Based on current social distancing guidelines, determine who you’d like to invite to your watch party. Ask them to register at breakthrough.org/benefit.

Here is a sample email invitation you could send:

An organization I love and support on the west side of Chicago is hosting a virtual Annual Benefit, and I’d like to invite you to join me for a Watch Party. Come learn about the impactful work Breakthrough is doing in East Garfield Park, a community disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. The Benefit, themed “Never Give Up”, will be held Thursday, October 29th from 7-8pm. Please let me know if you can join me, and register to attend at breakthrough.org/benefit.
#2 - Plan Your Party

Create an inviting environment for your friends and family to make the evening fun and comfortable, while adhering to social distancing guidelines.

**How will your gathering watch the Benefit?** Will you stream it onto a TV screen? Can you safely gather around a single computer screen? Will you encourage people to bring their lap-tops so you can all watch separately while being together?

**Will you provide refreshments?** Here are some examples of what hosts are planning: Nate loves Lou Malnati’s, so he will order pizza for his guests; Mary likes to cook, so she is going to serve coffee and her homemade snacks and desserts; Don is a wine lover, so he is going to offer wine and cheese and crackers. It doesn’t have to be fancy, but as we say at Breakthrough “something special happens around a cup of coffee.”

#3 – Share Your Passion

Leading up to and the night of the Benefit, let your friends know why you are passionate about supporting Breakthrough. Which of our programs inspires you most? Do you have a personal experience of volunteering to share? Why do you believe Breakthrough’s work is more important than ever? You can also share with them the Breakthrough Overview Video, found at breakthrough.org/overview

#4 – Facilitate Generosity

In a typical year, Breakthrough works to raise $1M through the Annual Benefit. This is not a typical year, so we need you to help inspire your guests to give generously to Breakthrough’s work. See the guide below and encourage your guests to plan their giving.

*If you would like us to send you giving cards that your guests can mail in with a check (no cash accepted), let us know by October 20th.*
Thank you for your generous support of Breakthrough through the 2020 Annual Benefit. We know this year is different, so here are some ways to give to support our work. By planning ahead for your generosity, you can ensure an impact in East Garfield Park.

*All new or increased monthly contributions will be matched!*

**Online**
We are encouraging online donations for this event, so you can give a gift online by clicking the Donate button at [breakthrough.org/benefit](http://breakthrough.org/benefit). Please note, the maximum amount per eCheck transaction is $5,000. *There is no limit for credit or debit card transactions.*

**Check**
To make a gift by mail, send your check made out to Breakthrough Urban Ministries to P.O. Box 47200, Chicago, IL 60647.

**Stock**
If you are interested in giving a gift of stock to Breakthrough, our staff can help walk you through the process and provide all the details you will need. Please contact John Smith at jsmith@breakthrough.org or (773) 346-1730

**Would you like Giving Cards?**
We would love to mail you a donation card that you can send back to us. Please let us know if you would like a mailed card by October 20.

**Questions?**
If you need support making your donation, please contact Kirsten Strand at kstrand@breakthrough.org or (630) 842-6217