

## *Abused children can't wait*

Doug asked Tyrone to sit at the back of the class and administered his own impromptu eye test. Tyrone could not distinguish letters on the board until he was in the second row of the class – and even then it was a struggle.

Tyrone needed glasses.

“Within two weeks, he had glasses,” Doug said. “They were these black, rectangular glasses and he looked really nice in them and was proud to wear them. But, most of all, he could see.”

By the end of the school year, Tyrone was on grade level academically and on track behavior-wise, no longer a distraction now that he could see and participate in class work and learning.

“At times, there are big things I can do that make a difference,” experienced advocate Doug says. “But I find the little things can be the most meaningful to the kids and me. Here’s a boy who’s disruptive in school, not progressing and so he assumes he’s stupid. That label could have stuck for life.

“But he wasn’t stupid. He just needed glasses. And I helped make that happen.”

