

EMPOWERING FUTURE LEADERS



Did you know?

Florida is in the top three locations for human trafficking in the United States. Broward County, the location of Grace Place School is in the top two counties for sexual exploitation of minors.

Our students are at a high risk of being recruited into sex trafficking, drug trafficking and other destructive lifestyles. They are some of the most vulnerable youth in the community.

Many people see them as delinquents, throw aways, troubled, difficult and *even hopeless.*

We see them on the road to hope as future leaders!

But, this road to hope isn't easy. It's often long, filled with many twists, turns and wrongful injustices.

One recent example of the reality our students face began with a call from a mom...

"Sorry, but I wanted you to know that my son was shot and is in the hospital with a shattered elbow so he won't be able to start school tomorrow."

Stunned, I hung up the phone wondering what had happened. When his best friend came the next day, he was agitated, scared, and confused. Turns out, he was with our other student and they both were shot at in close range. They took off running and miraculously they were not killed. I was reminded once again of the extreme vulnerability of our students at Grace Place School.

The shooting was a result of the students being a "good Samaritan" intervening in a fight when they witnessed a woman being beat up by a man who drove up in a car. Revenge and retaliation are driving forces in their worlds, so we not only needed to help them process the trauma and fear of being shot at with the intent to kill, but also how to respond in a way that would not lead to further violence. *Not an easy task.*

Since then, the students have faced many more difficult circumstances such as being set up with an older man and enduring rape, the death of a cousin who was shot, illness and chaos in their homes, the rape and rescue of a close friend, a rocky transition from a group foster care home to independent living, and being robbed at gunpoint.

The good news is that through all the rough and traumatic times, they are still choosing to faithfully come to Grace Place where we can provide the love of God, hope, and healing while still preparing them practically for success in the academic and work world!

**Please prayerfully consider Grace Place School
in your end of year giving so that more students
can experience hope and a brighter future.**

In order to effectively respond to the many needs of our students (and future students), we've set a goal to raise \$75,000 by December 31st. This is a big goal, but necessary to continue to provide the excellent programs these students deserve. The funds will be used to help cover **staffing and academic scholarships** in 2022. We are committed to providing full or partial scholarships to all students. Most of our students are not able to afford tuition due to their life circumstances.

Thank you for being a faithful partner to
Grace Place School. We couldn't do this without you!

Blessings,

Elizabeth

Elizabeth Coldren,
Founder & Executive Director



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*This place has changed my life.
Grace Place is the best thing
that has happened to me!*

- Student

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scan the QR code.

