

Pat Tuthill  
Florida Juvenile Justice Foundation  
2737 Centerview Dr.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Pat,

At Kids and Canines we transform lives. The children in our programs are here because a teacher, counselor or therapist has identified them as an at-risk child. These children have experienced hardships from abandonment and abuse to emotional and mental disabilities, and as such their future is uncertain.

Every child in our program has a story, many similar to that of Antonio's. Antonio has been living in a group home for the past two years. His father wasn't in his life much, spending time in and out of prison until he left for good. His mom is unable to care for him. As a child Antonio spent his time trying to find a safe place and survive. He bounced around until he became a ward of the state. At 17 he still carries those scars.

I have gotten to know Antonio over the past eight months. He may have come into our program a shy child who was slow to trust but at Kids and Canines he shines. He arrives every day, smiling, ready to train "his" dog Lucy. Here Antonio has found acceptance and caring. His confidence has grown, so much so that he volunteers with the younger kids and is quick to instruct the other trainers. And because of the skills he has learned while in our program he recently applied for a position with a local pet center.

The magic of our program is simple. We take one rescued dog and one at-risk child and bring them together with a purpose. While the dog is being trained for therapy work, they serve as heroes giving their student trainers the best therapy ever – unconditional dog love. Through the process the child learns empathy, dedication, social skills and the importance and successes that comes from hard work.

Our funding comes from individuals, like you, who believe that together we can change a child's life. **Thank you!** Together we are changing lives and giving disadvantaged children important life skills, emotional support and mentoring.

With gratitude.

  
Kelly Hodges  
Executive Director



No goods or services were provided in exchange for your donation. Kids and Canines is a 501(C)3 charitable organization, federal ID # 47-4925881. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling (800) 435-7352. State registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the State #CH-1227.