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CONTACT: Don Jasurda
donjasurda@gmail.com
(248) 321-1378

Theresa Toia
Friendsoffosterkids@live.com
(586) 907-9001

100 MEN CLUB SELECTS Friends of Foster Kids TO RECEIVE \$10,300 GIFT

DETROIT, Mich. (January 13, 2022) – 100 Men Club, a group of local men committed to making a positive difference for metro Detroit families, announced today it is donating \$10,300 to Friends of Foster Kids.

100 Men Club will present the gift during a ceremony set for Saturday, January 15, 2022, at 12:00 p.m. The ceremony will be held at Friends of Foster Kids (FoFK), located at 39126 Van Dyke, Sterling Heights, MI. FoFK leadership and 100 Men Club members will be on hand for the event; members of the news media are welcome to attend as well.

In Macomb County alone there are over 900 children in foster care each year. Many of these children have never experienced the joy of receiving a gift at Christmas. We provide a “Christmas” for foster children in Macomb Oakland and Wayne counties, who have been removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect and placed in temporary housing or shelters. “In a season for family, granting a child’s wish speaks softly of unconditional love from people who care” said 100 Men Club member Jim Mastronardi, who nominated Friends of Foster Kids for the gift.

Each quarter, 100 Men Club members donate \$100 each to a charitable cause selected by membership vote. Candidates for receiving the donation are nominated by any member of the club and can include individuals, programs, nonprofits, community groups, businesses and more. Since 2017, 100 Men Club has donated more than \$243,000 to 21 charities.

Friends of Foster Kids leader Theresa Toia stated, “We are extremely grateful and elated to be chosen as the 1st recipient to receive this amazing gift from the 100 Men Club for the 2nd time! Your thoughtful caring of our local foster youth will allow us to assist and continue to change the trajectory of their lives, one child at a time.

Knowing that under usual circumstances foster children, mainly youths in foster care, are often moved to many different foster homes. Foster youth endure the added trauma of repeatedly losing relationships critical to their emotional wellbeing and social development. The Covid 19 pandemic and shelter in place mandates, have led to an

unreported increase of child and domestic abuse. More kids are being removed from these dangerous situations and placed into foster care, but there are fewer homes that are willing to take them in. In 2021 there were approximately 17,000 children in foster care in Michigan with only 6,000 licensed foster homes. Consequently, the children are being housed out of county, in emergency shelters, childcare facilities, or must transition into independent living at an early age. Your generous donation will provide the additional funds necessary to meet the increase in need, caused by this influx in foster care cases. This is especially critical to the 3 counties we serve, Macomb, Oakland, and Wayne.”

“Since its inception, 100 Men Club has had a substantial impact on our local community and the charities we support. A simple \$100 donation quarterly per member is pooled together for a sizeable contribution,” said steering team member Eric Sterling. “Our members receive regular updates on previously supported charities, which often include firsthand accounts of the impact our donations have made. Friends of Foster Kids is yet another worthy organization much deserving of our membership’s support.”

About 100 Men Club

100 Men Club was founded in December 2016. The members range from recent college graduates to CEOs to retirees, with the common intention to build a tradition of helping others. For each member, the positive energy and camaraderie of 100-plus men with a sincere purpose to “give back” is compelling and rewarding. For more information on 100 Men Club, visit www.100menclub.com

About Friends of Foster Kids

Friends of Foster Kids (FOFK) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in Macomb County, Michigan in 2008. TIN# 26-3886394. From Macomb County alone there are approximately 900 children in foster care each year. Many of these children have never experienced the joy of receiving a gift at Christmas. Friends of Foster Kids has expanded its service to lend a hand to those who have aged out of foster care at age 20 but are still in need of assistance. Many find themselves with no family and no place to live. We help them by meeting some of their basic needs to live independently.

To contact us:

Email Us info@friendsoffosterkids.org

Call Us 586-307-4438

Website <https://friendsoffosterkids.org/>