StandUp For kids ATLANTA

@sufkatlanta

May 2026

ATLANTA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

graduate edition

HIGHLIGHTS

- Graduation & Student Milestones
- Mentor Impact Spotlight
- School Year Wrap-up
- Community Partners & Sponsors

This is our favorite time of year. We are here to celebrate our seniors who chose to show up, meeting after meeting, even when some have been disappointed by people not showing up for them. Their graduation is an incredible achievement and a powerful testament to their resilience.

To the volunteers who stood by our kids: thank you for being the steady presence they needed. We also extend our deepest gratitude to our donors and supporters. Your generosity provides the resources that make this work possible. It is a simple truth that without our supporters, we would not be able to make the impact we do with the kids. Together, you provided the encouragement and stability that allowed these students to stay the course.

As our seniors move forward, we celebrate the tenacity they have shown and the dedicated community that walked alongside them.

Congratulations to the Class of 2026!

Thank you!

Kelly Fields
Executive Director

@sufkatlanta

POSITIVE CHANGES *Together*

There is so much to celebrate this year. We successfully launched our program at a new school, Decatur High School, in January 2026. We started with a group of 5 students that quickly expanded to 10. We always try our best to match mentors according to the students' needs, and it has been incredible to witness these relationships flourish.

MENTORSHIP AS *guidance*

Mentor Impact

Because of our dedicated mentors, many mentees expressed various ways in which they have felt seen and valued through our program.

"Thank you for allowing me to be in this program."

"You are all my family, my people, you know me so well."

GRADUATION & STUDENT *growth*

- This year, we had 52 seniors, and 100% of them made it to graduation!
- Our students have been accepted to schools such as
- Georgia Southern, Salem College, Georgia Gwinnett, Kennesaw State, Chattahoochee Tech, just to name a few. Many also received various scolarship awards. We are so proud!

NOT JUST GRADUATION, BUT EVERY STEP FORWARD.

We encourage our mentors to stay in touch with our mentees over the summer beyond. It is important that our mentees know they have StandUp in their corner, rooting for them, always

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INTERN *Introduction*

SARA VICKERS

Hi there! My name is Sara Vickers, and I'm so excited to be joining StandUp for Kids this summer as an intern. I'm currently studying public health, and I'm really grateful for the opportunity to be part of such a caring and impactful organization while putting what I'm learning into meaningful work.

This summer, I'm looking forward to learning more about community outreach, youth support services, and the ways we can support young people experiencing housing insecurity. I'm excited to help with outreach projects, community partnerships, and promotion of health equity to connect youth with the resources and support they have a right to.

I'm thankful to be a part of the StandUp for Kids team and can't wait to learn, grow, and contribute however I can!

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UPCOMING UPDATES

We're excited to announce that our Amazon Wish List for StandUp for Kids has been newly updated! This list was thoughtfully created to reflect the most urgent and consistent needs of the youths we serve throughout the year. From hygiene kit essentials to shelf-stable, nutritious food items and other daily necessities, each item reflects our outreach efforts and helps us provide practical, yet meaningful support.

When supporters shop directly from the Wish List link, donations are ensured to match our organization's needs and can be distributed quickly to the youths we serve. It's an easy and meaningful way to provide real support to youths facing significant barriers to stable health and well-being. Every purchase helps remove small but critical obstacles and brings us one step closer to creating safer, healthier outcomes for the young people we serve.

If you've been considering a way to get involved, now is the perfect time!
Visit and Shop Through the Wish List Here:
(Insert Amazon Wish List Link)

Thank you for your continued generosity and commitment to our Atlanta youth.

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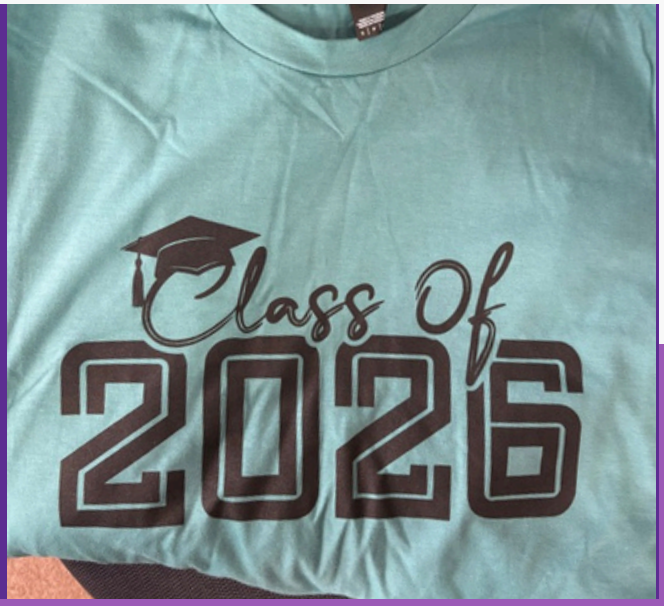
Community Highlights

A special shoutout to the WOAH (World of Asian Heritage) student group at Fifth Avenue Upper Elementary school in, who coordinated and promoted a school-wide donation drive to prepare hygiene kits for StandUp! Thank you for your incredible help, demonstrated leadership, and community impact!

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

All of our graduating seniors receive a class T-shirt as a part of their graduation bag. A big thank you to Lance Gotfredson and the team at Embroidery Express who donated over 50 T-shirts to us. Thank you for continuing to support our cause. Our work would not be complete without you.



Alpha Xi Delta
Realize Your Potential

The Sisters at Alpha Xi Delta have maintained an unwavering dedication to philanthropy. They have organized various fundraisers for us and show commitment to making an impact. We are deeply appreciative of your continued collaboration and look forward to the future.

OTHER SPONSORS

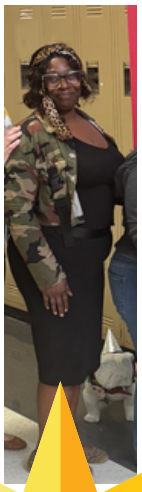
CRC
COUNTRY CLUB OF ROSWELL

amazon

FHLBank ATLANTA
A FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK

FOOD THAT FEELS *like home*

Our Tri-Cities High School Celebration was catered by none other than Auntie Eve - a Philadelphia native with a passion for feeding children. She donated her time and resources to this event, and for that we are forever grateful.
This isn't fast food. This is food that feels like home. You can support Auntie Eve by visiting her website: yafavoriteauntie.com



HOW YOU CAN MAKE A *Difference*

Looking for a meaningful way to give back? We're actively seeking individuals and groups to support our mentoring program and help make a lasting impact in the lives of our youth. There are so many powerful ways to make a difference!

BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPORT

- Donate $10 and $15 gift cards for students achieving their goals.
- Clear Backpacks always needed - visit our Amazon Wishlist.

Spread the word, share our newsletter with your friends and colleagues!
Our mission is only achieved with your support and community awareness.

SPECIAL *Acknowlegdements*

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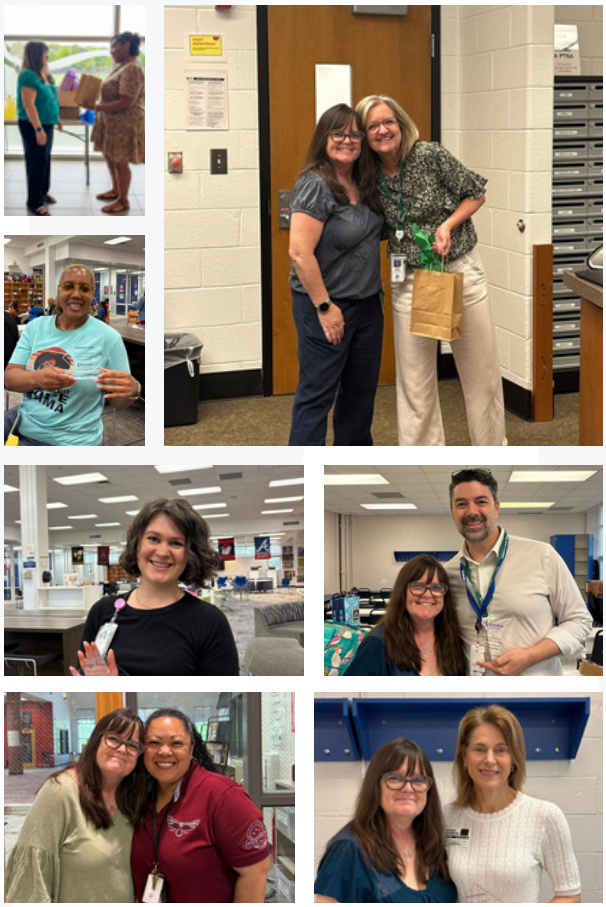
Congratulations to our various award recipients. We strive to often express our gratitude to all those involved in helping us do what we do. Starting from the front desk staff, outstanding mentors, social workers, and new partnering schools. There are often individuals who go above and beyond and these awards are to attest to their incredible efforrts.



"This is an opportunity to be able to help someone navigate the things that they are facing in life. I can't solve all of their issues, but can shed some light."

Angela Young
(SUFK Mentor)

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR *2025*

Dana Gardner

COMMUNITY PARTNER *Award*

Jenniffer Lee

Help spread our mission by sharing our newsletter with your friends and collegues. Your support is paramount to our cause!

PHOTO GALLERY

Thanks for an amazing year!