ALL CHILDREN DESERVE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
to succeed in life, but far too many, through no fault of their own, aren’t getting the education they deserve.

More than three million students will drop out of high school every year to face an uncertain future of low earnings, poor health and a high risk for incarceration.

We are passionately committed to righting this wrong. Stand for Children works in 11 states across the country – from classrooms to state capitols – to mobilize Americans around one common goal: improving the odds for American children.

ACROSS THE NETWORK
Our mission is to ensure that all children, regardless of their background, graduate from high school prepared for, and with access to, a college education. To make that happen, we:

- Educate and empower parents, teachers and community members to demand excellent public schools.
- Advocate for effective local, state and national education policies and investments.
- Ensure the policies and funding we advocate for reach classrooms and help students.
- Elect courageous leaders who will stand up for our priorities.*

* Lobbying and related activities are conducted exclusively by Stand for Children – a 501 (c) (4) – or one or more of its affiliated political committees, PACs or IECs. Stand for Children Leadership Center – a 501 (c) (3) – does not endorse or otherwise support the election or defeat of any candidate for elective public office.

1,470 PARENTS GRADUATED from Stand University for Parents with the tools to advocate for their children’s academic success.

44 POLICIES were enacted in our states and districts, ensuring education solutions across our 11 state affiliates.

500 MILLION DOLLARS were secured in new funding for classrooms across the country.

66,000 SUPPORTERS REACHED in our effort to educate parents and community members about the value of high and consistent standards for all students through the Common Core.
A HEARTFELT
THANK YOU

for the tremendous impact for students we have had in the past year. With the support of our parent members and leaders, staff, volunteers, community partners and generous donors, we made important strides forward for kids in 2013:

• We played a significant role in 44 local or state policy or budget accomplishments, from automatically qualifying academically promising students into AP or IB classes, to supporting effective implementation of improved teacher evaluations. We promoted high-quality charter schools through strong authorization and oversight and closure of low-performing charters; we helped secure funding for pre-K, teacher mentoring, and interventions to improve reading proficiency across our network.

• We successfully campaigned for reasonable pension reforms that will reduce unfunded pension liability by $165 billion in the next 30 years and more than $500 million per year in new revenue, the combination of which will mean billions more per year to classrooms.

• We educated and engaged more than 66,000 parents and community members on Common Core, fighting misguided attacks against improved academic standards that will help more students succeed.

• 1,470 parents graduated from Stand University for Parents (Stand UP), Stand for Children’s family engagement course focused on giving parents the tools to ensure their children are on the path to college.

I could not be prouder of the work we are doing together to help ALL children succeed.

Standing together for children across our nation, we will accomplish even more in 2014 and beyond.

JONAH EDELMAN
Co-Founder & CEO

“This is an organization that leads with results. They talk about real laws, real policies helping real children, tens of thousands of children across America.”

– Geoffrey Canada, President and CEO of the Harlem Children’s Zone

“I am proud to belong to Stand for Children because after only a short time in this country my worldview has been greatly expanded and I have come to understand many things I wouldn’t have otherwise known. I have seen and I have felt that my voice truly matters.”

– Lilia Ramirez, CO Member and Parent

“My kids are the absolute reason that I decided to become part of an organization that would help parents make a way for their kids to get the best education possible and have their dreams come true. Thank you, Stand for Children.”

– Rachel Guidry, First Parent Leader, Current Organizer in LA
ARIZONA

2013 Highlights

Facilitated Five Community Forums

Stand for Children leaders facilitated five community forums around school elections. More than 200 participants worked together to identify a vision for moving their schools forward and engaged their neighbors in support of the funding campaign to make this vision a reality. These leaders mobilized their community to make over 20,000 phone calls and knocked on more than 4,000 doors to pass the first district campaign in over a decade.

Helped Bring $185 Million to Phoenix

Stand Arizona helped bring $185 million to Phoenix classrooms through the passage of three local funding measures in the Roosevelt, Alhambra and Phoenix Union School Districts. The funds will support reduced K–3 class sizes, interventions for struggling readers, additional learning time for students who are behind and effective Common Core implementation.

Helped Pass HB2425

Stand Arizona helped pass HB2425, replacing the existing AIMS test with an improved performance assessment aligned with the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards. In addition, Stand Arizona partnered with the Arizona School Boards Association to train over 125 school board members and other education leaders across the state on these standards. Our team also mobilized nearly 50 parents to attend two different hearings on higher academic standards at the Arizona Legislature.

“

As a father, at times I have felt powerless to help my children in their education. That is why programs like this have been so helpful to me – giving me the strength and hope to learn what options are available for my children and how to help them.”

– Johanny Peña, Arizona parent and Stand Parent Educator

7,000 COMMUNITY MEMBERS

and

200 STAND VOLUNTEERS

came together for a resource fair and back-to-school night, making the second annual Es El Momento Back to School Education and Resource Fair a huge success.

600 PARENTS ENGAGED

through free curriculum in eight communities in South and West Phoenix. Through our leadership training, our parents learned essential knowledge and skills that bolstered their ability to be champions for their children’s success.

2x

More than doubled the number of Stand for Children email supporters across Arizona.
COLORADO

2013 Highlights

Sent Four Education Champions to the Denver School Board

We contacted nearly 5,000 voters to successfully elect four education champions to the Denver Public Schools Board of Education. This victory signaled the end of a long-standing divide on the direction for the district and laid the path for future initiatives to close the achievement gap for all Denver students.

Passed Sweeping School Finance Reform

A change to the way Colorado funds its public schools was long overdue. That’s why Stand focused on passing a broad school finance reform package in 2013 that will help more students succeed. This grand compromise required voters to approve a tax increase to more appropriately fund schools. Stand contacted 65,000 voters statewide to support this initiative.

Building a Vision for Denver Schools

Launched our Very Informed Parents (VIP) program, which mobilized parents to knock on more than 3,000 doors and complete nearly 650 surveys on the priorities Denver residents have for public schools.

“"I love the relationships I’ve made at Stand, and I love the positivity that these people have brought to my life.”

– Gloria, Stand for Children Colorado Member
2013 Highlights

Passage of Senate Bill 1

In 2013, the state of Illinois was faced with one of the worst pension liability and budget shortfalls in the country, exacerbating the already regressive nature of the state's education funding system and hurting low-income school districts and students. It was critical that the state find a fair solution to the pension debt problem in order to fix our education funding challenges. Stand for Children members successfully advocated for the passage of Senate Bill 1, which will save the state up to an estimated $160 billion over the next 30 years, stabilize retiree pensions, and put our state back on the path to fiscal health.

Stand University for Parents (Stand UP)

In the second year of the program, Stand UP is thriving! In 2013, we graduated more than 245 parents from 10 Chicago Public Schools. As Chicago Collegiate Charter School Principal Beth Carrera Napleton recently said, “Stand UP has helped our parents find their voices, and they are empowered now to work not only for their children but for our school and our city as well. As an educator, I have long known how important it is to get parents involved – but I didn't always know how to do that. Stand knows how to do that and is an invaluable agent of change empowering parents.”

Engaging Chicago Parents Around School Closings

When the Chicago Public Schools announced 50 school closures in the spring of 2013, Stand for Children Illinois wanted to make sure parents understood how the school closings would affect their families, as well as provide straightforward information so they could make informed decisions about the best school options for their children. Over the course of three weeks, we knocked on over 11,600 doors in communities such as Garfield Park, Englewood, Austin, Woodlawn and North Lawndale. We delivered almost 10,000 pieces of literature and had over 1,100 in-depth conversations with concerned families about CPS’ school actions process.

“I just wanted change in the neighborhood, change in the school system. We talked about it and I became a member [of Stand for Children]. I went to the classes, and I liked it. We learned how to engage with the children and [connect] with the principal of the school.”

– Marlon Gosa, Stand UP Graduate and IL Member
**Prevented a Rollback of Higher Standards**

Stand for Children Indiana successfully worked with parents and teachers in 2013 to help prevent a rollback of Common Core State Standards in Hoosier classrooms. Despite efforts to abolish Common Core, the final legislation that passed the Indiana General Assembly did nothing more than set up a review process and allowed implementation to continue.

**Selected a New IPS Superintendent**

Stand Indiana engaged dozens of parents in the selection process for the new Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) superintendent. By attending community forums and presenting a letter to the IPS School Board, parents made clear that they wanted a superintendent who would proactively transform struggling schools and grant more autonomy to great school leaders. The message of positive change and innovation was heard by the board and resulted in the hiring of Dr. Lewis Ferebee. One of Dr. Ferebee’s first actions was creating an “innovative schools” network that granted more freedom to successful school models in IPS. Ferebee went on to promote the replication of a successful school turnaround model that Stand and its members had previously supported.

**Teacher Preparation Bill**

In 2013, state lawmakers passed a teacher preparation bill supported by Stand for Children Indiana. The new law allows Indiana to see which teacher preparation programs are producing the best teachers and requires the legislature to study how to improve these programs to ensure all classes have effective teachers. This legislation laid a strong foundation for future improvements in the area of teacher preparation.

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**68%**

OF THOSE IN **INDIANA ARE IN FAVOR**

of Common Core State Standards

(Public Opinion Strategies 2013 poll).

---

**89%**

OF **HOOSIERS AGREE**

the public education system in Indiana needs change

(Public Opinion Strategies 2013 poll).

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“[Stand] give[s] us a structure of how to become an efficient advocate.”

– Lesvi de la Cruz,
Indiana Stand UP Participant
LOUISIANA

2013 Highlights

Protected Common Core by Helping Defeat Senate Concurrent Resolution 68

Stand Louisiana led a broad and effective coalition effort that helped to defeat Senate Concurrent Resolution 68, which sought to withdraw Louisiana from the Common Core State Standards.

Recruited Superintendent Candidates Who Put Students First

Stand Louisiana parents have worked hard with the Orleans Parish School Board to define the criteria sought in the new superintendent, to identify candidates that match those criteria and to recruit candidates with a track record of putting students first. They are actively working to keep the search process moving so a new, bold leader for kids can be selected.

Helped Recruit Six High-Performing Charter Management Organizations

Stand Louisiana parents helped recruit six high-performing charter management organizations to serve students in persistently low-performing schools in Baton Rouge. More than 130 parents participated in the effort, which included parent visits to charter schools in other cities, personal outreach to encourage high-performing charters to come to Baton Rouge and testimony before the state Board of Education.

“As the parents of a three-year-old and a six-year-old who attend a public school in New Orleans, my wife and I do everything we can to make sure that both kids get a quality education in the public schools here in the city.”

- Steven Cole, Parent Leader

23 MILLION DOLLARS

in funding passed for Jefferson Parish with the support of Stand for Children Louisiana members.

130+
PARENTS PARTICIPATED

in the effort to recruit six high-performing charter management organizations in Baton Rouge.

“As a Stand UP parent, I have acquired skills and a heightened sense of awareness of my child’s academic needs and my role in it. It has empowered me to work to improve educational outcomes for all parents, children and communities. I am proud to be aligned with an organization that works to set standards higher for education across the country because that is what I will be doing locally for my child and all children in Baton Rouge.”

- LaKeisha Bennett, Stand UP Parent and Stand LA Member
2013 Highlights

Advocated for and Received Funding

For the following items in the FY 2014 budget: the Special Education Circuit Breaker, a line item that supports districts for the increased costs of educating special needs students; a significant increase in higher education to total funding of the state’s community colleges and state universities; funding of expanded learning time that will result in a preservation of programs for all current schools; Chapter 70 local aid increase to support general education funding; and a significant increase and targeted funding for early education and care that removed 2,000 students from the waitlist.

Race to the Top

Since the three-year turnaround plans were set to expire, Stand continued working with the Race to the Top Coalition and legislation to ensure the schools struggling most can continue to further close the achievement gap and improve outcomes for the students.

This bill provides underperforming schools with additional access to turnaround tools and autonomies; extends these flexibilities to Level 3 schools to streamline the intervention process for chronically underperforming schools; and expands public school choice by lifting the cap on the number of charter schools in the state’s lowest performing school districts. To date, the bill has reached the House and is waiting on approval.

Boston Community Conversations

Stand Massachusetts members worked hard throughout the year to ensure the voices of their children were present when crucial decisions were being made by our elected officials. They did this by attending and providing testimony at numerous budget hearings, education committee hearings, Boston and Springfield candidate forums, a dropout prevention hearing and much more. In addition, Stand held nine Boston community conversations, providing a forum for parents, educators and other supporters of public education to discuss the current state of Boston Public Schools. Nearly 200 people, including mayoral and council candidates, participated in at least one of the forums.

100
COMMUNITY MEMBERS
attended the Springfield School Committee Candidate Forum, the largest candidate forum in Springfield in recent history.

16
HEARINGS, FORUMS
and community conversations our members attended in 2013.

1,500
ONLINE COMMUNITY MEMBERS
engaged with our education advocacy campaigns via Twitter and Facebook during the Boston mayoral election, resulting in 320,000 individual users seeing our content.

“I stand for children because my three children are in Boston Public Schools and they deserve the best from their schools. I advocate for them and all children to ensure that they are given the education they need to be successful.”

– Elsa Flores, Member Leader, East Boston
2013 Highlights

Secured $91 Million for Education

Stand Oklahoma worked with legislative leaders and key budget negotiators to secure $91 million for common education in the FY 2014 state budget. Included in this number was an additional $74 million specifically to support education reform implementation, ensuring those reforms actually reach classrooms and help students. Stand Oklahoma defeated legislation that would have undermined Common Core State Standards and advocated for high-quality assessments.

Launched Common Core Campaign

Stand Oklahoma launched a campaign to educate the public and key stakeholders on the benefits of the Common Core. In order to inform the public about what the Common Core actually is, Stand Oklahoma launched a Common Core advocacy plan, which included direct mail and targeted calls to voters and stakeholders in key legislative districts. In addition Stand Oklahoma launched its online Common Core hub with a petition to support higher standards. Stand for Children Oklahoma developed and led a statewide coalition of businesses, nonprofits, higher education and child advocacy organizations to protect higher standards called Expect More OK!

Stand Oklahoma Starts Building Grassroots Support

As the newest affiliate, Stand Oklahoma started building support with teachers, parents and district administrators in Oklahoma City and Tulsa Public Schools by conducting listening tours. Stand Oklahoma played an active role in Tulsa and Oklahoma City school board elections by developing an endorsement process.

9,000 Signatures

collected in support of the Common Core State Standards in Oklahoma.

91 Million Dollars

for common education in the FY 2014 state budget, which includes an additional $74 million specifically to support education reform implementation.

“Before Stand for Children, I didn’t know how powerful a voice I had, but now I know how much my voice matters, and I can’t wait to share that with other parents.”

– Jessica Rey, Stand Oklahoma Member and Parent

“I stand for children because education is critical to Oklahoma’s success, and I believe it is everyone’s responsibility to make a difference for all children.”

– Brian Hunt, Stand for Children Oklahoma Executive Director
OREGON

2013 Highlights

Expanding Access to Full-Day Kindergarten in Reynolds

Shortly after launching a new chapter of Spanish-speaking parents in Reynolds School District, we celebrated their first local win: full-day kindergarten in six priority schools.

We are inspired by the leadership this young chapter showed in their first nine months of advocacy. Full-day kindergarten had been a top priority since day one. They were the only parents to show up at the budget committee meeting, and they spoke bravely. These parents will celebrate this victory for years!

Added $250 Million to the Oregon School Fund

Stand Oregon built support around a bipartisan agreement that lowered school districts’ pension costs and brought in new revenue. Stand members were fundamental in passing this package. On the day that it passed in both chambers, a petition with over 3,200 supporters’ names sat on the desk of each legislator.

Oregon’s school funding has been declining as a percentage of total personal income for two decades, so this was a huge step toward achieving a sustainable revenue future. For her work on this issue, Sue Levin, Stand Oregon’s executive director, was named Oregon Business Association’s Statesman of the Year.

Leading Successful Local Levy Campaigns Across Oregon

Stand Oregon organized hundreds of members in Beaverton, Eugene and Lake Oswego to speak with 43,000 voters in support of school measures that protected class sizes and restored school days.

In May, Stand leaders in Beaverton organized 1,000 canvassers to knock on 37,000 doors and 150 phone bankers to speak with 10,000 voters. Stand leaders in Eugene spoke with 3,000 voters to help pass a school bond; and then in the fall, Stand leaders in Lake Oswego organized parents to build support for another local levy that passed with 80 percent of the vote!

10,000 ACTIONS TAKEN by Stand Oregon supporters to demand better schools in 2013.

500,000 FEWER TESTS taken by Oregon students last spring thanks to Stand-championed legislation.

43,000 VOTERS ENGAGED in conversations with Stand volunteers.

“I became involved with Stand because I believe we need to work together to make the system better. It’s not just teachers, principals and superintendents. Parents have an obligation to get involved too.”

– Sara Garcia Gonzalez, Member in Reynolds School District
2013 Highlights

Saved 42 Pre-K Classrooms from Closure

Stand Tennessee saved 42 pre-K classrooms from closure with 2,000 petition signatures that they collected in two weeks both on the ground and online. In addition, with the help of 20 pre-K providers, their teachers, their parents and our members, Stand was able to sway the Shelby County School Board to preserve the pre-K classrooms, benefitting 840 children.

Campaigned for Property Tax Increase to Benefit Memphis Students and Teachers

Stand Tennessee helped in the campaign for a property tax increase in Memphis. The tax meant $20 million for the school system, but more importantly, the school system did not have to make additional cuts to its proposed budget - cuts that would have directly affected students and teachers. Stand was able to swing a critical vote from Commissioner Ford with 122 phone calls to his office.

Mobilized Members for the State Senate Education Committee Hearing

Common Core is under attack in Tennessee, and Stand is a crucial member of the Expect More Achieve More Coalition to protect Common Core. Members from Nashville and Memphis attended a critical Senate Education Committee hearing to show their support.

“...I became a leader with Stand For Children because I knew that if every student was going to have a great education, political and policy changes had to be made. With the team at Stand, I knew they would also advocate for what is best for students, and that was an organization I wanted to be a part of.”

– Jamie Gutter, Teacher Leader
**TEXAS**

**2013 Highlights**

**Launched the Texas Educator Network (TEN)**

Dallas Stand held its inaugural membership drive and kickoff meeting on July 27, 2013. For the six months following, 120 educators became advocates for TEN.

**Supported Dallas ISD’s Superintendent**

Despite calls for the superintendent’s resignation, Stand Dallas held firm to its belief that removing the current superintendent after less than one year in office would be disruptive and have a negative impact on student achievement. TEN launched an advocacy campaign that directly influenced the Dallas ISD Board of Trustee’s decision to maintain the current superintendent. The Board of Trustees’ voted 5-3 not to terminate Superintendent Mike Miles’ contract.

**Support for the Teacher Excellence Initiative (TEI) in the Dallas ISD**

After researching best practices for teacher evaluation, Stand for Children’s TEN determined the recently introduced TEI was an effective evaluation model. TEN members initiated an educational campaign in order to promote the benefits of the evaluation system to Dallas ISD faculty, administrators and parents. TEI is a research-based, enhanced evaluation system that focuses on providing individual teachers the opportunity to achieve professional success. Under the TEI, teachers are recognized and rewarded for their effective work and provided individualized professional development. The TEI will allow the Dallas ISD to recruit, develop, reward and retain effective teachers.

> For me, membership is all about shifting the focus from adults to students and having a voice for my students’ needs. Through my membership, I have become educated about policies that impact teachers and their classrooms, and I am able to remind board members to keep the focus where it should be – on the kids, not politics.”

–CPL David Bates, a Leadership Cadet Corps Instructor at Thomas C. Marsh Middle School
Academic Acceleration

Stand for Children Washington was outspoken in supporting a statewide policy to automatically enroll every student who is qualified in advanced classes, using Federal Way Public Schools as a model. We helped earn national attention for expanding access to advanced classes and are encouraging other Stand for Children states to bring this policy before their legislatures. Thanks to our advocacy, there are now funding incentives for districts to adopt the model, and we expect about 1,000 more students – mostly students of color – will take advanced classes in Tacoma Public Schools this fall.

Make Computer Science Count

Stand for Children Washington leveraged local business connections to pass a law to become the 10th state to allow AP Computer Science to count toward graduation requirements. We gathered over 900 signatures on an online petition in support of the change and earned media coverage for our petition. Since then, the number of students taking AP Computer Science in high school has tripled from 204 students in 2012 to 711 students in 2013.

Launch Stand UP

In the fall of 2013, Stand for Children Washington launched Stand University for Parents (Stand UP), our eight-week research-based parent engagement class, in two elementary schools in Tacoma. We led classes in both English and Spanish, and 33 parents graduated with the skills to be stronger advocates for their children’s education. Stand UP expanded to three elementary schools in 2014 and continues to gain momentum and positive reviews from parents, teachers and principals in Tacoma.

“Every young person in our state should have the chance to learn computer science; it’s the new language of opportunity.”

– Brad Smith, Microsoft’s General Counsel

“\[It’s about more opportunities and more choices. When you start young, you have the opportunity to do something you like and something you have a passion for. I know my kids are capable of doing more.\]

– Donetta from Tacoma, Stand UP Graduate
Stand for Children Leadership Center is a 501(c)(3) public charity that provides leadership development and training to everyday citizens. 2013 was another growth year with the expansion into our 11th state, Oklahoma, the strengthening of National Support Services, and our greatest year of impact. While our cash flows and revenues increased by 42%, our expenses increased by only 16%. This reflects our focus on long-term financial sustainability.

Stand for Children Leadership Center maintains a four-star rating (the highest available) for sound fiscal management from Charity Navigator, the nation’s premier independent evaluator of charitable organizations.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2013 ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDING
December 31, 2013 & 2012

EXPENSES by State

C3
Stand for Children, Inc. is a 501(c)(4) membership organization. While contributions are not deductible, numerous members, individuals and organizations supported our important work. As 2013 was an off-election year, revenues and expenses decreased from 2012. Our strong year-end cash balance positions the organization well for the work to be accomplished in 2014.

Stand for Children, Inc. has earned the GuideStar Exchange Seal, demonstrating its commitment to transparency.
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**C3**

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**C4**

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