

Stand for Children

Children's Rights

<http://stand.org/national/blog/continuous-struggle>

Public Facing Advocacy Writing

Its hard not to feel exhausted right now. All of us are nearly two years into this seemingly endless pandemic, which has not only taken the lives of more than 840,000 Americans but has also exposed the undeniable racial and economic inequalities that riddle our society.

I understand if youre tired if you want to disengage, to stop reading depressing and infuriating news stories, to stop speaking up when you see injustices because the stream of distress and grief feels never-ending. I get it.

Change can feel impossible, but Ive seen firsthand through our work at Stand for Children that its not. In the last year alone, Stand volunteers organized parents, testified at school board meetings, knocked on doors, called and texted voters, and did whatever necessary to secure better futures for their children and others in their community. Stand families didnt give up because they knew it wasnt an option.

This is how Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.s legacy lives on. Dr. King set the example for refusing to give up. He knew progress *was* possible, and he proved its only achievable when you step up and do the daunting work instead of relying on others to carry that responsibility.

Stand has always sought to achieve high-quality education opportunities for all kids, but we recognize, as we always have, that theres more to ensuring generations of families have equal opportunities to succeed. Systemic racism infects beyond the classroom. Thats why we have updated our mission to explicitly name who we are and what we are fighting for.

From the federal level to the family level, we use every tool available to fight for outcomes that enrich the lives of students and their families. That includes:

The solutions we champion are backed by evidence and the true experts the parents, educators and others who are directly affected by the problems at hand.

We are all living through an unimaginable time. Every day feels like a new mountain to climb. But let Dr. Kings words manifest brighter horizons: **Change does not roll in on the wheels of inevitability, but comes through continuous struggle.**

Join us in this struggle. Keep standing with the families who refuse to give up. And know you will not be alone on this journey for change.

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