



 StandUp
for kids

One life at a time.



Annual Report

2018

About StandUp for Kids

StandUp for Kids is a 501(c)3 national, nonprofit organization founded in 1990 by concerned individuals who saw a need to help their community.

We have 18 chapters in cities across the country, run almost entirely by volunteers and in some cases, a small office staff. Volunteers fill a variety of positions, including local Executive Directors and other vital leadership roles.

StandUp for Kids intervenes in the lives of homeless and at-risk youth and young adults from the ages of 12 to 24 in hopes of assisting them in getting off of the street and into stable and secure housing, school, and/or employment.

We rely on the generosity of individuals, charitable foundations, businesses, and other organizations to fund our operations. As a charitable organization, monetary donations, Gifts-In-Kind, grants, and endowments help fund operational expenses at the national and local levels. Eighty-six cents from each dollar goes directly to support local efforts on the streets. Eight cents goes to administrative support and six cents to fundraising.

For the impact and scope of our programs, we have been recognized by the administrations of President Barack Obama, George W. Bush, and Bill Clinton, as well as the U.S. Department of Justice.

Our Vision:

We strive to build communities where all youth know care, feel loved, and have a support system to move quickly from surviving to thriving.

Our Mission:

Ending the cycle of youth homelessness.



One life at a time.

About Our New Look...

In 2018, StandUp for Kids went through a makeover with the assistance of our internal marketing team and the Dalton Agency based in Atlanta. We agreed that what was essential to our identity with youth was our name and the color purple. (In some cities on street outreach, kids will call out, "Hey purple people!") But we knew it was the right time to update our logo and look. We arrived at a modern, energetic, and heartfelt icon, a more youth-centered font, a clean style template, and a tagline that perfectly captures the way we go about our mission: One life at a time. We hope that it speaks to you the same way that it has to us.

A Note from Our Board Co-Chairs



Eddy Ameen, PhD



Robert Peters

StandUp for Kids has been addressing youth homelessness for close to three decades. Twenty-nine years ago, we started as a small organization serving one community in San Diego. Today we are a network of eighteen locations spread throughout the country, aiding thousands of homeless youth. In 2018, several of our existing programs expanded their geographic reach and grew the types and levels of services they provided. Additionally, we added two new programs to our roster (Takoma, Washington, and Miami, Florida). These efforts, together with the great work performed by our national network of volunteers, resulted in 47% more positive contacts with young people compared to 2017. That means nearly 150 times each day, we were able to connect youth with life-sustaining resources.

A stroll through our blog offers a mosaic of accomplishments made by the youth we care about, a tribute to the dedication of our staff and large volunteer base, and a well of gratitude for our donors. But, not every accolade ends up on the web. Some of our most treasured moments only leave indelible marks on our hearts. Like when a youth returns to our outreach center holding a paycheck in their hand, proud for finding and maintaining their new job. Or, when a mentee walks across the stage at their high school graduation, fulfilling what was previously considered an impossible dream.

Ms. Valerie Rogers, a social worker in Roswell, Georgia recently commented on the kids we mentored in her school. "Because of you, their eyes have been opened to new worlds, new experiences, and new possibilities of things they thought were for someone else. Because of you, they know kindness and compassion and unconditional love. I have said it time and time again: StandUp for Kids doesn't just change lives, it saves lives." Valerie, thank you for seeing what we wish to put into the world.

Does all this mean we're ending the cycle of youth homelessness? In some corners of the country, and for some very precious lives, the answer is a resounding yes. Does it mean we will rest on our past accomplishments? The answer is a resounding no.

Our work entails heartbreak, no doubt, but we persist to restore hope where there is trauma. If you are reading this annual report, then you have been on some part of this journey with us. Thank you for contributing your gifts of time, skill, and finance.

In 2019 and beyond, we aim to house 20% more young people each year, open three new outreach centers, and launch a youth entrepreneurship program. We hope you'll continue to travel with us.

Sincerely,
Eddy Ameen & Bob Peters
Board of Directors Co-Chairs

Our Services

To engage in our mission of ending the cycle of youth homelessness, we have built four core services: Street Outreach, Outreach Centers, Housing Support, and Mentoring.

Street Outreach

Street Outreach counselors go directly to the streets to reach homeless kids. Volunteers walk the streets in known “hotspots” and other areas where youth congregate, in order to distribute food, clothing, hygiene products, resource information, and referrals. Our volunteers make it a point to be accessible at consistent times each week in order to build relationships with homeless youth. Our volunteers ensure the youth get connected to the other services we provide, as well as to trusted community resources.

Street outreach volunteers meet youth where they are, assess their needs, and facilitate harm reduction. It's a hard job accepting the reality that some of our youth will spend another night on the streets. Some youth we meet are not ready to go into a shelter; they may distrust systems of care or fear losing the friendships that keep them alive on the street. Other youth may not be lucky to secure a limited shelter bed, or the shelter may not be able to meet their needs for safety and age-appropriate services.



Outreach Centers

The intent and purpose of StandUp for Kids Outreach Centers is to provide safe and protective environments for homeless and at-risk youth.

An Outreach Center helps provide the support network of basic human needs and development through educational programs, one-on-one counseling, and an ongoing atmosphere of hope and concern.

Outreach Centers May Offer:

- A safe environment to rest
- A safe place to make meaningful relationships with caring adults
- Referral services for available programs in the community
- Meals and snacks
- Telephone messages and mail service
- Vocational training and/or job referral services
- Apartment finding services (and assistance with furnishing)
- Identification services (Birth Certificates, Social Security Cards, etc.)
- Structured life-skills and other wellness activities
- Shower and laundry facilities



Housing Support

Once we're successful in helping kids get off the streets, the real test begins. If it takes several months to get someone into housing, it may take twice that long working with them in an apartment environment before they feel fully capable and comfortable with taking care of themselves. Housing Support teams will monitor their situations, and help young renters build a life centered around their community.

Housing Support May Include:

- Assistance in locating and taking care of an apartment
- Life skills training, including the fundamentals of living alone and supporting one's self
- Developing a follow-up plan after being placed in an independent living situation
- Weekly food baskets
- Clothes
- Furniture
- Counseling and moral support
- Referrals for medical and dental support
- Housing stipends



Mentoring

During mentoring sessions, youth develop a goal plan and mentors help them prioritize and execute their plan. Mentors act as guides, role models, and accountability partners for these youth. Mentoring is conducted in school, after school, and in our Outreach Centers.

The goals of school-based mentoring are to increase high school graduation rates and foster a love for learning. Through academic support, we develop participants into high school graduates. We provide life and career counseling, computer access, and homework help. By planning for self-sufficiency, we promote exploration of vocational training, college, entrepreneurship, and gainful employment opportunities.

Many StandUp for Kids locations utilize the small group mentoring model in their Outreach Centers. There, young adults ages 18 through 24, are provided with resources and support needed to overcome challenging situations. Mentors assist with educational support, resume and interview preparation, obtaining birth certificates and developing life skills. Mentors set goals, assign homework and obtain referrals to other professionals who are available to assist with each youth's specific needs.



Our Values

We believe in promoting a way of treating homeless youth that is unique and infectious.

Our role is to be care advocates, not case managers; friends, not service providers; community organizers, not the sole source of respite.

We treat each youth as an individual capable of making one's own decisions.

We provide all youth with voice and choice.

We respect the individual diversity, beliefs and decisions of each youth.

We possess integrity and commitment. We aim never to make a promise we cannot keep.

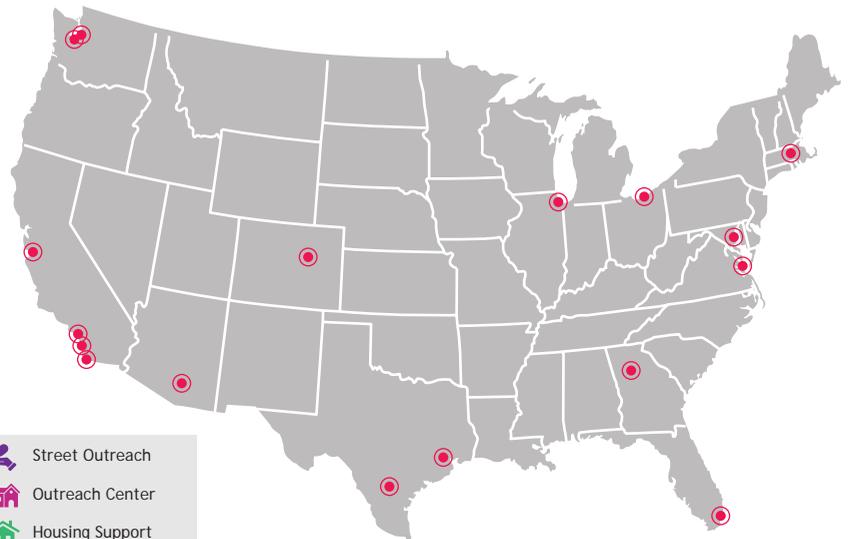
We interact as role models.

We find creative and frugal solutions to a wide range of individual and community needs.

We forge connections and empower local communities and our nation to help homeless youth.

We are humble about our role as volunteers; tireless in our efforts to help youth in need; and dedicated to our mission and vision.

Where We Are



-  Street Outreach
-  Outreach Center
-  Housing Support
-  Mentoring

Arizona
Tucson 2004 

California
Oceanside 2001  
Orange County 2003    
San Diego 1990    
Silicon Valley 2008   

Colorado
Denver 1991 

Florida
Miami 2004 

Georgia
Atlanta 2003  

Illinois
Chicago 2004   

Massachusetts
Worcester 2008   

Ohio
Cleveland 2006 

Texas
Houston 2005   
San Antonio 2006   

Virginia
Hampton Roads 1991    

District of Columbia
Washington D.C. 2000  

Washington
Kitsap County 1992  
Olympia 2010  
Seattle 2008 

Our Impact in 2018:



53,929
Incidents of Support/Services to Youth



29,501
Meals Provided



2,107
Youth Reached for the Very First Time



640
Youth Housed



49,314
Volunteer Hours



9
Outreach Centers Operated



About the Youth We Serve

Each year, more than 1.3 million youth find themselves experiencing homelessness in cities, towns, and suburbs across the United States.

There is no one definition of homelessness. Our kids have been displaced from their homes due to conflict, abuse, or neglect. Some have been experiencing homelessness in the short-term, while for others, it has been years. Some cannot return home, while others refuse to. Some stay in cheap hotels, outside in parks, or in abandoned buildings, and others couch-surf or stay in homeless shelters not designed to meet the needs of young adults. Many are forced into situations they don't have the experience and skills to evaluate and manage.

Each kid we meet on the street has a unique story. Our job is to listen.

Histories of the youth we serve:

- Sexual exploitation
- Identification as a member of the LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning) community
- Untreated and/or undiagnosed cognitive and physical disabilities
- Untreated and/or undiagnosed mental health problems
- Involvement with juvenile justice and foster care systems
- Identification as an undocumented immigrant
- Family economic instability

Our young people's backgrounds may include:

- Human trafficking and sexual and physical assault
- Acute diseases
- Unwanted pregnancies
- Drugs and alcohol misuse
- Suicide



As Marcus says, "I grew up in my mother's house but fought with her constantly. At the age of 14, I decided my best option was to move out. I was their first kid at the Center when it opened it and stayed a regular, coming every week. They have helped me with ID, making sure I have clothes for job interviews and have referred me to housing. I saw the nurse for some of my health concerns. I now have my own place and a steady job. I still talk to my mom, and sometimes she lets me stay overnight, but we just don't get along well enough for me to stay too long."

For Every Dollar Spent

We are proud to report that 86 cents of every dollar spent supports our charitable programs.



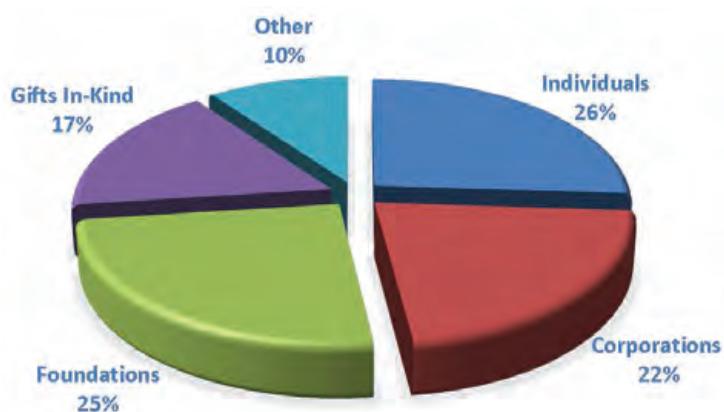
86¢
Direct Youth Support

8¢
Administrative Support

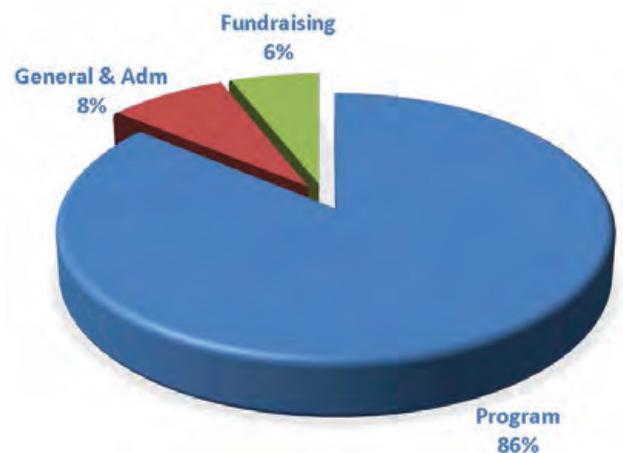
6¢
Fundraising



2018 Audited Financial Data



Revenue by Sources \$1,978,000



Expenses by Function \$1,575,000

2018 Board of Directors

EDDY AMEEN, PhD
Board Chair
Associate Executive Director
American Psychological Association
Washington, DC

SUSAN DUDAS
Member at Large
President
Edge on Performance LLC
Alpharetta, GA

ROBERT PETERS
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Portland, OR

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Assistant Professor
University of Iowa
Iowa City, IA

NIKKI WATERS
Member at Large
Branding/Marketing Executive
San Diego, CA

JIM DOOLEY
Member at Large
Sr. VP of Sales and Marketing
Virtual Premise
Atlanta, GA

JUSTINE PALMORE
Treasurer
Executive Director
StandUp for Kids - Orange County
Irvine, CA

These individuals served for at least one quarter in 2018 before some of their terms ended. You can find our current board roster on our website and our full list of 2018 members on our 990 form.



"It gives me joy in my heart to go out and engage with the kids. Volunteering with StandUp for Kids has opened my eyes to how real the issue of youth homelessness is."

*- Adrienne N.
Volunteer*

Thank You to Our Supporters

Generous supporters like you helped us invest in long-range goals and increase our year-over-year service contacts with youth by 47%.

Out of respect for the privacy of our donors, we have chosen not to list their names in our annual report.

Supporters came through at each of the following gift levels:

Circle of Prosperity

\$20,000 and Above

9 Donors

Circle of Transformation

\$10,000 - \$19,999

16 Donors

Circle of Healing

\$5,000 - \$9,999

28 Donors

Circle of Hope

\$2,000 - \$4,999

52 Donors

Circle of Compassion

\$1,000 - \$1,999

87 Donors

Circle of Love

\$1 - \$999

1,218 Donors

Champions for Youth

79 Donors

StandUp for Kids provides you with the opportunity to impact the lives of youth in your community without having to dedicate any time from your busy schedule. Our monthly giving program allows you to choose the amount you wish to give, automatically deducts it, and immediately puts it to use helping young people in need. Become a Champion for Youth today by visiting bit.ly/standupchampion.



As Mikaila says, "At twenty two years old, StandUp for Kids has truly changed my life. I was introduced to drugs when I was only sixteen, and had it not been for StandUp for Kids, I may still be in the same place I started off. I was introduced to StandUp for Kids by a family friend, one of the mentors in the program. StandUp for Kids assisted me in getting into a rehab facility, and with groceries, hygiene products, job readiness, goal setting, and overall emotional support. The apartment support program helped me learn how to manage my life with work and budgeting. The organization helps kids like me get out of trouble. Now, within the next few years I hope to be working full time and have my own place. As for advice for anyone in the position I once was, know there is help, and you can accomplish your dreams."



Making a Difference

StandUp for Kids empowers homeless and at-risk youth toward lifelong personal growth, and creates in these youth a sincere belief in themselves through open, straightforward counseling, mentoring, and life-skills training.

National Office:

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StandUpforKids.org

