



Take Stock Nassau 2018 Summer E-Newsletter

"The pure joy on my son's face says it all. Zachary and his mentor Michael have an amazing relationship. His mentor has put so much confidence into my son that it brings tears to my eyes!

This is our 3rd year with Michael and I honestly don't know how we could have survived without his support. Thank you to you Michael and to the many many volunteers that sacrifice there time and love to our students!!"

- Ms. Shannon Keith, Zachary's mom

Shown in picture: Zachary Edenfield, Junior at Fernandina Beach high with mentor, Mr. Michael Miller



"Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember,
involve me and I learn."

– **Benjamin Franklin**

**Patsy Page, Retiring from Mentoring
after 14 Years of Dedicated Service**



“They are my girls. If I could make a difference in their lives, I’m good with that.” That thought sums up the feelings Patsy Page has had for 14 years about becoming a Take Stock in Children (TSIC) mentor.

It all began when Patsy’s friend,

Diane Williams, suggested that she consider mentoring a student—and so she did.

In (2004)-Patsy was assigned Rachel; as her first student of the school year. She has since mentored Haleigh; Third-Savannah; Fourth-Olivia.

A key to success of TSIC’s mentoring program, according to Patsy, is the excellent pairing of mentors and students. Getting to know your student and building a relationship takes a lot of time and patience if mentoring is to succeed.

Another key to the success of the mentoring program, Patsy says, is strong communication. Mentors must be able to learn about and understand their students. This comes through consistent and trusted communication. The TSIC guidance book, called the *Mentor Toolkit*, gives practical suggestions on how to facilitate the process of communicating and establishing a productive and rewarding partnership.

“We’ve learned together,” Patsy said of her students, “and they’ve stoked my attitude. I’ve been to more band concerts and sports games than I can count.” She added that she has learned things from her students not covered in the Toolkit, such as how to deal with family illnesses or the loss of a loved one.

Although the girls have graduated from the program, they continue to keep in touch with their mentor to this day, primarily via text messaging. They share information about their current achievements, for which Patsy, as in the past, becomes their biggest cheerleader. Patsy would never refer to herself as a hero. She’s much too modest for that. But her mentee, Rachel, summed it up quite nicely when she said, “To me, a hero is someone who will help you no matter how long it takes. They will always try to be involved in your life.”

That is, perhaps, an excellent description for someone who serves as a TSIC mentor.

After Olivia graduates, Patsy Page will be leaving the mentor program. TSIC is forever grateful for her support over the years and she will always be missed.

The Take Stock Nassau Staff attended the annual FCAN conference in Orlando this year to continue expanding their knowledge of best practices given by programs that focus on education, throughout Florida.

"The Florida College Access Network, gives my staff the tools to prepare our students for a successful path to higher education" - TSIC Nassau Executive Director, Dr. Andrea Cummings.



Left to Right: Dr. Andrea Cummings - TSIC Nassau Executive Director, Johnnie Green - Callahan & Hilliard College Success Coach, Kelli Bristow - TSIC Nassau Program Manager, Phyllis Sipes - Yulee College Success Coach & Penny Glackin - Fernandina Beach College Success Coach

Take Stock Nassau Receives the Gold Award from the State Office

Take Stock in Children of Nassau County Inc. (TSICN), an affiliate of Take Stock in Children, recently received an excellent rating on our Take Stock in Children Balanced Scorecard (TSICBS) for successfully providing at-risk youth with college scholarships, a

college readiness curriculum, and supportive volunteer mentors.

TSICBS provides a uniform way for state office and local affiliates to examine and manage program performance by way of action and improvement plans. TSICBS results are reported as “Exceeds Target,” “Meets Target,” or “Below Target”. Expectation are that all current and active mentors participate in 4 mentor sessions with their students per month, and College Success Coaches (CSCs) meet their students once per semester and twice with juniors and upperclassmen. All students must attend events and workshops geared toward high school completion and college readiness.

TSICN end-of-the-year balanced score card showed that the program exceeded targets in all areas before the close of the 2017-2018 school year.

- All Mentors Received Proper Training Prior to Being Matched with a Student
- 90% of Mentor/Mentee Pairings were Meeting Weekly at School During the Year
- CSCs Met with Their Students at Least Once Per Semester (Twice with Upperclassmen)

To demonstrate this, documentation was submitted to the state office showing the following evidence:

- Mentor Training: Sign-In Sheets and Attendance Records from Mentor Training Sessions
- Mentor Sessions: Mentor Sign-In Sheets, School Electronic Records, GoogleDocs Spreadsheets, and/or Other Self-Reporting Mechanisms
- Sampling of Event Sign-In Sheets, CSC Meetings Logs, Redacted Case Notes, and/or Grade-Specific Checklists

TSICN has recorded a 100% high school graduation completion rate, with 100% of those students enrolling into college with the help of 162 local area mentors. This far exceeds Florida’s average high school graduation rate of 60% for students living in poverty, with only 40% enrolling in college.

TSICN, currently serving 156 students, will receive this award in September at TSIC's College and Career Readiness Summit. Attracting more than 350 participants from statewide programs, summit attendees will learn from national leaders about the latest data on youth poverty, mentoring, college readiness skills, and career pipelines.

“This award is a source of great pride to Take Stock Nassau and highlights our dedication to changing the lives of our students through this program,” said Dr. Andrea Cummings, Executive Director. “Our students are counting on us to make the difference in their lives to ensure they succeed academically and

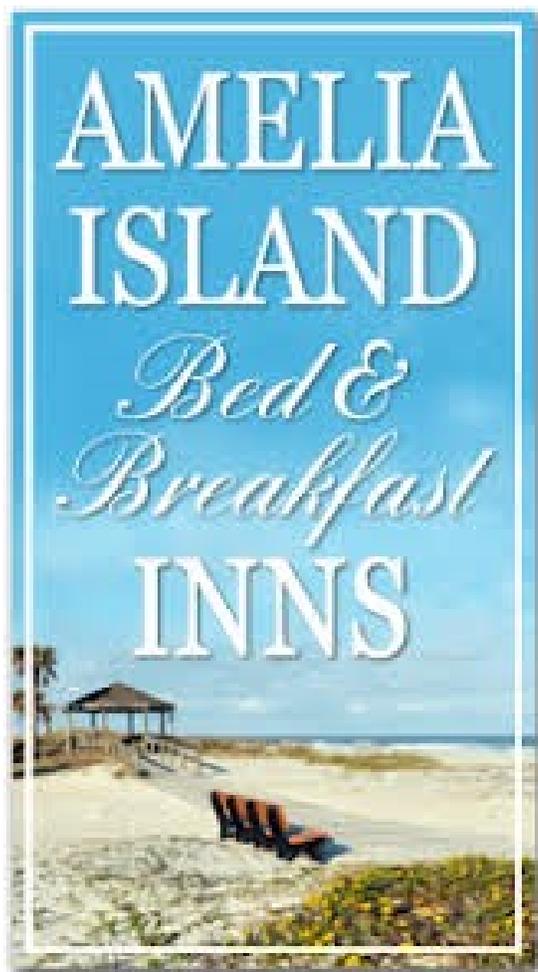
professionally.”

Take Stock in Children Fundraiser...Change a Life with One Night Stay

Experience sweet dreams in one of Fernandina Beach's romantic inns and help change a life for a Nassau County Take Stock in Children student.

The Amelia Island Bed & Breakfast Association (AIBBA) has partnered with Take Stock in Children to help make attending college a reality for academically promising low-income students.

Click on the picture below for more information



Three Beautiful Romantic Bed & Breakfast Inns in downtown Fernandina Beach are offering 12 **one-night stay gift certificates for \$150** (valued at \$250 - \$300, depending on the B&B) to raise money for Take Stock in Children.

Gift certificates will be available online at www.ameliaislandinns.com **only from August 20th thru August 31st**. Support our local chapter of Take Stock in Children while staying at a Romantic Bed and Breakfast in Fernandina Beach Florida.

Purchase Jacksonville Jaguar Tickets and Support
Take Stock Nassau!

[Jacksonville Jaguar Tickets](#)

Contact us at
www.takestocknassau.org or call Kelli at 904-548-4459

