CASE FOR SUPPORT

TAKE ACTION TO HELP END THE CYCLE OF YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

STANDUP IN ACTION CAMPAIGN

1-800-365-4KID (1-800-365-4543)

StandUpForKids.org

StandUpInAction.org
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**DONATE NOW**

See other ways to contribute

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StandUpForKids.org | Case for Support
One life at a time.

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

MISSION
To end the cycle of youth homelessness.

DRIVEN
As a national non-profit organization, StandUp for Kids cares for homeless and at-risk youth by transitioning them from crisis to connection. We give our youth a sense of safety, hope, and belonging through housing support, mentoring, drop-in centers, and street outreach.

“I can navigate the world and not let it break me on a daily basis.”

- MARQUESHA “KEKE” BABERS, StandUp for Kids Ambassador
4.2 MILLION

HOMELESS YOUTH ARE ON AMERICA’S STREETS.
And that’s a dangerous place to be.

It is unimaginable that there are kids right now, in our own communities, completely on their own without any support.

These kids are our Nation’s invisible homeless population, undercounted for years, hiding out in cars and abandoned buildings, in motels and on couches.

We know that the number of teens and young adults living on the streets is only growing.

With your support, we can reach more of them.

Every day, youth are exposed to:

- Acute Diseases
- Sexual Assault
- Physical Assault
- Unwanted Pregnancies
- Drugs and Alcohol Misuse
- Untreated Mental Illness
- Suicide

The facts we can’t ignore:

- 1 in 5 children (between ages 10-18) will run away
- 1 in 10 young adults (ages 18-25) and 1 in 30 adolescents (ages 13-17) experience some form of homelessness over the course of a year
- 550,000 experience an episode of homelessness for a week or longer
- 50,000 sleep on the streets for six months or more at a time
- 50% of homeless youth:
  - are under the age of 18
  - are unsheltered; sleeping outside, in a car, a park, an empty building
  - have been in the juvenile justice system, in jail, or detention
- 33% had once been part of the foster care system
- 1 in 5 runaways and homeless youth become victim to human trafficking—inclusive of sex and labor trafficking

Within the first 48 hours:

- 22% are approached by someone soliciting drugs
- 1 in 3 are lured into prostitution, often trading sex for food or a place to sleep
Our vision is to get every young person off the streets and into a promising future filled with opportunity…

One where they have a place to sleep, a safe place to call home…

Opportunities to go to school, get jobs, get access to health care…

One-on-one time with mentors who can guide and inspire them.

This funding and support means we can get closer to ending the cycle of youth homelessness by breaking the patterns that hold these kids back and help move them forward on new paths by…

**BUILDING**
the capacity of our street outreach programs so our volunteers can find and connect with more youth

**EXPANDING**
our school-based mentoring programs so that more at-risk students graduate from high school

**MULTIPLYING**
the placement of 18- to 24-year-olds into stable housing

**SCALING**
the number of outreach centers nationwide that welcome our young people and provide a safe space to land
A PROFILE OF HOMELESS YOUTH IN AMERICA

WHAT does it mean to be a homeless youth?

Defined as youth and young adults, ages 12 to 24, unaccompanied by a parent or guardian

They often DO NOT fit the traditional idea of what ‘homelessness’ looks like, they:

- Go to school
- Have jobs
- Participate in community activities
- Enjoy social lives with friends who have safe, dependable places to sleep every night

WHO is on the streets?

Early Runners: Displaced from their homes due to severe conflict, abuse, or neglect and experiencing short-term homelessness.

Doubled-Up: Transition aged (18+), cannot return home, and require housing with life-skills training.

Older, Employed Homeless Youth: Highly mobile with access to part or full-time employment, but no access to affordable housing opportunities.

Street-Dependent Youth: Sleeping out of home for six months or more, in need of services to assist with education, employment, and reconnecting with family or social support networks.

Homeless Youth with Long-Term Disabilities: Experiencing cognitive or emotional challenges and requiring support into their adult years.

WHY have they left home?

Family Instability, including child abuse and/or neglect, domestic violence, parental substance abuse, and conflict over sexual orientation or gender identity.

System Involvement, including the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. A young person leaves the foster care system anywhere between the ages of 18-21. For many, "aging out" is accompanied by instant homelessness because housing is tied to government support.

Residential Instability with one’s family and usually due to economic issues.

Extreme Disconnection from education, employment, health care, and the positive communities, social and support networks that could help them to change their circumstances.
THEIR STRUGGLE IS OUR CHALLENGE

DEMOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES

- Compared to non-LGBTQ youth: 62% report being physically harmed while homeless
- Up to 40% identify as LGBTQ
- 120% more likely to experience homelessness
- Black youth have an 83% higher risk of experiencing homelessness

PHYSICAL/MENTAL ISSUES

- Every day, 13 at-risk youth will die due to assault, illness, or suicide trying to survive on the streets – or 5,000/per year
- 75% more likely to self-medicate and abuse substances compared to housed youth
- 69% suffer from mental health problems
- 25% experience homelessness within a year of aging out of the foster care system

EDUCATIONAL HURDLSES

- Homeless students are 87% more likely to drop out of school altogether vs. housed students
- Young adults with less than a GED were 4.5x more likely to report experiencing homelessness than their peers who completed high school
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. Through our four core programs – **Street Outreach**, **Outreach Centers**, **Mentoring**, and **Housing** – we help move them quickly from crisis to connection.

“I can’t make a difference in every youth’s life, but any difference I can make is a big difference for me.”

- ADRIAN RAMIREZ,
  Co-Executive Director, San Antonio Chapter
OUR GOAL | OUR YOUTH | @STANDUP

OUR MISSION | THE REALITY | OUR GOAL | OUR YOUTH | @STANDUP | OUR IMPACT

@STANDUP Chapters

OUR DOORS ARE OPEN NATIONWIDE

STRENGTHENING HOW MANY YOUTH WE CAN REACH

Currently, we operate 17 chapters in cities and communities in 10 states and the Nation’s capital. Staffed mostly by volunteers, we work tirelessly to assess youth in need, connect them to resources and opportunities, help them develop plans and get them headed in new directions.

ARIZONA
Tucson

CALIFORNIA
Oceanside
Orange County
San Diego
Silicon Valley

COLORADO
Denver

GEORGIA
Atlanta

ILLINOIS
Chicago

MASSACHUSETTS
Worcester

OHIO
Cleveland

TEXAS
Houston
San Antonio

VIRGINIA
Hampton Roads

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Washington, D.C.

WASHINGTON
Kitsap County
Olympia/Thurston County
Seattle
Our most prized asset is our hundreds of volunteers nationwide. Along with our core staff in our national office in Decatur, Georgia, they are at the heart of what we do. Many have been with us for 10 years or more. Some work behind the scenes as unsung heroes and others are out front, serving as counselors, mentors, or meeting kids on the streets.

And all of them wear their StandUp for Kids purple t-shirts with pride.
EVERYWHERE YOU LOOK, STANDUP FOR KIDS IS MAKING AN IMPACT

Throughout another challenging year, StandUp for Kids’ dedicated staff and volunteers pivoted to ensure we could continue to provide youth across America with what they need.

WE SERVICED
13,134 street and outreach center incidences of support

WE SUPPORTED
459 youth in maintained housing with ongoing social services

WE PROVIDED
1,826 nights of emergency shelter

WE GUIDED
1,200 youth with mentoring and education support

WE DISTRIBUTED
22,428 meals to those in need throughout our chapters

WE ADDED
1,783 new youth to our outreach network
WE MAKE EVERY DOLLAR COUNT, AND WE COUNT ON EVERY DOLLAR.

Getting these kids from surviving to thriving just doesn’t happen. It takes time, a true commitment, heartfelt dedication, and unwavering support. We are grateful for our generous donors and sponsors.

Of every dollar donated, 81 cents goes directly into programs that serve youth facing and experiencing homelessness.

FISCAL YEAR 2021

- $2.6 million Total public support and revenue
- $2.4 million Operating expenses

Direct to Youth Programs
- 81¢

Administrative Support
- 6¢

Fundraising Efforts
- 13¢

Support our 2022-2023 $5 MILLION GOAL
LEARN MORE >
Sometimes the hardest thing a homeless youth will do is recognize they need help. Through four core programs available to local communities, we assess their needs, connect them to resources, and develop plans to get them out of often untenable or unjust situations and move them toward much greater stability.

YOUR CONTRIBUTION KEEPS THESE FOUR 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.

STREET OUTREACH
REACHING YOUTH WHERE THEY ARE
LEARN MORE >

HOUSING SUPPORT
FINDING A PLACE TO CALL HOME
LEARN MORE >

MENTORING
INSPIRING YOUTH TO BELIEVE IN THEMSELVES
LEARN MORE >

OUTREACH CENTERS
EMPOWERING YOUTH TO FIND THEIR WAY
LEARN MORE >
STREET OUTREACH
REACHING YOUTH WHERE THEY ARE

Street Outreach counselors go directly to the streets to reach homeless kids. Volunteers walk known “hotspots” and other areas where youth congregate, to distribute food, clothing, hygiene products, resource information, and referrals. They make themselves accessible at consistent times each week to build relationships and connect homeless youth to services as well as trusted community resources.

In 2021, we assisted 6,173 youth and young adults during street outreach.

“If I hadn’t found StandUp for Kids I don’t know if I would be dead or alive. I’m grateful that StandUp for Kids was there to embrace me and help me and save me during my tough times.”

- BRITTANY, StandUp for Kids Alumni
MENTORING
INSPIRING YOUTH TO BELIEVE IN THEMSELVES

During sessions in school, after school, and in our Outreach Centers, mentors act as guides, role models, and accountability partners, helping youth to develop a goal plan and find ways to execute it. The goal of school-based mentoring is to increase high school graduation rates and foster a love for learning. Planning for self-sufficiency, we promote exploration of vocational training, college, entrepreneurship, and jobs.

In 2021, more than 1,200 students participated in our school-based mentoring programs. Students mentored by our Atlanta chapter have graduated at rates higher than the state average.

“I put on a suit and say I am coming in... in the name of education to keep these kids in school. That cuts through every time. There goes Sledge. They recognize me.”

- KEDRIC SLEDGE,
  National Board Member and Atlanta Social Worker
HOUSING SUPPORT
FINDING A PLACE TO CALL HOME

Getting youth off the street is one thing; finding them safe and reliable housing is another. It may take several months. Once situated, it may take twice as long until they feel fully capable and comfortable taking care of themselves. Teams monitor each individual situation and help young renters build a life centered around community, with support including: locating an apartment, life skills training, counseling, referrals for medical and dental support, weekly food baskets, and housing stipends.

89% of the youth we housed transitioned from crisis to self-sufficiency.

“We come in wanting to change the world. The reality is that it does not solve homelessness. To volunteers I say, it takes time and energy. To get the most out of the experience you need to interact with the kids.”

- MARIO ROCHA, StandUp for Kids Director of Volunteers, Silicon Valley
OUTREACH CENTERS
EMPOWERING YOUTH TO FIND THEIR WAY

Through educational programs, one-on-one counseling, and an ongoing atmosphere of hope and concern, Outreach Centers provide safe and protective environments for homeless and at-risk youth and connect them to vital resources and a support network of basic human needs and development. Assistance includes: vocational training, job referrals, securing birth certificates and Social Security cards, life skills, wellness activities, meals and snacks, shower and laundry facilities, and mail service.

In 2021, more than 6,900 youth found safety and connection in our Outreach Centers.

“Being here allows me to show youth that they are loved, that they matter, and that they have gifts to offer their community. StandUp for Kids is able to provide this in the most non-judgmental and loving way.”

- VOLUNTEER
BE THE CHANGE

TOGETHER, WE CAN END THE CYCLE OF YOUTH HOMELESSNESS IN AMERICA.
Our youth are counting on us – and we are counting on you.

THERE ARE SO MANY WAYS YOU CAN TAKE ACTION:

Become a Corporate Partner
We’re always looking to build deep, multi-layered partnerships on a variety of different platforms. An employee matching gift program can add even more value.

Donate Goods & Services
Many of our chapters accept in-kind donations: non-perishable food, clothing, hygiene products, first aid items, bus passes, gift cards, and office supplies.

Become a Foundation Partner
We welcome unrestricted support and funding for specific projects, working closely with you to realize your philanthropic goals and interests.

Contact Erin Murphy
ErinM@StandUpForKids.org

DONATE NOW
Your gift of support will go to work immediately: providing meals, emergency housing, mentorship, education, and long-term housing for homeless youth.

VISIT DONATION PAGE

Proud to receive our fourth 4-star rating from CharityNavigator.org