

Breakthrough

2016 ANNUAL REPORT





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BREAKTHROUGH IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION that partners with those affected by poverty to build connections, develop skills, and open doors of opportunity. Breakthrough provides a myriad of

wraparound services focused on supporting adults, developing youth, and enriching the lives of those living in East Garfield Park, an underserved community on the West Side of Chicago.

LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

Breakthrough's impact continues to reach well beyond the walls of our four facilities in East Garfield Park. It extends throughout the streets of East Garfield Park, across the neighborhood; it flows throughout the city and even filters into conversations in people's homes. The work of Breakthrough is magnetic, contagious, and powerful, and this year was no different.

It seems that each year, Breakthrough defies what some say is impossible and surpasses goals that we once saw as only a vision. In a time where budget crisis and service cuts are common, Breakthrough continues to grow and thrive. For example, this past fiscal year, Breakthrough served an all-time high of 4,814 individuals in East Garfield Park.

This record-breaking year includes the first full year within the FamilyPlex. Because of this facility, we were able to increase the number of youth served by 60%. Over the next five years, we have an even bigger vision to complete the ramp-up of all FamilyPlex programs, providing more high quality opportunities for the residents of East Garfield Park. This year, we also diligently pursued the startup of our first-ever family housing program. This has been a long-term need within East Garfield Park and today, 11 homeless families are enrolled in Breakthrough's supportive housing.

We also saw increased support for the mission of Breakthrough. The Young Professionals Board hosted their first large event with over 200 people at the Lagunitas Brewery; it not only sold out, but also raised more funds than anticipated. And we had another incredible year at the Greater Chicago Food Depository's Hunger Walk, where we raised more money and had more volunteer walkers than ever.

Throughout this report are statistics, stories, and photographs of a beautiful and fruitful year at Breakthrough. However, the report represents more than numbers and smiling faces; it shows the hard work and dedication of Breakthrough staff, volunteers, participants, and donors that boldly partner together to make East Garfield Park a better place. My hope is that you see yourself and the way you supported Breakthrough and East Garfield Park in this piece.



Arloa Sutter, Executive Director



HOMELESS INTERVENTION

PURPOSE

Breakthrough focuses on providing housing stability and wraparound services to adults, with a priority on serving the most vulnerable homeless individuals. The goal of these efforts is for adults to move from crisis to stability and become contributing members of community.

CORE PROGRAMS

- Transitional Housing
- Permanent Housing
- Daytime Support & Drop-In Center
- Case Management
- Medical & Mental Health Care
- Life Skills & Job Training

YOUTH NETWORK

PURPOSE

Breakthrough seeks to see East Garfield Park become a place where success becomes the norm and families prosper. All youth programs have a focus on demonstrating hard work, cultivating skills, and giving youth a positive network of relationships that will lead to opportunities.

CORE PROGRAMS

- Beginners Preschool Program; Early Childhood Education
- Nettie Bailey Student Achievement Program; Afterschool Academic Enrichment
- Arts & Science Academy; Creative & Engaging Exploration of STEAM Careers
- Sports & Fitness Academy; Physical Fitness Classes, Sports Teams, & Healthy Living Guidance

COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT

PURPOSE

Breakthrough believes a thriving East Garfield Park includes access to affordable and nutritious food, opportunities for personal development, and community-wide engagement. Therefore, Breakthrough supports the community through a variety of stability-enhancing resources.

CORE PROGRAMS

- Fresh Market Client Choice Food Pantry
- Breakthrough Fellows; Two-Year Professional Development Program
- Adult Computer Literacy Classes
- Adult Art & Science Classes
- Workforce Development; Career Coaching & Job Placement

HOMELESS INTERVENTION

Joyce is a 35 year-old mother of five. She came to Breakthrough fleeing years of domestic abuse. Her immediate need to find safety for herself and her children separated the family. Joyce arrived broken and exhausted, but she was determined to bring the family back together as quickly as possible. Joyce took all of the classes and advice she could find.

She eventually found employment through her diligence and our thoughtful case management support. She worked every shift her employer offered, and in a little less than 4 months, she was able to save enough money for 1st month's rent and security. Joyce secured housing and was able to reunite with her children.

1,200

ADULTS ENGAGED IN HOMELESS SERVICES

70,000

MEALS SERVED

OPEN

24/7/365





HOUSING

**SECURED PERMANENT
HOUSING FOR 75
INDIVIDUALS**

**MANAGED
43 HOUSING UNITS,
94% RETAINED HOUSING**

HEALTH

**69% INCREASED
KNOWLEDGE OF HOW
SELF-MANAGEMENT
SKILLS CAN LEAD TO A
HEALTHY LIFESTYLE**

**74% BECAME AWARE
OF TRAUMA'S IMPACT
ON CHOICES**
**83% RECEIVED ACCESS TO
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

EMPLOYMENT

**40 INDIVIDUALS
GAINED EMPLOYMENT**

**79% RETAINED
EMPLOYMENT**

**83% RETAINED
EMPLOYMENT ≥ 90 DAYS**

YOUTH NETWORK

One of our Beginners, Marcus, has a loving and passionate personality. In the beginning of his time with us, this enthusiastic personality was a challenge to his cognitive development. Overstimulation would cause him to be frustrated and inhibit his ability to concentrate.

Breakthrough teachers were able to partner with his mother to better understand Marcus, and then they proceeded to provide specialized instruction and create a learning environment that supported his unique needs. All of this contributed to Marcus' success.

Marcus graduated from our program well above his national peers at 81% according to the BRACKEN school readiness assessment. Moreover, our students grew an average of 18 percentile points on the national kindergarten readiness test. This is significantly higher than their national peers.

Stories like Marcus' are only possible because the Breakthrough Beginners teachers and staff are committed to excellence through parent partnership, purposeful learning strategies, and welcoming environments.

802

UNDUPLICATED STUDENTS

192

REGULAR VOLUNTEERS

BEGINNERS

90% OF STUDENTS BECAME KINDERGARTEN READY

NETTIE BAILEY STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

78% OF 8TH GRADERS GAINED ENTRANCE INTO TOP CHICAGO HIGH SCHOOLS

ARTS AND SCIENCE ACADEMY

68% OF STUDENTS INCREASED THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF STEM-RELATED CAREERS



SPORTS AND FITNESS ACADEMY

THE SPORTS AND FITNESS ACADEMY SERVED **534** STUDENTS, A **48%** INCREASE FROM LAST FISCAL YEAR

BEGINNERS

GREW TO SERVE **49** STUDENTS AGES 2-5

NETTIE BAILEY STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

THIS YEAR, THE NBSAP GREW TO SERVE **148** STUDENTS; UP 60 STUDENTS FROM PRIOR YEAR

ARTS AND SCIENCE ACADEMY

THE ARTS AND SCIENCE ACADEMY SERVED **202** STUDENTS, NEARLY TRIPLE THE ENROLLMENT OF LAST FISCAL YEAR

COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT

Mary was formerly a guest in Breakthrough's Transitional Housing program. While living at the women's center she started volunteering at the Fresh Market as part of a work experience program. She is smart and has a huge heart, but deals with some mental instability. Before coming to Breakthrough, she had lacked a supportive network to help her transition to independence.

Recently, Mary graduated from the Transitional Housing Program and moved into Breakthrough's Permanent Supportive Housing program, where she has more independence and personal stability, while still having access to case management and Breakthrough's large network of resources.

Although she is no longer living onsite at Breakthrough, Mary still continues to volunteer and engage with the Fresh Market. She is learning customer service, professionalism, and what it means to be dependable. She accesses the market for her food, and the other volunteers regularly check on her to make sure she visits monthly, is able to get home, and they encourage her to try cooking new and healthy foods.

At the Fresh Market we hope to enable stability among all our volunteers and shoppers through physical, mental, and emotional health. This network of support creates a familial atmosphere that offers dignity, community, and respect.

2,812

**FAMILIES SERVED
IN THE FRESH MARKET**

400,000

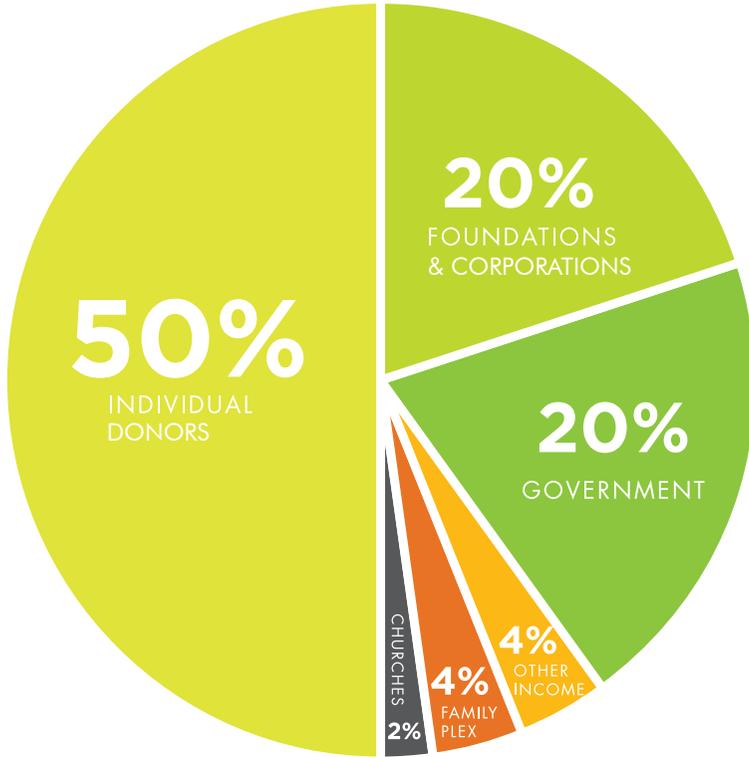
POUNDS OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED





FINANCIALS

FUNDING SOURCES



EXPENSES

86%

PROGRAM
SERVICES

9%

FUNDRAISING

5%

MANAGEMENT
& GENERAL

Visit <http://www.breakthrough.org/transparency/> to view or download:
2016 Audited Financial Statements and 2015 Public 990 Form

LEADERSHIP TEAM



ARLOA SUTTER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



YOLANDA FIELDS
CHIEF PROGRAM
OFFICER - Breakthrough
Adult Support Network



BILL CURRY
CHIEF PROGRAM
OFFICER - Breakthrough
Youth Network



JOHN SMITH
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICER



WILONDA CANNON
SENIOR DIRECTOR
OF DEVELOPMENT



GOVERNING BOARD



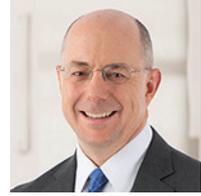
TERRY TRUAX



O'NEAL MILLER



GANNON JONES



STUART MILLER



KATÉY ASSEM



BRANDON BARR



ROBINZINA BRYANT



TARRAH COOPER



JARED FALCONER



VINNI HALL



KATHLEEN HENSON



RAYMOND LEE



JOHNNY MUSSO



D.L. MORRIS



DESIRÉE TATE



ERIK FYRWALD



The logo for Breakthrough features the word "Breakthrough" in a bold, sans-serif font. The "Break" portion is white and set against a dark green rectangular background. The "through" portion is white. A yellow starburst icon is positioned above the letter "t".

Breakthrough

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