

Walter Blanks Jr. is a dynamic national spokesperson for the American Federation for Children (AFC) and a proud beneficiary of a private school choice program. From an early age, he recognized the harsh reality that far too many children remain trapped in underperforming schools. Determined to drive change, he dedicated his career to advocating for educational freedom and expanding opportunities for families across the country.

Before joining AFC full-time, Walter was selected as a member of the inaugural cohort of the American Federation for Children Future Leaders Fellowship, an elite, year-long advocacy and professional development program for graduates of private school choice programs. His leadership and commitment to education reform also earned him a place as a 2018 50CAN National Voices Fellow, a prestigious fellowship that identifies and supports rising leaders in education advocacy.

Walter's influence extends far beyond the organization. At AFC, he plays a key leadership role in shaping the Voices for Choice and Future Leaders Fellowship programs—flagship initiatives of the National Communications team that empower students, parents, and educators to share their stories and champion school choice policies. As a highly sought-after speaker and media figure, Walter frequently appears in both local and national print and broadcast outlets, using his platform to amplify the voices of those impacted by educational freedom.

A compelling storyteller and tireless advocate, Walter travels the country engaging with policymakers, grassroots organizations, and community leaders to advance policies that ensure every child has access to a quality education.

Walter holds a bachelor's degree in journalism and media production from Mount Vernon Nazarene University in Mount Vernon, Ohio.