



**KICKS 4 KIDS**

### **What is Kicks for Kids?**

The mission of Team Chip Tae Kwon Do Centers is to empower people through the pursuit of martial arts excellence. This includes not just physical empowerment, but mental empowerment, too. So while Team Chip students learn self-defense and other martial arts skills, they also learn courtesy, integrity, self-control, perseverance, and other life skills. Team Chip seeks to build not just great athletes, but great people. Unfortunately, empowerment through martial arts is sometimes out-of-reach for those who need it most. To remedy this, Team Chip established Kicks for Kids, a non-profit organization that provides underprivileged children access to martial arts. We hope that by training these children in martial arts, that they will learn skills to be leaders at home, at school, and in the community.

### **What does Kicks for Kids do?**

Kicks for Kids provides tuition for children to train at Team Chip Tae Kwon Do. They also furnish other items essential to class and to martial arts development, including uniforms, gear and testing fees. Kids can also earn other items, like t-shirts and private lessons, through good grades and positive behavior at school and home. When possible, Kicks for Kids matches children with a Team Chip Mentor. This mentor builds a relationship with the child and can answer questions about Team Chip life, keep parents informed about events, and provide transportation to Team Chip classes.

### **Who qualifies?**

To qualify, applicants must be referred by a school, agency, or Team Chip member; they must be between the ages of 7 and 17; their total household income must be equal or less than federal poverty guidelines; and they must complete an application and in-home interview. Other factors considered for admission include academic performance, school behavior, home behavior, family environment, neighborhood environment, community involvement, ongoing poverty risk, and child factors.

### **How do I refer a child? How does the family apply?**

To receive an application packet, contact Lisa Merchant at 674-2424. There are two parts to the application packet: one part for the parent to complete and one part for the referring school or agency to complete. The referring agency will complete and return the Agency Referral Form and OHIO Scale W form. The parent will complete and return the Participant Application and OHIO Scale P. After we have received both parts of the application, we will arrange an in-home interview to get to know the child and the family better. Kids are strongly encouraged to try class a first.

### **What if I have questions?**

Please contact Lisa Merchant at 674-2424 or 665-7480 and she will happily answer any questions.

**Kicks for Kids  
School/Agency Referral Form**

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Child: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

School/Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Does this child live at or below the poverty line?    Yes    No    I'm not sure

**Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability. Detailed responses will help the Applications Committee in making decisions.**

Please describe any problems this child has had at school, including difficulties with teachers, peers, or learning:

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Please describe this child's home life, including living arrangement, relationships with other family members, and any environmental stressors: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please describe the child's risk for ongoing poverty, including the stability of income, housing, parental employment, utilities, clothes, transportation, and other necessities: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability. Detailed responses will help the Applications Committee in making decisions.**

Please describe the child's physical and mental health history; history of abuse or neglect; use of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco; involvement in sports or other leisure activities; involvement in other organizations (church, Big Brothers Big Sisters, CPS); and any other information about the child that may be important: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please describe the child's strengths: \_\_\_\_\_

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How do you think Team Chip Tea Kwon Do will help this child: \_\_\_\_\_

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Is there anything else we need to know: \_\_\_\_\_

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Thank you for completing this form. Please return to:

Kicks for Kids  
2218 S. 14<sup>th</sup>  
Abilene, TX 79605

Please contact Lisa Merchant at 674-2424 with any questions.