



ORANGE COUNTY



A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Supporters,

The most powerful thing we do at StandUp for Kids isn't just responding to youth homelessness, it's preventing it. Our teams show up in schools, libraries, and after-school programs across the county, reaching young people while they still have a floor beneath them. We meet them before crisis takes hold, before the system fails them, and before hope runs out.

I've seen what happens when we catch someone early, before the crisis, before the streets, before they stop believing anyone cares. That's the work that changes everything. In 2025, 97% of the young people we served maintained stable housing a full year later. Every high school participant we worked with walked across that graduation stage. Everyone. That doesn't happen by accident. It happens because we showed up, delivering 7,788 instances of support to 1,416 first-time youth, answering 894 crisis calls, providing 11,931 meals, and guaranteeing 1,861 nights of safe shelter for those who needed it most.

David is proof of what early intervention looks like.

At the start of this school year, David was checked out. Not because he didn't care, but because nothing in front of him made sense for someone like him. Core classes seemed like a wall he couldn't climb, and graduation seemed like someone else's finish line. His case manager saw it right away: not a kid who was giving up, but a kid who had never been given the right door to walk through.

Here's what she knew about David: he comes alive when he's building something. Put a problem in front of him that he can solve with his hands, and the lights come on. So together, they explored trade school options, and then it happened. David found a program that stopped him in his tracks. For the first time, he didn't just see a path; he saw his path.

The shift's been unmistakable. He's engaged, motivated, and planning. The young man who couldn't see a future a few months ago is now working toward one with real purpose. Not because someone fixed him, but because someone believed in him long enough for him to believe in himself.

This is why your support matters so deeply. Every dollar invested in early intervention is a young person who never has to know what it feels like to sleep on the streets. Thank you for standing alongside us, and for standing up for our youth.

With gratitude and hope,



JUSTINE PALMORE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



ORANGE COUNTY



StandUp for Kids is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Tax ID Number 33-0414855

OUR IMPACT IN 2025

Consistent Care. Lasting Change.



In 2025, StandUp for Kids Orange County remained a steady source of support for youth experiencing homelessness and instability. With more than 30,000 young people in our community facing housing insecurity, the need for consistent care remains urgent. We meet youth ages 12 to 24 where they are and walk alongside them as they work toward stability and independence. Through mentorship, housing assistance, education support, and daily essentials, we help young people move beyond crisis and begin building brighter futures.

How We Help

Preventive Services

Our Preventive Services program supports youth ages 12 to 18 who are at risk of homelessness or identified under the McKinney Vento Act in Orange County schools. By partnering with schools, we provide mentorship, resources, and guidance to help students stay connected to education and avoid entering the cycle of homelessness.

Crisis Intervention

Our Crisis Intervention program supports young adults ages 18 to 24 who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Through structured mentorship and personalized support, youth gain the tools, skills, and resources they need to move beyond crisis and begin building stable, independent lives.

BY THE NUMBERS: 2025 AT A GLANCE

1,416

Total number of first-time youth served

1,861

Number of nights of safe shelter provided

11,931

Number of meals and groceries provided

100%

Graduation rate for our high school youth

97%

Youth who remain stably housed at one year check in

OUR PROGRAMS



Housing Support

A safe, stable place to call home is essential for a successful future. That's why we support not only unhoused youth but also youth living in motels, cars, shelters, and overcrowded dwellings, helping them find safe and sustainable housing. We prioritize providing emergency shelter and connecting youth to long-term housing solutions that set the foundation for stability and success.



Food Security and Basic Needs

No child should have to face hunger or go without the essentials. Our programs ensure youth have access to food year-round, whether through our food pantry or the volunteer-run **WeDeliver Program**, which reaches youth without reliable transportation. We also provide clothing, hygiene products, and other essential supplies, enabling young people to focus on their education and goals.



Road Map to Success (RMTS)

Designed for youth ages 12–18, RMTS provides a holistic support system to help students graduate high school prepared for their next steps. We partner with 31 schools across 10 school districts, as well as 13 Access schools, to reach and support youth in need. In addition to housing, food, and essential resources, RMTS offers tutoring, advocacy, and mentoring. The program empowers youth to plan for their futures, whether entering the workforce or pursuing higher education.



Journey to Self-Sufficiency (JTS)

For young adults ages 18–24, JTS delivers crucial support during the transition to independence. This includes assistance with housing, food, and mentorship, as well as employment readiness and financial literacy training via our **Work Activation Readiness Program (WARP)**. We also work with youth pursuing higher education, helping them navigate challenges and stay on the path to graduation.

Learn more about StandUp for Kids' Programs



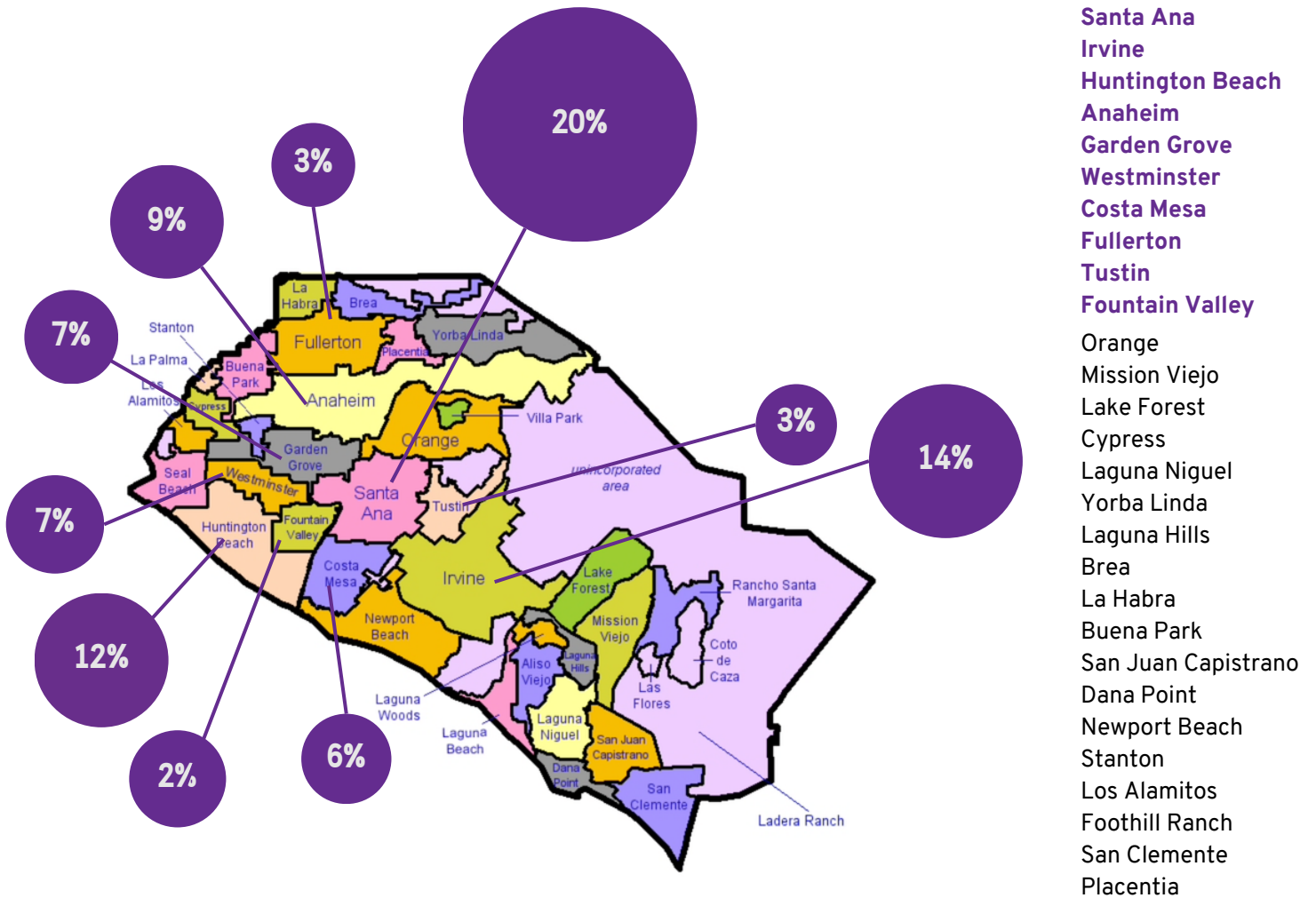
WHERE WE SERVE

Youth homelessness continues to affect thousands of young people across Orange County. According to the 2023 Orange County Grand Jury report, more than 30,000 youth are currently experiencing homelessness or are at risk of losing stable housing

In local schools, nearly 6% of K-12 students face housing instability, creating significant barriers to learning and long-term success. Among college students, the challenge persists, with 1 in 5 reporting housing insecurity during the academic year.

At StandUp for Kids Orange County, we work every day to respond to this need by providing support, resources, and guidance that help young people move toward stability and independence.

In 2025, StandUp for Kids served youth in 28 cities across Orange County
83% of the Youth we served came from ten cities.

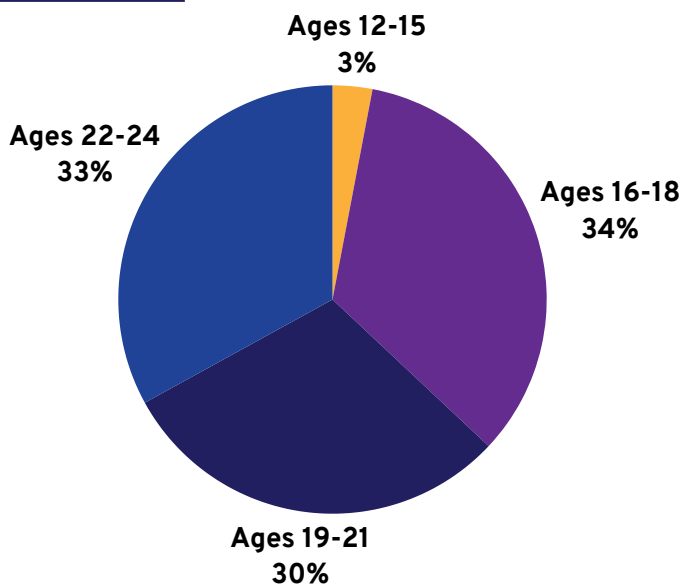


Help StandUp for Kids Serve Youth in Our Community

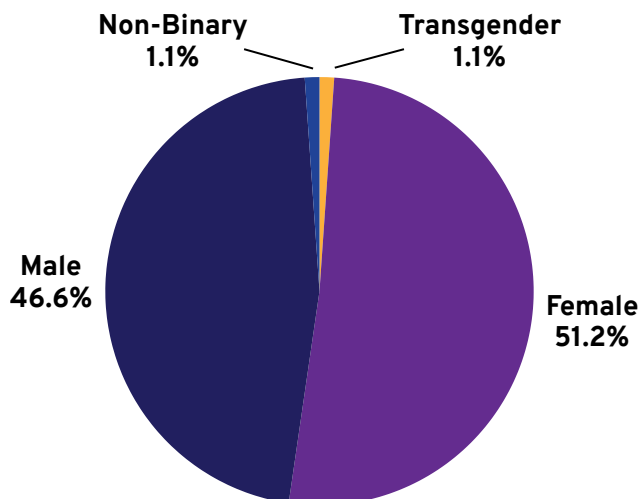


ABOUT THE YOUTH WE SERVE

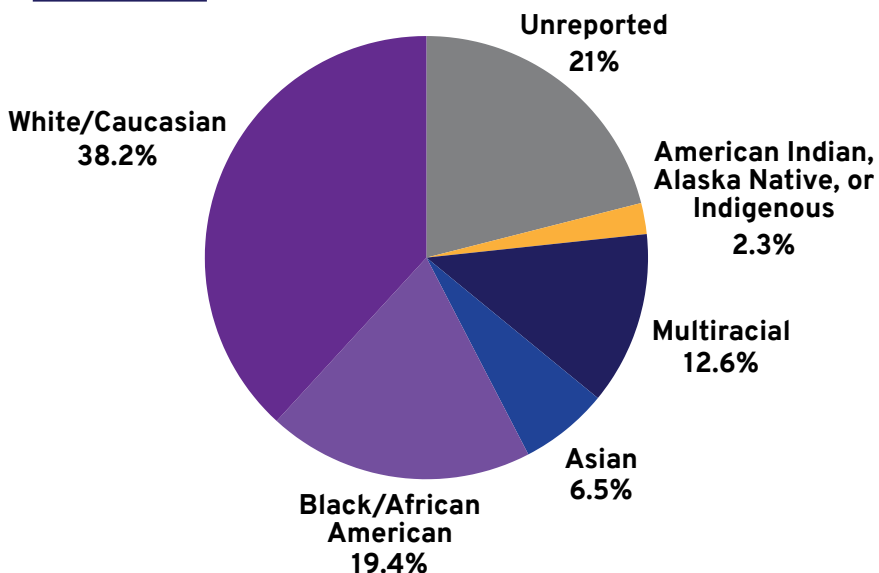
AGE



GENDER IDENTITY



RACE



68%

Identify as Hispanic or Latino

32%

Reported Mental Health Challenges

17%

Have Experienced Domestic Violence

11%

Reported Alcohol and Substance Abuse

8%

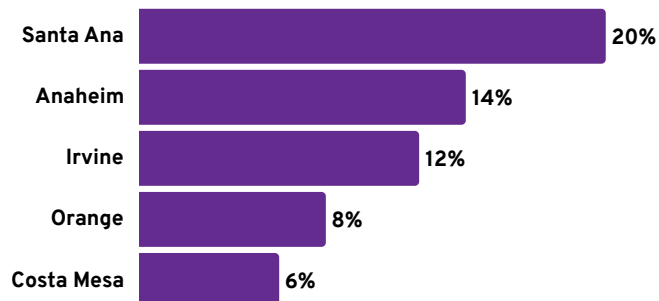
Have Children or Dependents of their Own



888 CRISIS HOTLINE

Our 24/7, toll-free **888-365-4543** hotline operates year-round, responding to distress calls from Youth from across Orange County. In 2025, we received 894 calls through our crisis hotline.

Over half of all calls came from five cities:



FROM A CAR TO THE CLOSING TABLE



When Luis was asked to leave home, he found himself living in his car with no clear path forward. In that moment, stability, opportunity, and direction felt out of reach.

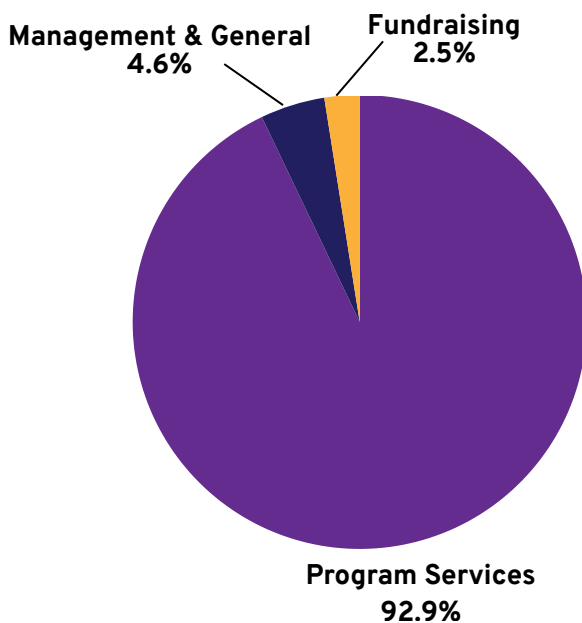
Because of your support, Luis was able to enter our Journey to Self Sufficiency program, where he began building the foundation for independence. He worked on essential life skills like budgeting, navigating the rental process, and creating a plan for stability. At the same time, he was connected to our Work Activation Readiness Program, which focuses on career development and preparing youth for the workforce.

Through WARP, Luis secured an internship with Seabreeze Management Company. There, he was introduced to the field of real estate and gained hands on experience in a professional setting. He developed confidence, built workplace skills, and began to see a future that once felt out of reach.

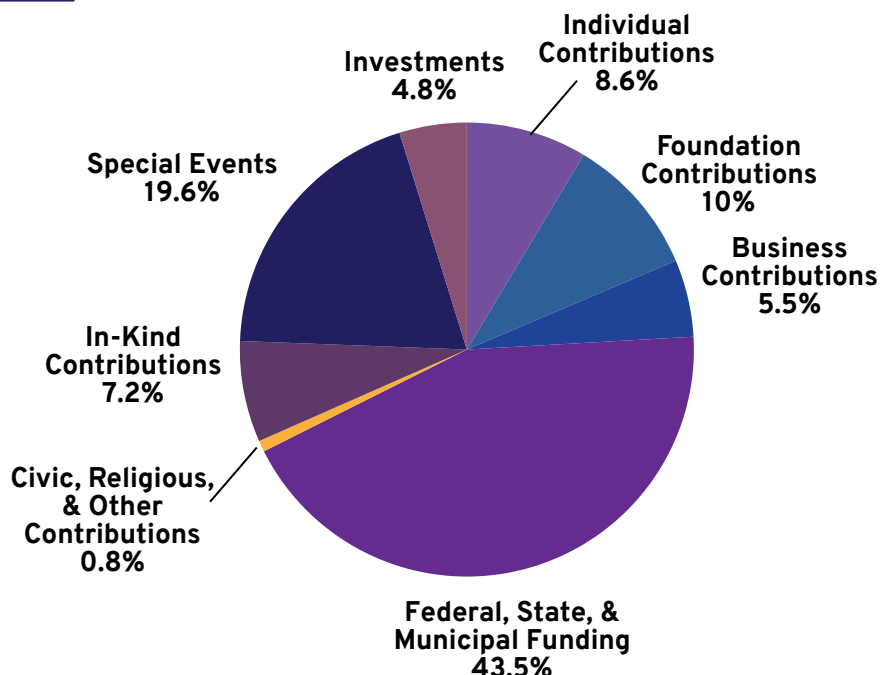
Today, Luis is a licensed real estate agent working in Southern California. His journey from living in his car to building a career is a direct reflection of what your support makes possible. When young people are given both the life skills and career opportunities they need, they are able to move forward with confidence and create lasting change in their lives.

Our Financials

Expense Breakdown By Category



Revenue Sources By Category





ORANGE COUNTY

P.O. Box 14398
Irvine, CA 92623-4398

Phone (714) 356-5437

Email orangecounty@standupforkids.org

Follow Us:



@SUFKOC



@standupforkids_orangecounty



standup-for-kids-orange-county



StandUpforKids.org/orange-county

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS



COLUMBIA BANK



Chisick
Family Foundation



Alpha Xi Delta



Pink Rock Events

evisions

