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**University of Houston
Graduate College of Social Work**

JOB OPPORTUNITY POSTING

Job Title: Political Organizer

Employer/Agency: Stand for Children

Job Description: Stand for Children – a bold independent voice for public education reform – seeks exceptional, driven individuals to build and lead the Houston Chapter of Stand for Children in the newest state affiliate of Texas.

The Organizations The Stand for Children family consists of two separate organizations—Stand for Children, a grassroots membership lobby for children exempt under section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, and Stand for Children Leadership Center, a leadership development organization exempt under section 501(c)(3).

Stand for Children’s mission is to use the power of grassroots action to help all children get the excellent public education and strong support they need to thrive. To date, Stand for Children’s eight state affiliates (AZ, CO, IL, IN, MA, OR, TN and WA) have won more than one hundred victories that have impacted the lives of more than two million children. We organize parents, educators, and other concerned community members into a strong, sustained constituency that: Helps elect strong local school board members, state legislators, and statewide elected officials who champion public schools;* Advocates for education reforms at the state and local level, including reforms that increase teacher and principal effectiveness, support school autonomy with accountability, and expand instructional time, that improve student achievement and close the achievement gap; Lobbies the state legislature for strategic K-12 investments and then ensures local school districts spend those dollars wisely; Campaigns for referenda and needed school construction bonds

and operating levies.

Stand for Children Leadership Center's mission is to develop leaders who use the power of grassroots action to help all children get the excellent public education and strong support they need to thrive.

Stand Leadership Center engages parents, educators, and other concerned community members by: Training them on how to join together to become more effective advocates for children; Educating them on issues that impact children and schools; Providing them with the tools to develop solutions for children in their local and statewide communities.

The Position

Stand for Children seeks outstanding individuals committed to ensuring that all students receive the excellent public education and strong support they need to thrive to join its team as Political Organizers. The Political Organizers will be responsible for the implementation of a strategy to build a powerful Houston chapter that can help improve student achievement by electing legislators who are education champions, organizing members to directly lobby for key education reforms, and advocating for statewide investments and policy reforms. The Political Organizers will be based in Houston, and will report to the Houston Director.

* These activities are conducted exclusively on behalf of Stand for Children, subject to applicable law.

The Political Organizer will contribute to Stand for Children's mission to improve public education by: Recruiting parents, educators, and community members in order to build a strong Houston chapter; Partnering with chapter leaders, members, and community organizations to implement and win strategically selected electoral and lobbying campaigns; and Playing a significant role in the success of statewide electoral and lobbying campaigns.

The Political Organizer will contribute to Stand for Children Leadership Center's goals by: Developing the leadership of our parent, educator, and community leaders through rigorous, ongoing training and coaching; Educating parents, educators, and community leaders on public education policies that will impact the quality of schools in their local community and state.

The Political Organizer will be joining a national team of professionals committed to improving children's lives. Stand for Children's managers and supervisors are empowering, entrepreneurial leaders who are committed to providing outstanding supervision in order for staff to develop as professionals and grow within the organization.

Qualifications:

- Strong commitment to and alignment with Stand for Children and Stand for Children Leadership Center's shared vision for improving public schools;
- Demonstrated knowledge of Texas and its educational landscape necessary; previous classroom teaching experience a plus;
- Experience working in the public education system preferred;
- Experience working on political campaigns preferred;
- Strong interpersonal, communication, and team-building skills a must; ability to initiate, foster, and leverage contacts from diverse networks to achieve strong outcomes crucial;
- Experience working with diverse populations a plus;
- Strong drive to get results; willingness to take calculated risks; persistent and resilient in the face of challenges;
- Ability to work independently and be pro-active and self-motivated;
- An entrepreneurial, learning orientation and an ability to embrace and incorporate direct feedback necessary;
- Fluency in Spanish (written and oral) strongly preferred;
- Willingness to work flexible hours including 1-2 evenings per week and occasional weekends; full-time access to a car.

Salary/Hours:

Competitive salary, commensurate with experience. Excellent benefits: full health and dental coverage; life insurance, long-term disability and long-term care coverage; 401K with a match plan; flexible spending/benefits plan; holidays and vacation accrual.

Employer/Agency:

Stand for Children

City, State, Zip: Houston, TX

Application Method: Stand for Children and Stand for Children Leadership Center are equal opportunity employers and candidates of color are strongly encouraged to apply. To apply for this position, please go to <http://stand.org/careers> to fill out our online application. No calls please.

Opening Date: Immediately

***If your response to this job posting results in successful employment, please email the GCSW Office of Alumni and Career Services at mswjobs@sw.uh.edu with the hiring details of your new job opportunity.
Thank you***