OUR MISSION:
Ending the cycle of youth homelessness.
We do this in 18 different locations across 11 states and the District of Columbia.

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 CORE SERVICES:
Street Outreach Outreach Centers Mentoring Housing Support

LEARN MORE:
StandUpforKids.org

Today there are more than 1.3 MILLION known homeless young people in the United States displaced due to conflict, abuse and neglect.

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

Our Goals Over the Next Three Years:
- Increase Youth Housed by 20% Yearly
- Open 3 New Outreach Centers
- Launch a Youth Entrepreneurship Program
Homelessness is a growing concern in the United States, and youth are one of the groups most at risk. Without the stability of a home or a family, young people under 25 are vulnerable to a range of negative experiences including exploitation and victimization, and they face devastating barriers in life, hindering their ability to re-assimilate into their communities. Unaccompanied youth (ages 12-17) are at a much higher risk for assault and other forms of victimization.

Out of 100 unaccompanied youth:

- 46 Come from abusive homes.
- 75 Dropped out of school.
- 60 Are never reported missing.
- 33 Have engaged in survival sex within the first 48 hours of being homeless.
- 17 Have been sexually abused by a relative.
- 50 Have substance abuse problems.
- 35 Have attempted suicide.
- 23 Have stolen to survive.

StandUp for Kids has been serving the homeless youth population since 1990. We work to assess youth in need, connect them to resources to help them in their times of need, and assist them in developing plans to get out of their often untenable or unjust situations and move toward much greater stability.

StandUp for Kids meets the needs of thousands of youth each year through a variety of services. Working together, we change the story from struggling to thriving.

Street Outreach

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 to build relationships with youth, ensuring they get connected to other services we provide, as well as important community resources that we trust.

Outreach Centers

Several of our locations have safe spaces where youth can drop-in to rest, receive a hot meal, access healthcare, meet with our volunteer counselors, and receive help with applications for identification, housing, school, and/or citizenship. Some locations also accommodate shower and laundry facilities.

Mentoring

Youth are paired with mentors who meet with them on a regular basis in schools, outreach centers, or public settings. 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.

Housing Support

Once we’re successful in helping kids get off the streets, the real test begins. Services vary and may include assistance in locating and taking care of an apartment, housing stipends, life skills training, furniture, referrals, and coaching. Housing support teams will monitor situations and help young renters build a life centered around their community.