



Friday, March 27, 2020

To Our Valued Partners,

As our communities continue to feel the increased impact of Coronavirus, we feel it is important to share with you that we have made the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 STARS National Conference, taking place June 21-24, 2020.

As difficult as the decision is to make, we know it is the right thing to do with the information that we have. There are still too many unknown factors and almost daily changes that could affect the conference and the work that it takes to make it happen. The health, safety and comfortability of our parents, students, chaperones, speakers, vendors and funders is of the utmost importance to us. We based this decision on:

- Ensuring that all our stakeholders (students, parents, vendors, speakers, staff, funders, etc.) felt safe to attend the conference, which we felt wasn't possible with the amount of changes that are occurring daily
- Honoring our partners and students coming from out of state or far away by letting them know now
- Recognizing that registration would be going on right now and this would put parents and students in an uncomfortable position with the amount of unknown factors that we are all currently facing

The STARS National Conference has become an essential part of our students' summer activities and provides an opportunity to learn and grow, make connections and have fun. We are currently exploring possible alternatives, but it is unclear at this time what that would be.

Please reach out to us should you have any questions or concerns. We understand that this is a challenging time for everyone, and we welcome your input and/or ideas as we work towards supporting our students, schools and communities that we work with and care deeply about.

Thank you for your continued support of our mission, students and the communities we serve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elycia Cook". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Elycia Cook, President & CEO



720.981.9193



7100 E. Belleview Ave., Suite 303  
Greenwood Village, CO 80111



info@friendsfirst.org  
friendsfirst.org

***We educate and mentor teens to make positive life choices and develop healthy relationships***