Building the Future of American Education

Advocate  Spark  Build  Serve

2022 Annual Report
BUILDING THE FUTURE OF American Education

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Dear Friends,

The first step in creating something new is believing it’s possible.

That’s why, in Spring 2021, when many of our nation’s schools had still not reopened and the depth of learning loss among our students became clear, we launched our Believe in Better framework. Created by our teams during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, it outlines five policy pillars that together make up our vision for a dynamic, student-centered future of American education:

1. The education that’s right for you, because every student learns differently.
2. Tutoring and care for every student in every community.
3. A world of open and connected learning, so that you have the tools you need to strengthen your community and succeed in life.
4. A family’s right to know what’s working—it’s all about accountability.
5. A clear path to the career you choose. It’s about finding your fit, and your pathway to a meaningful life.

To bring this vision to life, in 2022 we expanded our work in communities across the country. At the center of our theory of change are local advocacy campaigns that help put the pieces of this new system of education together, one new policy at a time. This past year, our local leaders secured 26 policy wins on everything from a landmark student-centered, $750 million education funding bill in Tennessee to a new, state-funded tutoring corps in New Jersey to a breakthrough career and technical education program in Hawaii that provides all students with the opportunity to earn industry-recognized credentials.

To accelerate the pace of change, this year we have focused on expanding three complementary streams of work, alongside this first-in-class local advocacy, that collectively add up to a theory of change big enough for this historic moment:

- We are investing in fresh policies and new voices who spark the ideas and shift the public conversation in favor of big educational changes that bring us together rather than driving us apart.
- We are partnering with educational entrepreneurs who build new proof points of what’s possible in an education system where kids truly can learn anywhere.
- We are supporting committed leaders on local school boards and in statehouses who serve the public by putting the interests of kids first.

Together these four approaches—advocate, spark, build and serve—are ushering in new pathways to learning that are helping millions of kids right now get the support they need to recover while pointing the way forward to the education system of the future.

We’re grateful for your support and partnership through this critical time of transition in American education. Together, we’ll build something better than ever before—the education system all of our children deserve.
Laying the Foundation for the Future

Advocate

The future of American education is one that will be built brick by brick from the bottom up, driven forward by persistent local advocacy. In 2022, the local advocates of our network achieved 26 significant policy wins that lay the foundation for the future of education.

The Education That’s Right for You

- **TennesseeCAN** passed a landmark bill that fundamentally changed the school funding formula, adding a $750 million total increase and establishing weights for ELL and low-income students as well as students with disabilities. The team also doubled charter facility funding to $32 million.
- **CarolinaCAN** increased enrollment access in school choice programs by more than 10,000 students through the passage of legislation that expanded opportunity scholarships to more than 70% of families. They also changed policies that will allow high quality charter schools to remove caps that had prevented them from increasing enrollment.
- **GeorgiaCAN** expanded the statewide student scholarship tax credit by $20 million and removed the sunset provisions, while also helping to secure $7.5 million for charter school facilities and $4 million for charter school startups.
- **NewMexicoKidsCAN** supported the establishment of a $10 million revolving loan fund for charter school facilities.
- **JerseyCAN** ensured the effective implementation of the teacher certification pilot program passed last year which aimed to fill teacher vacancies and increase teacher diversity, while also obtaining $10 million of funding for charter facilities.
- **DelawareCAN** defeating a bill designed to put a moratorium on charter schools in New Castle County.
- **TEN Colorado** increased the availability of high-quality charter seats by securing a new school approval in Adams County and defeated legislative efforts designed to alter Colorado’s innovation schools approval process.

Tutoring and Care for All

- **JerseyCAN** secured a $1 million budget appropriation for the NJ Tutoring Corps program.
- **GeorgiaCAN’s** advocates ensured high-quality tutoring would be expanded to new school districts.
A World of Open and Connected Learning

• ConnCAN created a number of new pathways for teachers to be certified by establishing a scholarship program, with scholarships of $20,000 for teachers of color, making meaningful progress on both the quality and the diversity of the Connecticut teaching force of the future.

• Despite losses on the passage of legislation, DelawareCAN, HawaiiKidsCAN, TEN Colorado and TennesseeCAN made meaningful progress in shifting the conversation in their states when it came to students receiving credit for learning outside of the classroom and having direct-to-family funds to participate in a variety of out-of-school learning programs. They expect to pass meaningful legislation on these issues in future campaigns.

A Parent’s Right to Know What’s Working

• TEN Colorado ensured that families would receive communications about the extent to which their children are learning by supporting the creation and implementation of an information dashboard for Denver families that includes academic metrics and holding the line on accountability measures in the legislature.

• GeorgiaCAN ensured that the state’s system of assessments, accountability and evaluations was preserved and protected.

• TennesseeCAN defended student achievement data transparency across the state by stopping efforts to roll back accountability programs.

A Path to a Career

• HawaiiKidsCAN passed legislation to provide $2.6 million of funding to schools when students complete industry-recognized credentialing programs.

• GeorgiaCAN supported an initiative to align career pathways to high demand industries by passing legislation that directs the state to create a list of high-demand jobs for the purpose of informing apprenticeship and career pathways opportunities.

• TEN Colorado and TennesseeCAN removed roadblocks to the establishment of meaningful career pathways and CTE education. TEN expanded concurrent enrollment programs and paid, career internships. TennesseeCAN grew the universe of course access providers to include businesses, nonprofits and individuals, in addition to schools.
Welcomed 10 new National Voices Fellows, who obtained over 40 media hits in 2022, including in the DFW Star-Telegram, the Hill, the Washington Examiner, The News & Observer and The 74 Million.

Authored 24 issues of our newsletter, The New Reality Roundup, sharing over 160 resources for advocates, educators and elected officials which were viewed more than 30,000 times.

In 2022, we:

- Trained 323 new local advocates, including parents, students and educators, to contribute their ideas and communicate their needs to elected officials.
- Welcomed 10 new National Voices Fellows, who obtained over 40 media hits in 2022, including in the DFW Star-Telegram, the Hill, the Washington Examiner, The News & Observer and The 74 Million.
- Promoted our vision of the future through 57 national and 124 local media hits, including appearances in USA Today, C-Span and US News & World Report, with a reach of over 1.5 million.
- Authored 24 issues of our newsletter, The New Reality Roundup, sharing over 160 resources for advocates, educators and elected officials which were viewed more than 30,000 times.

Spark

At 50CAN, optimism is at the center of everything we do. That means lifting up those who share our positive vision for the future so that they can spark new ideas for the more open, accessible and excellent education system we want all children to experience.

By investing in our fellowships—from our flagship National Voices Fellowship to local educator and parent fellowships in states across the country—we’re ensuring that new ideas can be sparked in communities throughout the nation, and that those ideas can be heard by millions of parents, students and educators as well.
One thing we have learned in our work over the past decade of supporting new advocacy campaigns is that no one should have to start from scratch. That’s why we brought together a national team of professionals who work side-by-side with our local leaders to help take the desk work off their plates so they can do what they do best. Over the past four years, we have leveraged these national services by making them available to a new generation of leaders looking to create new organizations and bring ambitious new initiatives to life.

By supporting education entrepreneurs, we are helping create a new generation of proof points for a transformed education system that can work better for all kids.

In 2022, we:

Supported 9 education entrepreneurs across the country to bring their visions to life, with programs implemented to serve parents and children in:

- New York
- South Carolina
- Colorado
- California
- Georgia
- Texas
- Connecticut
- Massachusetts
- New Jersey

These programs provided new learning opportunities to over 16,000 kids.

Meet Jay - one of 50CAN’s builders

Jay Artis-Wright, executive director for the Freedom Coalition for Charter Schools, is driven forward by the belief that Black and Latino leaders across the country need to stand up for schools that are delivering results for families of color. In partnership with Dr. Howard Fuller and Dr. Steve Perry, Jay built an organization at the forefront of a nationwide push to ensure that legislators, parents and the public understand the promise that high-quality charter options provide to kids. “I was the first in my family to go to college and for my entire K-12 experience, I didn’t have great public options,” she reflects. “So this work is personal to me.”
In addition to amplifying the voices of over 300 school leaders of color, Jay and her team mobilized nearly 3,000 parents to engage Democratic presidential candidates during the 2020 primary, showing up at both debates and town halls to express their support for educational options. The result was a backstage meeting with Elizabeth Warren that reached millions of Americans when it went viral and drove dozens of media stories including a feature in the New York Times.

“I’m building the Freedom Coalition as part of the 50CAN network not only because of the top-notch support the team provides but because I want to work with people who share my values, Jay noted.” 50CAN has shown such authentic leadership on behalf of kids. There aren’t strings, there isn’t a dictation of what my vision should be. They enable me to show up and fight for kids, every single day.”

Serve

In statehouses and on school boards, a new generation of public servants are emerging to take on the challenge of creating an education system of the future that meets the needs of every student. That’s why we created the Believe in Better Education Leaders Institute. This new program is designed to equip elected officials with the ideas, policy and tactics needed for them to succeed in their mission to make fundamental changes to how the education system functions in America.

In 2022, we:

- Convened a bipartisan group of nine elected officials in the Believe in Better Education Leaders Fellowship, serving nearly 500,000 constituents.

- Connected elected officials with peers and national thought leaders to explore the history of public education and the issues affecting the modern education landscape.
Donor List

We are grateful to all who invested in our work in 2022.

$100,000 +
• Anonymous (2)
• Arthur and Toni Rembe Rock
• The Barr Foundation
• Bloomberg Philanthropies
• The Carnegie Corporation of New York
• The Daniels Fund
• The Harold K.L. Castle Foundation
• The Longwood Foundation
• The Memphis Education Fund
• The New Jersey Pandemic Relief Fund
• The Peter and Carmen Lucia Buck Foundation
• redefinED atlanta
• RootED
• The Stand Together Trust
• The Stupski Foundation
• The Walton Family Foundation
• The William E. Simon Foundation

$50,000-$99,999
• The Albuquerque Community Foundation
• Andrew Schwedel
• The Boas Family Fund
• Ceeds of Peace
• The Challenge Foundation
• Gary Philanthropy at Gary Community Ventures
• The JJJ Charitable Foundation
• Kamehameha Schools
• The Maeve Foundation
• The New Jersey Children’s Foundation
• The Olson Family Fund
• The Prudential Foundation
• Corporation Service Company
• Curriculum Associates
• The Denver Foundation
• Derrick Diggs
• Derrick Frazier
• Educational Testing Services
• Enterprise Solutions
• The Erika Long Giving Fund
• The F.M. Kirby Foundation
• The Gottesman DeBode Family Fund
• The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving
• Hawaiian Electric Industries
• The HEI Charitable Foundation
• The Ittycheria-Thomas Family Fund
• The Javeri Fund
• The Joe C. Davis Foundation
• John and Jeanet Irwin
• John and Wendy Cozzi
• The Joe C. Davis Foundation
• John and Jeanet Irwin
• John and Wendy Cozzi
• The John William Pope Foundation
• Katherine Haley
• The Lanai Community Benefit Fund of the Hawaii Community Foundation
• The Lone Pine Foundation
• The Margaret and Daniel Loeb Foundation
• The MCJ Amelior Foundation
• The Mike and Patti Hennessy Foundation
• The Nakupuna Foundation, LLC
• The National School Choice Week Awareness Foundation
• The Nellie Mae Education Foundation
• The New Venture Fund
• Pulama Lanai
• The Riverview Works Fund at the Delaware Community Foundation
• The Robert Emens Black Fund of the Hawaii Community Foundation
• The Sartain Lanier Family Foundation
• The Scarlett Family Foundation
• The Shelly and Michael Kassen Philanthropic Fund
• Spectrum
• Teach For America
• The Turrell Fund
• United Way of Central New Mexico
• The VELA Education Fund
• Verizon
• yes. every kid.
• The Youth Matters Endowment Fund of the Hawaii Community Foundation

$1,000-$4,999
• Alex O. Romero
• Andrew Ashforth
• The Brookside Group
• Crystal Tapia-Romero
• Darrell Harvey
• Emily Anne Gullickson
• Friends of Takashi Ohno
• Gregory Levenson and Arellana Cordero
• Hawaiian Telcom, Inc.
• The Jeff and Loan Arce Family Fund of the Hawaii Community Foundation
• Ken Bartels and Jane Condon
• Levani R. Lipton
• The Michael Stoppelman Donation Fund
• North Carolina Association for Public Charter Schools
• Ritchie Mudd
• Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors
• Sherry Menor-McNamara
• The Sidney Stern Memorial Trust
• Steven Colson

$5,000-$49,999
• Anonymous
• Ann and Stanley Borowiec
• The Atherton Family Foundation
• The City and County of Honolulu
• The Connecticut Community Foundation
# Financials

## 50CAN INC.
### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY*
#### JANUARY - DECEMBER 2022

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<tr>
<th><strong>Revenue</strong></th>
<th><strong>Amount</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
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<td>Fee for Service</td>
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<td>Other Revenue</td>
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<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Expenses</strong></th>
<th><strong>Amount</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries &amp; Benefits</td>
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<td>Contract Services</td>
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<td>Grants to Schools</td>
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<td>Supplies &amp; Materials</td>
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<td>Facility &amp; Equipment</td>
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<td>Travel, Meetings &amp; Events</td>
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<td>IT &amp; Technology</td>
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<td>Insurance</td>
<td>$60,953</td>
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<td>Other Business</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$37,032,634</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$594,416</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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| **Net Assets, Beginning of Year** | $10,802,010 |
| **Net Assets, End of Year**      | $11,396,426  |

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All financial information was obtained from 50CAN's internal budget tracking for the 2022 fiscal year. All audit reports, Form 990s and previous CANnual Reports can be viewed or requested at [https://50can.org/about-us/financials](https://50can.org/about-us/financials).
50CAN Team and Board Members
NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michael Phillips, Board Chair
Chief Operating Officer, TDJ Enterprises

Ann Borowiec
Co-Chair, JerseyCAN and former CEO of JP Morgan Private Wealth Management

Campbell Brown
Vice President of Media Partnerships, Meta and Co-Founder of The 74 Million

Katherine Haley
Founder and Partner, Oak Rose Group

Deepa Javeri
Chief Financial Officer, XRHealth

Lisa Graham Keegan
Partner, The Keegan Company and former Arizona Superintendent of Public Instruction

Marc Porter Magee
CEO and Founder, 50CAN

Roland Martin
CEO, Black Star Network and host of #RolandMartinUnfiltered

Andrew Schwedel
Partner, Bain & Company
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