

# Fact Sheet

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## BY THE NUMBERS

- 2008 operating budget of \$6.8 million
- Made grants totaling \$1.1 million to 22 other non-profit organizations in 2008
- In 2008, the average grant Fight For Children made was \$48,000
- Awarded \$100,000 each to three DC schools at School Night 2008
- Distributed over 12,000 copies of the 2007 edition of *My School Chooser* in English and Spanish
- Raised over \$3 million at Fight Night 2007
- Fight Night has sold out since 2002, with over 2,000 guests each year

## LEADERSHIP

Joseph E. Robert, Jr.,  
Founder and Chairman

Michela English, President & CEO

## TO LEARN MORE

**Fight For Children**  
**1825 K Street, NW, Suite 1080**  
**Washington, DC 20006**  
 202-772-0400 phone  
 202-772-0401 fax  
[www.fightforchildren.org](http://www.fightforchildren.org)

Jeff Travers  
[jeff.travers@fightforchildren.org](mailto:jeff.travers@fightforchildren.org)

## About Fight For Children

With strong support from businesses and individuals in Washington, DC, Fight For Children is an independent not-for-profit organization that recognizes, promotes, and cultivates quality education for low-income children in DC. Fight For Children also addresses the critical link between good health and improved academic performance.

## History

Joseph E. Robert, Jr., launched Fight For Children in 1990 to give back to the community in which he and his employees lived and worked. Since that time, Fight For Children and its signature fundraising events, Fight Night and School Night, have raised \$82 million for programs that serve low-income children.

## Programmatic Initiatives

**Making Strategic Grants.** Using proceeds from its annual Fight Night event, Fight For Children supports local non-profit organizations that provide education and health care services and that demonstrate measurable positive results in improving the lives of children. Since its founding, Fight For Children has invested in over 150 local organizations, including 22 in 2008.

**Promoting Quality Education.** Fight For Children's Quality Schools Initiative recognizes high quality programs that improve student achievement in public, charter, and independent schools in DC. Through the program, Fight For Children awarded three DC schools \$100,000 each in recognition of their effective practices. Fight For Children's Parent Leadership Institute gives parents the tools they need to be effective advocates for their children's education experience. Fight For Children also publishes *My School Chooser*, a user-friendly tool containing academic performance information on schools to help families determine the best educational opportunities for their children.

## Looking Forward

Fight For Children will publish an *Action Agenda to Improve Kids' Lives* in early 2009. The *Action Agenda* will serve as a call to action for policy and business leaders and philanthropists, identifying key challenges facing kids and the programs that have proven most effective in addressing them. The goal of the *Action Agenda* is to highlight and focus resources on proven programs that have the greatest impact on improving the lives of children and youth in DC.

## Key Fundraising Events

**Fight Night.** November 6, 2008. Now in its nineteenth year, Fight Night brings together over 2,000 of the nation's top leaders in business, government, sports and entertainment to raise funds for Fight For Children and other organizations that provide education and health care services to low-income children in DC.

**School Night.** May 15, 2009. School Night is the premier fundraising event for education in Washington, DC, raising \$1.5 million in 2008.

**Fight Night** and **School Night** were recently named the number one and number nine charity events in Washington by *BizBash* magazine.

## Historical Accomplishments

- In 2007, published and distributed over 12,000 copies in English and Spanish of the inaugural edition of *My School Chooser*.
- At the request of the U.S. Secretary of Education, in 2004 led the launch of the nation's first federally-funded K-12 independent school scholarship program.
- In 2003, led a coalition of business, education, and government leaders to secure an unprecedented \$195 million over five years in new federal funding to expand quality education options for low-income families in DC.
- Launched School Night in 1998, the premier fundraising event for education in Washington, DC, drawing more than 1,100 attendees
- In 1997, endowed the Fight For Children Chair of Academic Medicine and Chief Academic Officer, Dr. Mark L. Batshaw, M.D., at Children's National Medical Center.
- In 1990, launched Fight Night, which has grown into one of the most successful fundraising events in the region, raising over \$3 million in 2007.

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