

STANDUP FOR KIDS ANNUAL REPORT 2023

# MAKING A LASTING IMPACT

2023 was a phenomenal year for re-instilling our core values and streamlining operations at StandUp for Kids!

I have witnessed firsthand the transformative power of our mission. Every day, I am inspired by the resilience of the homeless and at-risk youth we serve and the unwavering commitment of our staff, volunteers, and supporters who make our work possible.

We launched a new **regional focus** with key leaders overseeing our chapters on the **east and west coasts**.

We continue to receive many **Gift In Kind donations** – **\$400k+** in equivalent value in 2023 – including volunteer mentoring hours, a website refresh, and detailed human resources and legal services.

In November 2023, coinciding with National Homeless Youth Awareness Month, our 4th annual "StandUp and MOVE!" national event united communities and brought our cumulative fundraising total to over \$200k.

We are so proud to be chosen by **Alpha Xi Delta**, one of the nation's oldest women's fraternal organizations, for their Kindly Hearts Initiative. This new philanthropic partnership raised **over \$209k** on our behalf through the sorority sisters' "**Letters of Love**" campaign.

### More 2023 highlights:



28,511

meals served throughout our chapters



21.074

hours donated by volunteers



1.639

youth inspired by mentoring & education support



100%

H.S. graduation rate for our Atlanta and Orange County chapters

We continue to evolve to meet the changing needs of our youth and respond to what's happening nationwide. Our ambitious yet achievable plan adopts a more regional approach, along with an exciting blueprint to broaden services and restructure our four core programs. By strategically investing in these key areas, we can exponentially increase our impact:

- Amplify Outreach by combining Street Outreach, Outreach Centers, and our tactics online
- Enhance Housing Support
- Expand Mentoring, in and outside of schools
- Introduce Food Access

Your partnership empowers us to dream bigger, reach further, and transform more lives than ever before.

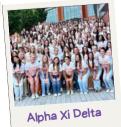
Together, we can pave the way for a brighter future for our nation's homeless youth. I humbly ask you to consider supporting our mission through a generous contribution. I look forward to sharing more success stories with you.

Sincerely,

#### **Kelly Fields**

Executive Director StandUp for Kids











## IT'S DEADLY FOR YOUTH ON THE STREET...

**4.2M** 

experience homelessness each year in the U.S.

Source: NCSL/National Conference of State Legislatures

5,000 will die due to assault, illness, or suicide each year

Source: Safe Harbor Center

69%

suffer from mental health problems

Source: Covenant House

1-IN-5

will become victim to sex and labor trafficking or both

Source: National Network for Youth

75% will drop out of school

Source: National Network for Youth

120%

more likely to experience homelessness if LGBTO+

Source: Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago









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## WE STRIVE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Every single day of 2023, our dedicated staff and volunteers worked tirelessly to ensure that we consistently meet the needs of youth across America.

25,523
points of service through our outreach

28,511
meals distributed to youth throughout our chapters

7,966
nights of emergency shelter for youth

2,855
youth added to our support programs

1,639
youth provided with mentoring and education assistance

952

youth placed in maintained housing with ongoing social services

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# **FOCUSED IMPACT**

Since 1990, StandUp for Kids has served unaccompanied homeless and at-risk youth - and young parents with children of their own up to their 25th birthday. All of them have lived through trauma. Many have survived abuse. Often they're just victims of immense neglect. When we first meet them, they are disconnected and uncertain about what steps to take next.

We help move youth quickly from crisis to connection through our four core programs



## **YOUTH OUTREACH**

#### REACHING YOUTH WHERE THEY ARE

Outreach representatives engage directly with at-risk and homeless youth nationwide. We prioritize developing trust and building relationships to connect them with vital resources. Volunteers distribute essential items like food, clothing, and hygiene products. We collaborate with community partners to support youth in achieving self-sufficiency.



## **HOUSING SUPPORT**

#### **GUIDING YOUTH TO INDEPENDENCE**

Our teams support the transition of youth from crisis to self-sufficiency by promoting and providing housing opportunities. We offer life skills training, counseling, medical and dental referrals, weekly food baskets, and housing stipends. Our focus is to help youth build a communitycentered life and maintain stability.



## **SCHOOL MENTORING**

#### SUPPORTING YOUTH, SHAPING FUTURES

Mentors provide youth with a supportive, consistent adult in their lives. They guide youth in developing and executing goals to increase high school graduation rates. We also promote vocational training, college and secondary education, entrepreneurship, and job exploration.



## **FOOD ACCESS**

#### BRIDGING GAPS TO ELIMINATE YOUTH HUNGER

164 Hunger clouds judgment and leads to poor choices. We provide meals nationwide, whether it's a shared meal with a mentor in school, snack packs from street teams, or hot meals in our centers. Once youth have access to nutritious food, our teams offer regular food baskets and connect them to local resources. This helps them regain dignity, build stable lives, and make better decisions.

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### We love them until they're able to love themselves.

- KELLY FIELDS. **Executive Director** 







## WE MAKE EVERY DOLLAR COUNT, AND WE COUNT ON EVERY DOLLAR.

It takes time, a true commitment, heartfelt dedication, and unwavering support to keep our core programs growing. Your investment can make all the difference in how much our chapters can help and how many youth we can save from the streets. We are grateful for our generous donors and sponsors.



**\$2.8** Operating Expenses





SCAN OR CLICK TO READ MORE

StandUpForKids.org

# LIFE-CHANGING IMPACT



- JUSTINE PALMORE
Executive Director, Orange County, CA Chapter

# CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

AND 20TH ANNIVERSARY

There was much for our Orange County, California chapter to celebrate in 2023, including a history of success and perseverance that has seen so many lives rebuilt, families strengthened, and genuine relationships fostered. Starting in 2003 with just a handful of volunteers, the chapter has grown in both scope and quality of care provided into a dedicated team of 14 employees and 100 volunteers now serving almost 1,400 at-risk and homeless youth ages 12-24.



### What drives all of them is seeing the impact they make. Some highlights:

First outreach center opened in Anaheim

2014

"We Deliver" food and supply program launched

2020

100% of their high school seniors graduated

2021

99% of youth housed still stable at 12-month check-in

2023



FULTON COUNTY, GA STUDENT OF THE YEAR

We love seeing everything come to fruition for our kids. Jaylen is the first TriCities student to receive the distinction of Fulton County Student of the Year. When he joined our mentoring program as a senior, our Atlanta Mentor Coordinator Jackie Perkins "knew he was exceptional from day one." A great student, Jaylen is known for his big smile and equally big heart – launching a "Warm Hugs for Marq" community drive, using his design skills to upcycle garments into a blanket for a homeless neighbor. We are in awe of everything Jaylen has accomplished and so excited to see where life takes him.

"To see these students thrive in the face of adversity has been one of the biggest pleasures of my life."

- JACKIE PERKINS, Atlanta Mentor Coordinator

★ Impressive 3.8 GPA

\$1.5+ Million in Scholarship Offers from 40+ Schools

Pursuing a BFA in Graphic Design

Started the Drive, "Warm Hugs for Marq"







# STANDUP FACES

"It's wild that I plan to be a light in their world with every interaction, each conversation, every time I see them on the street, though they are the ones that end up being the light in my world."

- Street Outreach Volunteer, Atlanta, GA



# STANDUP VOICES



Whether I serve the youth a meal, remind them of the rules, help look for a school or a job, or just relax and laugh - every day is a step in a better direction for each of us.

- KRISTIN Volunteer, Silicon Valley, CA



There are only two options when you recognize a problem. You either turn away and attempt to forget or you do what you can to help. Our young people have been through so much and they deserve a life of love and dignity.

- KIM SISSON Executive Director, Tucson, AZ



StandUp for Kids is not just a program for kids, it's a genuine family for us. I've often felt alone because of the hardships I've gone through, but they always made me feel whole.

- AMERICA LOPEZ StandUp for Kids Youth, Atlanta, GA



I love the idea of matching my heart and my head in a career - using my skills to make a difference in the lives of vulnerable people. Experiencing homelessness doesn't define the youth we serve. It's their stories that matter, and it's their future in which we hope people will invest.

- ERIN MURPHY
National Controller and
Employee of the Year, 2023

# STANDUP WITH US

# MAKE AN **IMPACT**

Be the change and help fuel our efforts around the country to better kids lives.



#### **GIFT YOUR WAY**

We value individual and corporate contributions. Many of our chapters also accept in-kind donations: non-perishable food, clothing, hygiene products, first aid items, bus passes, gift cards, and office supplies.

- One Time or Recurring
- Underwrite a Core Program
- Employer Match
- In-Kind Gifts
- Grants



#### YOUR TIME IS VALUABLE

StandUp for Kids is almost totally run by volunteers at all levels and industry backgrounds. Not only does that make us unique and strong, but we understand the importance of your time and will make you feel like a valued part of our community.

- Join a Local Chapter
- Become a Mentor
- Provide Pro-Bono Services
- Corporate Volunteering



#### **LET'S COMBINE FORCES**

We depend on the generosity of the community and businesses to sustain some of our outreach and fundraising efforts. We view our corporate sponsors as equal partners in our mission to end the cycle of youth homelessness.

- Sponsor an Event
- Organizational Collaborations
- Team-Up for a Project

A VERY SPECIAL

# **THANK YOU**

TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS & SPONSORS WHO SUPPORTED US IN 2023!





My aspiration for StandUp for Kids in 2024 is to elevate our impact, both locally and nationally, by amplifying our message, expanding our reach, and honoring the growth of our mentees as they transition into our future leaders.

> - NATALIE Q. HOGG **Chair: National Marketing Committee**

# StandUp For kids Saving lives. Empowering Putures. WE'RE HERE FOR YOU **National Office** National@StandUpForKids.org 1-800-365-4KID (1-800-365-4543) 200 Nelson Ferry Road, Suite B, Decatur, GA 30030 501(c)(3) non-profit organization FEDERAL EIN: 33-0414855 **FOLLOW & SHARE** © Copyright 2024. All Rights Reserved. StandUp For Kids