IS THE MAIN FOCUS OF BFF?

BFF is the **ONLY** agency in the county that is 100% focused on educational advocacy and support for children and youth in and aged out of foster care, providing one on one academic guidance and support.



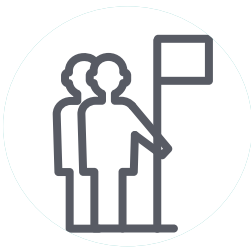
WHEN WAS BFF FOUNDED?

BFF is a 501(c)3 organization that was incorporated in January 2010.



WHERE IS BFF LOCATED?

BFF is a school-based program serving students throughout Palm Beach County. BFF is headquartered in Boca Raton, Florida.



WHO PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM?

- Youth involved in the child welfare system in the state of Florida.
- Youth residing in Palm Beach County and attending public school.
- Youth between the ages of 5 and 22 years old.



HOW DOES BFF GET ITS REFERRALS?

Referrals come from a variety of sources including case managers, therapists, guidance counselors, principals, attorneys, Guardians Ad Litem...



HOW IS BFF FUNDED?

ChildNet (Palm Beach County's lead child welfare agency), grants, fundraising events, private donations and various foundations.



DOES BFF WORK WITH OTHER COUNTY AGENCIES?

Yes, BFF works closely with all service providers involved with foster youth. BFF has a working agreement with the PBC School District and the PBC lead child welfare agency for the Department of Children & Families, ChildNet.

10 WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

Here are different ways you can get involved and make a difference in a child's life.

1 Is occasional volunteering more your speed? You can **BE AN 'AS-NEEDED' VOLUNTEER** by helping with tasks in the office, preparing for an event or other short term projects.

2 Are you available on a weekly basis to **HELP IN OUR OFFICE**? There are so many projects and tasks that you can help complete.

3 Do you like to bake? Our kids love **HOMEMADE BAKED GOODS** like cookies and brownies. Bring them in anytime!

4 Are you artistic? There are a lot of things we need throughout the year from **DECORATING FOR AN EVENT** to creating things like recognition certificates for our students.

5 Do you like selecting and wrapping presents? **HOLIDAYS & BIRTHDAYS** keep us busy throughout the year. We are always wrapping student gifts and preparing gifts of appreciation for the many teachers and guidance counselors we work with. Help us with that!

6 Can you tutor a student in high school or college? **TUTORS ARE OFTEN NEEDED** for our middle, high school and college students, from Boca Raton up to Palm Beach Gardens and everywhere in between. All subjects are needed, with an emphasis on math and science.

7 Do you enjoy **GOOGLING AND RESEARCHING**? We are always looking for new scholarships for our students, the latest research involving foster care or education, or local businesses to partner with.

8 Don't have much time to volunteer but you like browsing Facebook? You can **LIKE OUR PAGE, COMMENT ON AND SHARE OUR POSTS** on a regular basis. That helps us keep our page visible and expands our reach. You can also share our emails with your friends and family.

9 Have a **TEENAGER WHO WOULD LIKE TO GET INVOLVED** and earn community service hours? There are a lot of things they can do. They can host a drive to collect items for our students such as books, clothing, small gifts, gift cards...they can hold a bake sale, car wash, or other event to raise money for our programs...they can do computer research for us... they can collect gifts at a birthday party or bar or bat mitzvah for our students.

10 Perhaps you love the BFF programs but only have time to **ATTEND OUR EVENTS**? That's great and you can make it even better by bringing a friend!



OUR MISSION

is to empower foster care youth to maximize their potential by providing essential academic support and guidance.



CONTACT US:

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www.bestfoot.org

BFF APPLICATION

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Language(s) Spoken: _____

How did you hear about BFF? _____

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?

Holidays & Birthday Celebration Crew

Volunteer in our Office

Homemade Baked Goods

Art Projects & Decorating

'As-Needed' Volunteer

Social Media Support

Googling & Researching for Info

Tutoring

Teen Volunteer

Event Planning

Other: _____

Current Palm Beach County School Employee? YES NO

If Yes, List School and Position: _____

In Case of Emergency Contact: _____

NAME / PHONE

Signature: _____

BFF SECURITY/CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK

Full Name: _____

Maiden Name: _____

Driver's License Number: _____

Place of Birth: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Gender: Male Female

Social Security #: _____

Have you ever been arrested for a crime: Yes No If yes, what date: _____
If yes, what charge? _____

Have you ever been convicted? _____

Have you ever been a party in a domestic violence case? Yes No
If yes, please explain. _____

Have you ever had a finding of abuse, neglect, or abandonment of a child or adult entered against you or a family member or are you currently involved in a dependency case?
Yes No If yes, please explain. _____

I hereby affirm that all of the answers provided on this application are true. I understand that it is a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in section 775.082 or section 775.083, Florida Statutes, for any person to willfully, knowingly, or intentionally fail, by false statement, misrepresentation, impersonation, or other fraudulent means, to disclose in any application for a volunteer position, any material fact used in making a determination as to the applicant's qualifications for such a position.

Before I have any contact with students, I will apply for and receive Level 2 Background Clearance.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____