

Building
a bridge
to hope for
South Carolina's
children.



You may think...

...you are unaffected by teen crime or the myriad of issues connected to juvenile justice, but the fact is, if you call South Carolina home, you've already felt its impact.

The need for change...

There are more than 400,000 children aged 12 to 17 in South Carolina and in any given year, about 20,000 of them have delinquency referrals to DJJ, drawing them into the juvenile justice system. About 1,900 children every year are actually committed to DJJ facilities and residential programs. Their care can cost you, the taxpayer, as much as \$300 per day for security, education, housing and treatment. Progress has been made in rehabilitating children in DJJ, but when they return to troubled homes and high crime areas of our state, there is a high risk that they will re-offend. No matter where in our state you live or what stage of life you are in, you are affected by kids dropping out of school, getting into trouble and impacting your community.

WE NEED YOUR HELP.

Friends of Juvenile Justice is a private non-profit group comprised of citizens just like you who realize that as well-run and efficient as the Department of Juvenile Justice has become, it cannot solely stem the rising tide of gangs, teen crime, drugs and street violence impacting our state today. We are creating a movement of parents, government, law enforcement, churches, schools and community groups to not only help the kids currently being served by DJJ, but also to prevent youth crime in cities, towns and rural areas across our state. We are Friends of Juvenile Justice, helping communities reclaim South Carolina's children by turning young lives around. We accomplish that by focusing on prevention & intervention, rehabilitation and reintegration.

*"Knowing that people
from the community care
means so much to me.*

*It makes me want to learn
to make myself into a
better person."*





20,000 SC kids referred to DJJ annually.

Helping these kids can impact...

- Crime
- Gangs
- Drug & alcohol abuse
- Domestic violence
- Child abuse
- Poverty
- Homelessness
- Illiteracy



Saving lives,
Saving dollars.
FJJ just makes sense.



Keep kids in school,
away from drugs & gangs
& out of prison.

Prevention & intervention

Helping kids now, prevents crime later.

Friends of Juvenile Justice is working in partnership with DJJ, law enforcement, churches and other community-based partners to effect dramatic change in the lives of our state's most at-risk youth. We believe that a network of support can be created to help children rise above a lack of parental supervision, gangs, substance abuse and more.

Our vision is to place FJJ Chapters in all 46 counties across South Carolina to serve at-risk youth. These chapters will work closely with DJJ, schools and community groups to address factors that often lead to juvenile delinquency. In addition, they will provide tactical assistance to DJJ County offices and field support, such as probation officers and supervisors. Our Goal: Keeping kids in school and out of DJJ. For those who are placed away from home, we want to help them make real changes...To become caring, productive citizens.



“Kids today are pulled in so many directions. They need significant relationships with adults to help them resist things like gangs, drugs and sex.”

– Chris Ledley, Youth Pastor,
Sandhills Community Church

We also envision 130 Teen After School Centers (or TASC's) across the state. Since many children ages 10 to 17 are largely unsupervised during after school hours, it is not surprising that this critical time each week sees the bulk of teen crime, drug use, gang activity and unprotected sex. National research shows that children who have TASC available to them are 75% less likely to become engaged in illegal activity. TASC Centers are a safe haven where children can receive homework help, training on computers and the benefits of healthy adult role models. Many TASC's will be located in churches providing at-risk children with on-going values education, spiritual guidance and socialization skill building. TASC's will help kids in YOUR COMMUNITY, making it a safer and better place to live and raise a family.

Kids in an after school program are 75% less likely to become involved with crime.



Teen After School Centers (TASC)

- Kids 12-17 get in trouble after school, between 3 and 7 pm weekdays.
- TASC's give kids a safe place to go after school.
- Mentoring, homework help, spiritual guidance are offered.
- Kids may also learn valuable employment skills.

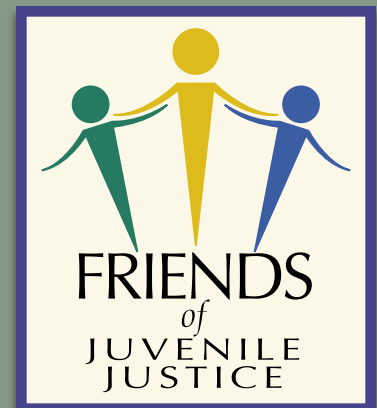
We can develop, staff and equip an effective TASC for as little as \$25,000 per year working closely with a community-based partner. Just as the DJJ TASC program was beginning to benefit our state's children, budget cuts caused 18 of them to close. FJJ wants to make re-opening these centers and adding new ones as quickly as possible a top priority. To accomplish this goal, we must help raise the additional funds, create partnerships and fully develop its network of statewide chapters.

An FJJ Chapter in each South Carolina county...

- A resource for community groups serving youth.
- Helping DJJ staff, volunteers in their communities.
- Starting and maintaining programs like Teen After School Centers.
- A connecting point and delivery point to help kids stay in school and out of trouble.



**Keeping at-risk kids involved
keeps neighborhoods safe.**



Rehabilitation: Changing lives behind the fence.

We've learned from the past that locking children away warehouse style may serve to punish them, but it will not make them the productive citizens we all want them to be. South Carolina has earned a national reputation for applying a strategy based on surrounding incarcerated youth with healthy adult role models and the benefits of a loving, caring community.

Budget cuts have closed dorms, delayed projects and forced DJJ to focus on only core services to the youth behind the fence. At Friends of Juvenile Justice, we know that the people of South Carolina want to do better. We're working to create a vast statewide network comprised of community partners like churches, schools, civic groups and concerned volunteers to enhance DJJ's innovative, award-winning, therapeutic approach.

"South Carolina has earned a national reputation for applying a strategy based on surrounding incarcerated youth with healthy adult role models and the benefits of a loving, caring community."



Our crowning achievement to date has been the construction of the Bill Rogers Community Connections Center. More than 2,000 people a month use this state-of-the-art facility, which allows a safe, comfortable place for adults to interact with the kids behind the fence. Family visits, which are critical to a child's successful exit from the DJJ system, are up more than 75% since the center opened. Volunteer mentors are also crucial, and FJJ plays an integral role in recruiting and training them on an on-going basis.

FJJ also helps connect incarcerated children with pastors and counselors, both in person at the Bill Rogers Center, and via video conferencing facilities across the state. As beneficial as the Rogers Center has been, more can be done. Through additional funding, FJJ hopes to expand its programs and build on its success across the state. Your county, city or town will be safer and South Carolina will be an even better place if we can achieve this goal.

Every school needs parental and community support to succeed. FJJ provides some of what is needed to support and enrich the education of children who are in DJJ's care. This is accomplished by providing direct aid for supplies, equipment, special programming, speakers and more.

Community partners are helping train DJJ kids behind the fence in a wide range of job skills and many are directly involved as adjunct teachers, mentors and volunteers. The need is great as students inside DJJ face the challenges of an increasingly complex world driven by technology. Additional funding will help meet these needs so that children emerging from DJJ will be more likely to succeed.



"Our crowning achievement to date has been the construction of the Bill Rogers Community Connections Center..."

...Family visits are up more than 75% since the center opened."

A life changed: Quantavis

Like a lot of young boys, Quantavis dreamed of going to college and playing football. But the allure of drugs and fast money landed him in DJJ. He was only 15.

Quantavis shot a man trying to steal his stash of cash and drugs. "I didn't care if he lived or died," he said about his crime.

But that was then, this is now. After earning his GED at DJJ, Quantavis found a love for public speaking. Today the 18-year-old is a "Messenger of Justice," a special group of kids trained to speak on the impact of personal choices, to helping others avoid their own mistakes. He was released in 2008 and now is studying mathematics at South Carolina State University.

"We need FJJ. Like a lot of kids in trouble, I was a follower. It took good adult role models to show me how to change. I wanted to be different, but this was all I ever knew. I had to be shown that I could take control of my own life."

– Information reported in the *Orangeburg Times-Democrat*, used by permission.

HELP WRITE MORE SUCCESS STORIES.

A place called...Hope Street



Parents do the best job of raising their own kids. But what happens to formerly incarcerated youth who have no parents, or whose parents themselves are addicted to drugs, members of gangs or even serving time in prison? Increasingly, kids successfully completing the four step therapeutic programming inside a DJJ facility have nowhere to come home to. And even more tragically, many can't or should not go "home" because that place is nothing more than the threatening, debilitating environment that got them in trouble with the law to begin with.

Friends of Juvenile Justice supports DJJ's vision for Hope Street, a network of half-way houses, group homes and special programs to provide community-based "wrap-around" care for kids returning to the community. This is the greatest need and funding challenge South Carolina has ever faced. At FJJ, we believe in creating a web of public-private support across the state to turn the dream of Hope Street into a reality.



Some kids completing DJJ programs have no place to go home.

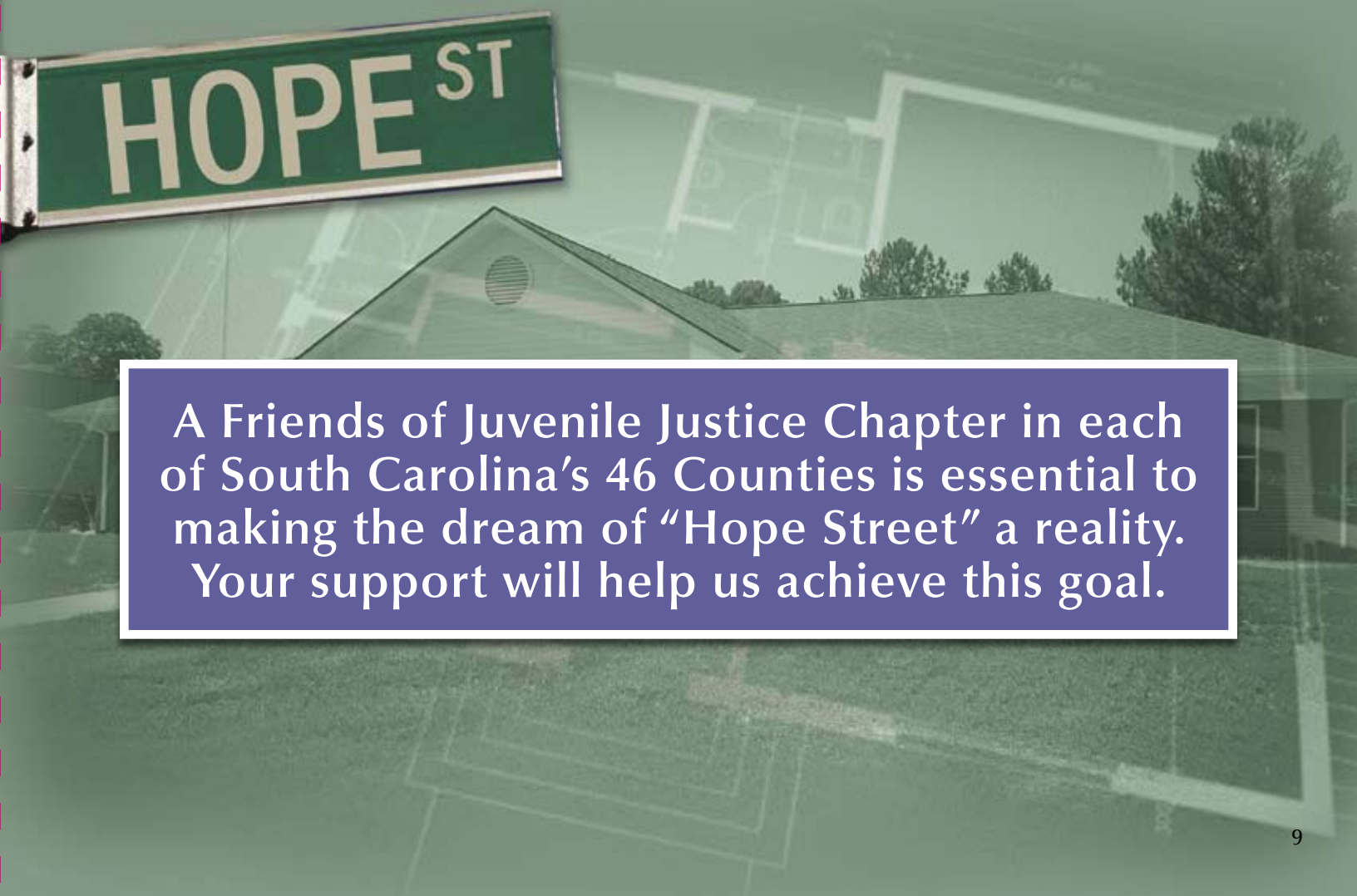


Hope Street will provide housing and community-based wrap-around care.

Successfully deterring a formerly incarcerated youth from crime takes a team approach. DJJ has a proven track record of reducing recidivism by putting Intensive Supervisory Officers, (ISO) multi-disciplinary professionals with limited caseloads of not more than 20 juveniles, into the community to lead a team for each child. Parents, clergymen, social service professionals, educators and even employers work closely with a child's ISO to keep them on a customized path of continual self-improvement. While funding for ISO's has remained in tact through the recent budget cuts (a testament to how well this concept works) FJJ believes in raising the funds needed to help develop the web of support each ISO needs to adequately staff teams for the children in their care. Establishing FJJ Chapters in each of the 46 counties is at the very heart of this effort.

With your help, we can build Hope Street!

- A network of halfway houses, group homes, special programs.
- Providing "wrap-around care" for kids returning to the community.
- Greatest funding challenge SC has ever faced.
- FJJ will partner with other non-profits, as well as foundations, community groups and organizations to make this dream come alive.



A Friends of Juvenile Justice Chapter in each of South Carolina's 46 Counties is essential to making the dream of "Hope Street" a reality. Your support will help us achieve this goal.

Will you be a friend?

Friends of Juvenile Justice wants to change young lives, restore hope to communities and help make South Carolina an even better place to live. From after school centers to prevent teen crime and community-based support to keep kids out of the DJJ system, to engaging businesses and civic groups to mentor incarcerated youth to giving Intensive Supervision Officers the kind of resources they need to keep parolees from recidivating, FJJ has a vision for South Carolina being a model for the whole nation on how to deal with the crises of gangs, drugs and youth crime facing us today. We boldly ask for your support. You may choose to join us with your dollars or your time, but we need both if we are to save these kids and make our communities safer.

Our objectives:

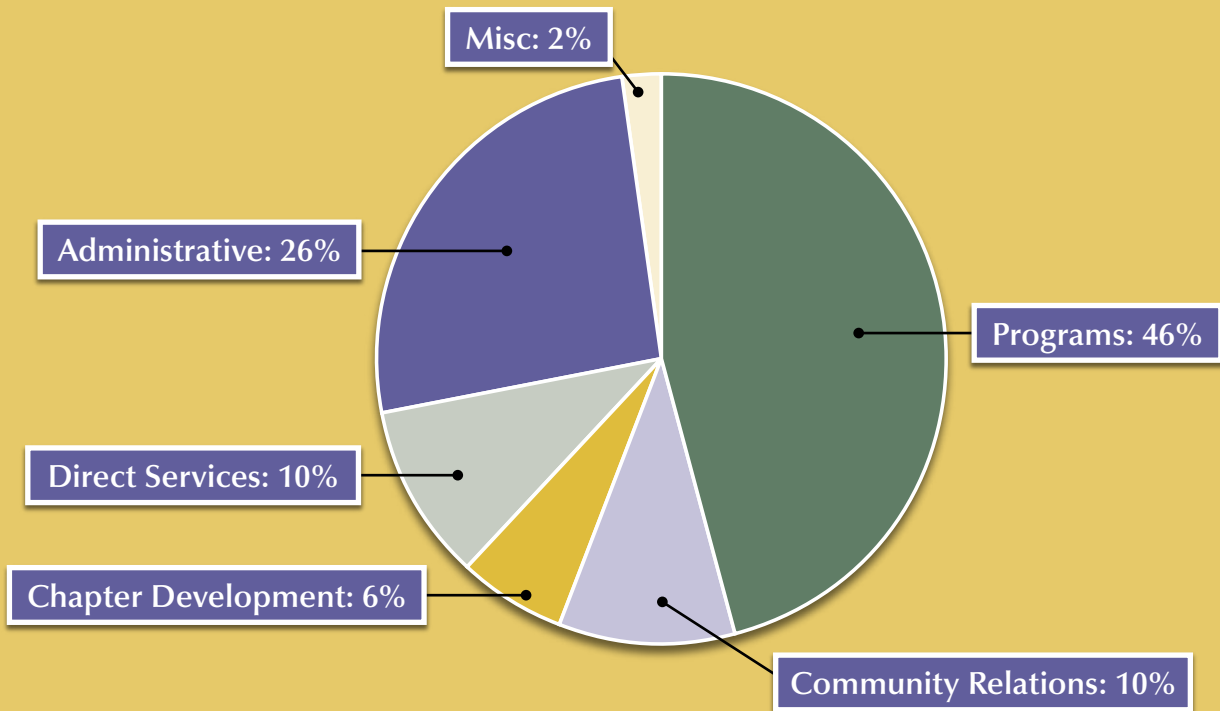
- Develop a network of Friends of Juvenile Justice chapters to service all 46 counties in South Carolina.
- Secure funding and partnerships to help create as many as 180 Teen After School Centers (TASC) across the state.
- Implement a statewide awareness effort to increase volunteer mentors, Auxiliary Probation Officers and other community support by 50% by 2011.
- Work closely with DJJ, develop a strategic plan for “Hope Street,” a statewide network of halfway houses, group homes and wrap-around services for parolees leaving incarceration designed to reduce recidivism.
- Through FJJ Chapters and community partnerships create a support network for each Intensive Supervision Officer (ISO) by the end of 2010.

Expense breakdown:

FJJ Chapter Development	\$62,000
TASC Center Network Development	\$36,000
Volunteer/Mentor Recruitment	\$26,000
Hope Street Strategic Plan	\$14,500
ISO Support Network Development	\$22,000
Capacity Building Activities.....	\$42,500
Direct Aid Programs	\$45,600
Other	<u>\$11,200</u>
	\$259,800

Where the money goes...

- 501c3 non-profit organization
- Gifts are tax deductible
- FJJ is audited annually
- Copies of our financial accountability policy are available



How to be a friend...

Friends of Juvenile Justice welcomes the support of anyone concerned about at-risk youth across our state. We would like to suggest the following levels of commitment:

- Statewide Friend - \$10,000
Your generous gift will go to work right away, touching the lives of at-risk and incarcerated youth in all of South Carolina's 46 Counties.
- Regional Friend - \$5,000
Your significant donation will make a difference in youth in a part of our state.
- County Friend - \$1,000
Your valued contribution will assist FJJ in developing its chapter network and touch the lives of dozens of youths.
- Friend - \$85 (\$35 for approved community partners.)

Your gift shows you care about changing lives through FJJ as a member of our organization.

Our Board...

Charlotte Berry, Community Volunteer - Board Chair;
Louise Slater, President, The Price Group - Past Chair;
Timothy M. Ervolina, CEO, United Way of SC
- Chair Elect;
Robert LaFitte, President, LaFitte Construction - Secretary;
Clente Flemming, President & CEO, SC Community Bank
- Treasurer;
Judge Bill Byars, Director of DJJ;
Dr. Karry Guillory, Deputy Director, DJJ;
Steve Peeples, Vector Foundation;
Bernard Barnes, SC Retirement System;
Jimmy Reed, City of Columbia Law Enforcement;

Jorge Calzadilla, Executive Director, Clemson University's
Youth Learning Institute;
Harry Davis, Jr., Director, Children's Law Center;
Stacey Atkinson, Community Director, DJJ;
David Lockwood, III, Senior VP, Coliers & Keenan
Real Estate;
Karen Blackmon, Russell & Jeffcoat;
Rev. Michael Bond, Community Volunteer;
Ivan Earle, Primarica Financial Services;
Rev. Cesar Richburg, Williams Chapel
AME Church, Orangeburg;
Rallie Seigler, volunteer

Dear Friend...



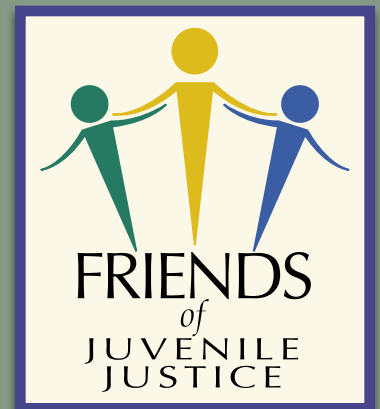
Thank you so much for your interest in becoming one of the Friends of Juvenile Justice. We'd be thrilled to have your support as we work to help communities reclaim South Carolina's children by turning young lives around. The task at hand is daunting, some say impossible. We want to prevent teen crime, dramatically cut the recidivism rate for incarcerated youth and build a public-private network of care that will be a model for the entire nation. No one has ever done this before! It's clear, the only way we will succeed is if everyone gets involved. We're looking for hearts, hands and dollars to make our dreams for South Carolina's children a reality. Won't you join us?



Jerry Grimes – Executive Director
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Mission Statement:

FJJ is a non-profit organization that was established in 2005. FJJ collaborates with individuals and agencies within the public, private and independent sectors to provide resources, attention and care to at-risk and incarcerated youth. Understanding the mammoth tasks with which the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) has been charged, FJJ serves DJJ by providing programs, advocacy and funding for prevention, rehabilitation and reintegration programs.



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