

# STANDUP

## newsletter



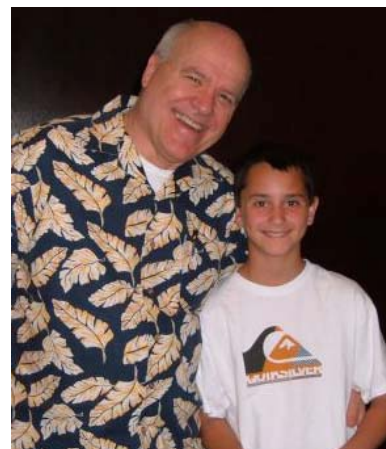
Photo by Nicholas Koca

### FORDHAM UNIVERSITY—GLOBAL OUTREACH AWARDED GUARDIAN OF KIDS AWARD

Rick Koca, the Founder & CEO of STANDUP FOR KIDS, recently presented a Guardian of Kids Award to Fordham University Global Outreach Center for their work with STANDUP FOR KIDS over the past six years. Colin Dunnigan, seen here with other students from Fordham, is accepting the award on behalf of Fordham Global Outreach. Colin is making his second trip from New York to work with the street kids in San Diego. Fordham University is the first college to receive a coveted Guardian of Kids' Award. Rick told the students that "no college had dedicated more time and support to STANDUP FOR KIDS than the Fordham Global Outreach program." Further, Rick said; "you have every reason to be proud of your significant achievement!"

### What can an 11 year old do?

Hello this is Dominic, This is my story about how I raised a thousand dollars: My faith formation group leaders gave each of the kids 20 dollars to make a change in the world. For awhile I put this project aside until I realized that I needed to do something because I had a deadline. I went online and looked up charities for kids. As a result,



(Rick and Dominic T.)

STANDUP FOR KIDS showed up. When I visited the website, I saw the slideshow. I was saddened by the pictures of kids living in cardboard boxes. These pictures made me feel that I needed to do something and fast! It also made me realize that I was really lucky to have a good home, food and people that love me. In order to raise money I needed a way. The way I chose was to send out letters asking friends and family that I know to match my 20 dollars. In total I sent out 52 letters and received 36 responses. That's more than 70%. This showed me that even young people like me can make a difference in the world. I hope I can continue to help STANDUP FOR KIDS with fundraisers and outreach in the future. I want every kid to have a chance to succeed in this world.

*Sincerely, Dominic T.*

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STANDUP FOR KIDS  
1510 Front Street, Suite 100  
San Diego, California 92101



# Thank You BABSON CAPITAL



The past few months have been an exciting time for KIDS — STANDUP

FOR KIDS received an \$80,000 donation from Babson Capital Management in February, we have been gearing up to open an Outreach Center in the fall. The grant is for an Outreach Center here in Boston, and a new Outreach Program in Charlotte, North Carolina and Springfield, Massachusetts. Babson Capital has employees in each of these locations, and wanted to make a commitment to the communities where they have a presence. So, in March, we doubled the size of our volunteer force and recently increased Outreach to two nights a week. In hopes of increasing awareness about homelessness, gaining new volunteers, and raising money, we have been speaking at local schools. We recently spoke at Northeastern University and at an alternative school program in Wakefield. A local high school in Winchester put on a Prom Fashion Show with all ticket proceeds benefiting STANDUP FOR KIDS - Boston. They also distributed flyers, collected hygiene products for us and sold purple ribbons to raise awareness.

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## Accepting the Challenge

STANDUP FOR KIDS — Detroit accepted a challenge that Sprint put to them. Get more people to send us their email address and 'vote' for STANDUP FOR KIDS— Detroit as their favorite charity. Then, beat the rest of the charity competitors in Detroit. Well the volunteers in our Detroit program took up the challenge. And, beat the competition hands down. The prize for **WINNING THE COMPETITION?**

# \$25,000

STANDUP FOR KIDS— Detroit is our newest program and are certainly showing us their determination and commitment.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

be the message  
stop the



## Contribute

*Click Here*

STANDUP FOR KIDS: A registered charity with *America's Charities* and a member of the Combined Federal Campaign.  
**Look for our number: 0670**

**Please report child abuse**

**1.800.4ACHILD**

[www.childhelpusa.org](http://www.childhelpusa.org)



## The 2006 National Health Care for the Homeless Conference

**What:** 2006 National Health Care for the Homeless Conference

**When:** June 8-10, 2006

**Where:** Hilton Portland & Executive Tower, Portland, OR

**Who:** Sponsored by the Health Resources and Services Administration, Bureau of Primary Health Care.

**Conference Coordinators:** Policy Research Associates, Delmar, NY

Contact: Conference registrar Jason DeStefano at 888-439-3300 extension 242 or [jdestefano@prainc.com](mailto:jdestefano@prainc.com)

Pre-/post-conference institutes: Wednesday, June 7, and Saturday, June 10, 2006.

Description: Experts from around the country will present information, innovative approaches, and challenging ideas on a wide range of topics related to primary health care and ancillary services for individuals experiencing homelessness. This year's conference will feature more than 60 workshops, including special sessions presented as part of the HCH Policy Symposium. It will also feature keynote speakers, poster presentations, a resource area, and tours of local programs.

**June 8-10, 2006 • Hilton Portland & Executive Tower, Portland, Oregon**

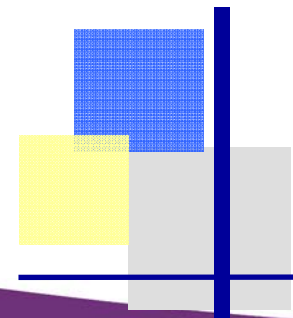
Conference information and materials are now online at [www.bphc.hrsa.gov/hchirc](http://www.bphc.hrsa.gov/hchirc).



*The mission of STANDUP FOR KIDS is to help homeless and street kids. This mission shall be carried out by a national volunteer force whose on-the-streets outreach efforts will find, stabilize and assist homeless and street kids in their efforts to improve their lives. The organization's mission shall also be furthered through deterrence and resource programs provided in schools and via the internet. All facets of this mission shall be guided by the mandate that our volunteers shall tell kids they care about them and then, at every turn, prove it.*



STANDUP FOR KIDS—Atlanta conducted a major event in the Olympic park in Atlanta. Read the details here. There is still time to donate to this event and make a difference in the lives of the homeless and street kids in Atlanta. **Thank You!**





## Expanding HUD's Definition of Homelessness: A Call to Action from the National Policy and Advocacy Council on Homelessness

June 2005, the U.S. Conference of Mayors passed a resolution expressing concern about homeless families and youth and urging the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) to adopt a common definition of homelessness.

Since then, views about the issue of homeless definitions have evolved through discussions among many housing and homeless organizations across the country.\* The prevailing view that has emerged is that the real problem with homeless definitions is not the lack of a common definition, but more specifically the ways in which the current HUD definition of homelessness excludes many homeless people - particularly families, children, and youth.

Anchorage, AK Mayor Mark Begich, sponsor of the original resolution, will introduce a new resolution at the next meeting of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, June 2-6, in Las Vegas. **The new resolution will specifically call for HUD to expand its definition of homelessness to include people who are sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason, and people living in motels.**

The new resolution is an important item for advocacy for several reasons. If passed, it would put a major constituency - U.S. Conference of Mayors - on record as supporting a homelessness policy that better responds to the needs of families, children, and youth, and that gives greater flexibility to communities to address locally assessed needs. Further, it would help raise the visibility of homeless definitions in the current legislative debate on the reauthorization of the HUD McKinney-Vento Act programs, helping pave the way for legislative changes.

**Please find the following resources linked below:**

- 1) The new resolution  
[http://www.npach.org/homeless\\_resolution2006.pdf](http://www.npach.org/homeless_resolution2006.pdf)
  - 2) An abstract from a position paper released last year by five national organizations;  
[http://www.npach.org/definition\\_paper\\_abstract.pdf](http://www.npach.org/definition_paper_abstract.pdf)
  - 3) A letter from national, state, and local organizations to HUD Secretary Alphonso Jackson;  
[http://www.npach.org/nlchp\\_federal\\_definition.pdf](http://www.npach.org/nlchp_federal_definition.pdf)
- For more information, please contact NPACH Executive Director, Brad Paul, [bpaul@npach.org](mailto:bpaul@npach.org) and at (504) 524-8751

## Students Show Commitment and Compassion Through "Alternative Spring Break"

While the words "Spring Break" may conjure up images of beach parties or private getaways, for students from Drexel University and University of Vermont - Burlington spring break provides an alternative: community service.

Ten college students from the University of Vermont in Burlington and fourteen students from Drexel University in Philadelphia elected to spend their spring break this year with StandUp For Kids chapters in Atlanta, GA and San Diego, CA. In each case the Alternative Spring Break (ASB) experience was part of a wider university initiative to encourage students to become more deeply involved in community service and volunteerism.

For the ASB team from University of Vermont visiting Atlanta, the week of service included intensive training, leafleting at local colleges, fundraising activities and a night of outreach on the streets of downtown Atlanta. The Drexel ASB crew will spend its week in San Diego providing support to the drop-in center and outreach teams, as well as getting a taste of life on the streets first hand with a "24 Hours on the Streets" experience.

The long term impact of student involvement with local chapters of StandUp For Kids can be profound. In many cases students return to their home towns ready to get involved in the local chapter in an on-going basis. In some cases student participants have gone on to become new chapter developers in other communities as they leave school and move across the country.

STANDUP FOR KIDS thanks this year's ASB teams for their commitment and compassion!

*Erik Christensen*



## Another year on the streets!





### Meet our National Board of Directors

Sharon Cooper	Houston	Chairman of the Board
Eddie Rodriguez	San Diego	Member
Clint Rodenfels	San Antonio	Member
Rick Frommeyer	Minneapolis	Member
Amanda Grant	Boston	Member
Ryan Flynn	San Diego	Member
Livis Freeman	Raleigh	Member
Rick Koca	San Diego	Member



*Almost twice as many children will die on the streets this year than died on 9/11.....  
Their terror continues everyday!*

**Volunteer — Click Here**  
It just takes a ~~minute~~  
Commitment!



STANDUP FOR KIDS - Oceanside was a recent recipient of 6 refurbished computers from the *San Diego Futures Foundation*.

The San Diego Futures Foundation (SDFF) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the futures of San Diego County's kids, teens, seniors, veterans, disabled individuals, and other community members by providing access to technology resources and training. SDFF is proud to continue bringing technology to San Diego nonprofits, schools, and families. Oceanside Thanks SDFF for their generosity in helping Oceanside reach the Center's goal of being able to provide computer access to our kids who attend charter school classes. This gift means sharing of computers during school hours will no longer be an issue. The kids, who work and study independently, can now focus on their work without interruptions.

### **7 days. 1 Life Changing Experience - Alternative Spring Break 2006**

An alternative spring break program sent a team of Philadelphia Drexel University students to San Diego to engage in community service with STANDUP FOR KIDS. As our program here gets ready to commence outreach within the next month, many of the Drexel students expressed their interest in joining our team following their positive experience in San Diego.

**Erika:** "...Between training in Philadelphia, talking with Bill, staying in the Outreach Center, and finally meeting the kids, I was anxious to participate in outreach and help out in any way possible..."

**Suzzy:** "... Lee (..) had no shame in showing his scars from where he shot drug needles into his arms and burn marks that he had on his body as a result of trying to release his anger ..."

**Garrett:** "...Continuing along the beach, we came across a few more guys sitting by a fire. We stayed with them for about a half-hour – "the fire's for everyone" – and Brian played guitar with one of the guys..."

**To read their full stories visit:**

[www.standupforkids.org/local/pennsylvania/Philadelphia/](http://www.standupforkids.org/local/pennsylvania/Philadelphia/)