

Did You Know?

Children At Risk In Palm Beach County

DID YOU KNOW the following sobering facts regarding children who drop out of school:

- While the high school graduation rate in Palm Beach County has risen from 58.8% in 2005-6 to 77.8% in 2014-15, it remains below the national average of 82.0%
- High school drop-outs are significantly more likely to be unemployed than high school graduates (14.9% compared to 10.0%)
- High school drop-outs are more than twice as likely as college graduates to grow up living in poverty (30.8% to 13.5%), and 63 times more likely to be incarcerated for criminal activity
- On average, each high school drop-out will cost taxpayers \$292,000 over his/her lifetime



Dropping out of school is not just a problem for the children and their families, it is a problem that has an economic impact on everyone. The principal reasons for dropping out of high school are a perceived inability to keep up with the work, teen-age pregnancy, criminal incarceration and drug and alcohol addiction. Studies have shown that between 3:00pm and 6:00pm (when adult supervision is at a low point -especially in single-parent families) is the peak period for juvenile crime and experimentation with drugs, alcohol, and sex. Thus, after-school programs that keep adolescents out of trouble and/or assist them with their studies and project assignments have proven highly effective in reducing the high school drop-out rate. In 2016, your BallenIsles Charities Foundation supported the following four such programs which have played a critical role in improving the County's high school graduation rate:

- **Jack the Bike Man** which employs teenagers after school to repair bicycles;
- **Urban Youth Impact** which conducts an afternoon educational program in a high crime area of West Palm Beach;
- **The First Tee of the Palm Beaches** which conducts an afternoon program teaching golf and good citizenship; and
- **Inlet Grove Community High School** which conducts an after-school reading/mentoring program in Riviera Beach.

Your BallenIsles Charities Foundation is proud to support these not-for-profit programs which are *Making a Difference* in the lives of at-risk children.

This is just one aspect of our efforts. To find out how **you** can **help** make a difference, visit us at www.BallenIslesCharitiesFoundation.org, or call us at **561.625.5701** or email us at info@BallenIslesCharitiesFoundation.org.



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Making a Difference

Having Awarded \$1.265 Million Since Its Inception 5 Year Ago