

STANDUP

newsletter



LIBERTY ENLIGHTENING THE WORLD

A week and a half ago we celebrated Independence Day. For some it is the greatest holiday of the year, and for others, they don't know what Independence

Day really is or what it means. The Statue of Liberty, standing in New York Harbor, is a monumental sculpture that symbolizes freedom throughout the world. The formal name of the Statue of Liberty is *Liberty Enlightening the World* and in her right hand she holds aloft a burning torch representing liberty.

After 13 years of walking the streets, we're well aware that most homeless and street kids do not know the meaning of freedom or liberty! These kids certainly don't have much to celebrate on the 4th of July, or any other day for that matter! Some give up everything they know or have just to survive on a daily basis. There is no freedom when you constantly live in fear. The greatest fear is that some-

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one will hurt you! Some kids do get seriously hurt!

We've committed ourselves, as a program, to continue to walk the streets and offer kids whatever help we can give them. Now, more than ever, we need your help so that we can continue helping them! Go to the "Contribute" button on our web site and you'll see the several ways you can make a difference in our program. With you on our side, we can begin to at least offer them the first step on the road to liberty, peace!

Best Regards,
Rick Koca
Founder & CEO

PICK A PRIZE...ANY PRIZE!!

Looking for a simple way to win a big prize? Well look no further than www.unraffle.com. In order to win the prize of your choice, you must select the charity you would like to support (**STANDUP FOR KIDS!**), and scroll down to enter. Next, just complete the online entry form and explain, in 200 words or less, why you would like to win your selected prize. If their panel of 3rd party judges chooses your entry, you will be the winner. Upon winning the contest your charity will also receive a donation on your behalf for a cash value equal to the amount of your prize. Enter as many times as you like.



This site was created by Jonathan Sandberg, in honor of his father Norman C. Sandberg. Norman was a director for **STANDUP FOR KIDS** and passed away in August of 2001. So please take a minute today to visit this website to benefit both you and **STANDUP FOR KIDS** in an incredible opportunity. Don't miss it!!

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SQUATTER SAYS "DON'T RUN AWAY!!"



Bob is a former street kid who now volunteers for **STANDUP FOR KIDS**. In addition to working with the **San Diego Program** almost every evening, this year he will take on a new identity as Squatter! Squatter is the "star" of the

Don't Run Away Program, aimed at preventing kids from running away. This year, **STANDUP FOR KIDS** plans to start 1,000 clubs in high schools and colleges across the nation in order to reach one million kids with the Don't Run Away Presentation. Bob says his main message to kids who are being abused is that it is not their fault and they CAN do something to change their situation! Most kids don't run away before age twelve, but abuse and other problems in their early years are often what drive them to the point of running away. Thus the Don't Run Away Program focuses its efforts on third through eighth graders. This week, interns at the National Office in San Diego will be making presentations to third and fourth graders at Linda Vista Elementary!

THIRTEEN CHILDREN
DIE ON THE STREETS
EVERY DAY.

YOU can help change this statistic!
Help with the Don't Run Away
Program!

Call 1-800-365-4KID or
email savannahg@standupforkids.org

MIKE & BRIAN ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Michael Dorn, National Director of Training, will be visiting Portland, Tacoma, and Seattle during the dates of July 14-21. He will give an initial presentation, as well as meet with prospective leadership volunteers in Portland to help start an outreach program. In Tacoma, Mike and Brian Haslip, National Trainer - Washington, will be meeting with current and new volunteers in an effort to continue the growth of their program. In Seattle, Mike and Brian will also meet with the volunteers, joining in efforts to bring them closer to becoming a program. Way to go guys, keep up the good work!!



GIRL MEETS BOY

A special thanks to Kelly Milner Halls and co-editor Terry Davis for their upcoming contribution to **STANDUP FOR KIDS!** With the arrival of their newest book, *Girl Meets Boy*, they have volunteered to donate a portion of their profit, as well as make a cash donation to our organization. This book is an anthology for young adults and will be hitting the shelves by July of 2004. **STANDUP FOR KIDS** greatly appreciates the sacrifice and generosity shown to our program!



AN AUCTION IS COMING!!

The Catherine Hill Foundation presents the first annual Blue Angel Gala, benefiting **STANDUP FOR KIDS**. This fundraiser, conducted by Betsy Hill Didelot, is in memory of her twin sister Catherine, who was a border patrol agent and volunteer for our organization. It will be held at the Sheraton Harbor Island Hotel in San Diego on Friday, September 26. For more information, go to www.catherinehillfoundation.org or call 1-800-365-4KID.



A NEW ARRIVAL!!

When you're as cute as this, you should get your picture in our newsletter! Our tremendous congratulations to Brian & Wickit on the arrival of their daughter Chloe. Both Brian and Wickit were street kids in the San Diego program and have been off the streets for almost three years. We are very proud of you two!



BIKIN' WITH THE EAGLES

Out of Bozeman, Montana comes a woman who will be biking to benefit two non-profit organizations: Eagle Mount and **STANDUP FOR KIDS**. For the fourth year in a row Lisa T. will be taking off on Tuesday, August 26th, and completing her journey on Friday, August 29th. One hundred percent of the profit raised from this 350+ mile ride will be given directly to these two organizations.



Contributing to "Bikin' With the Eagles" is a way to support these two programs and enable them to succeed. Financial contributions can be paid to Eagle Mount (6901 Goldenstein Ln., Bozeman, MT, 59715, Phone (406) 586-1781). Also you can check out Lisa's website at www.student.montana.edu/~lth.



PROGRAM UPDATES

GIVE A STANDUP FOR KIDS TRIBUTE!

Jo Clark is Executive Director of the **Bremerton/Silverdale Program**. She is a mother, grandmother, and is retired from 20 years with Civil service. She has been the Executive Director since 2000 and was Secretary for several years, having

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joined **STANDUP FOR KIDS** in 1997. Jo was awarded "Leader of the Year" at our National Conference in 2001.

During Jo's years of working for **STANDUP FOR KIDS**, she has found it to be the volunteer job of her heart. She feels that it has taught her new skills, brought her many wonderful new friends, expanded her life almost beyond recognition, and provided her with an opportunity to really make a difference in the community. **STANDUP FOR KIDS** cannot thank Jo, and volunteers like her, enough for their hard work and dedication to the program.

ODWALLA

The **Bremerton/Silverdale Program** is very appreciative of the weekly donation of juice and boxes of Odwalla bars. This is such a large contribution financially, however, the biggest boost to our program is knowing we can rely on them from week to week.



Many of the youth who receive the juice are pregnant or nursing mothers. These teenagers are the least likely to have access to nutritious food, so it is a particularly significant gift that leads to better health for the young mothers and their infants.

KIDS HELPING KIDS

The **Bremerton/Silverdale Program** was able to replenish their supply of fall and winter clothes this week through donations of lost & found items from three local schools. I don't think it would be an exaggeration to say we received almost two tons of clothing! It is certainly a great windfall for those kids who benefit from our organization. It was a lot of work, completed by a few faithful volunteers, and their help is greatly appreciated. We would also like to give a hand to our supporters at the various schools who remember **STANDUP FOR KIDS** and the kids they help.





GET YOUR FLOWERS HERE!

Flowers are the perfect gift, especially when your purchase will benefit the receiver and numerous homeless and street kids. By simply ordering your flowers from

<http://www.growerflowers.com/default.asp?id=41624>, **STANDUP FOR KIDS** will receive 20% of your order price. To your advantage, all flowers are guaranteed to come fresh directly from the grower. If you are not completely satisfied with the quality of your product, it will be replaced free of charge! What an incredible opportunity to bless someone with beautiful, fresh flowers, and provide a meal for a homeless child!

READING FOR CHARITIES



Readers, interested in helping **STANDUP FOR KIDS**? Zachary Weiner has designed a contest to benefit a charity. Recently, he has published *City At Night*, an urban-oriented thriller guaranteed to challenge your perspectives. Upon reading this novel, you can visit his website at www.cityatnight.bravepages.com, and vote for your favorite charity. The organization that receives the most votes will automatically receive 15% of the book sale profits.

The creation of this contest stemmed from Zachary's passion to better the world. It is obvious he believes strongly in the mission statement of **STANDUP FOR KIDS**, and therefore has chosen us to be a part of his contest. Zachary stated, "STANDUP FOR KIDS has a lot of characteristics that I found to be noble and representative of the cause: the volunteer based nature, the hard work they accomplish, and the placement of funding back into the programs. I think the cause and the way it is dealt with is indeed rare and refreshing to see."

The book will be released in stores around mid-August. If you are interested, please enjoy your reading, and vote for our organization on his website.

"TO THE KIDZ ON THE STREET"

The following is a letter from a previous street kid who currently serves in the United States Army:

To the Kidz on the Street -

Just a few short years ago, I made the sidewalks of Denver my bed, and walked in the freedom and sorrow you live now. Today I am in Iraq, dreaming of Denver and it's wonderful free life. I have heard of the tragedy that has plagued the streets since I have left, and my heart goes out to your loss. Times are hard and life has a way of getting harder, but I want you all to know that you are all important. I miss you guys, and I wish only the best for you all, I can't tell you how much I worry about you.

Indulge in your freedoms for me -
Kevin

SHOUT IT OUT!



We are just as excited about your experiences volunteering with **STANDUP FOR KIDS** as you are!

Let us know what you are doing so we can put your story in the next newsletter! Share your pain, success, and enthusiasm with others who are dedicated to saving homeless and street kids! Don't hesitate! Please email all your stories to

newsletter@standupforkids.org!!!

HOW FAR WOULD YOU WALK TO HELP A HOMELESS OR STREET KID???

You would be surprised at what one previous street kid answered to this question!! Check the next newsletter for exciting details of an upcoming journey!!!