Hope is Rising
Dear Friends,

In these first few months as the Executive Director of Breakthrough, I have experienced the conviction of our staff and the love of so many of you. I am so grateful for the legacy of compassion, partnership, and unwavering faith Arloa established nearly 30 years ago and for the ways we have been able to build on her legacy.

We have been relentless in our efforts to address the crises our community has faced and to be a tangible demonstration of love for our neighbors. Our team has brought compassion and competency to our partnerships with parents, youth, individuals experiencing homelessness, and victims in our community.

The veil on inequities has been ripped, but I believe that hope is rising in East Garfield Park.

Over the last year, 586 men and women accessed basic needs in our support centers. When parents needed to go to work, we provided more than 1,000 hours of remote learning support to students. We provided hot meals and fresh food to our neighbors, and we responded to incidents of violence in our community by offering resources to victims and their families.

We want to see our community rise above challenges and into its fullest potential. As you read these stories of real opportunities and authentic relationships, I hope you experience the hope that I feel everyday in East Garfield Park. Thank you for being a part of our Breakthrough family.
MISSION
Breakthrough partners with those affected by poverty to build connections, develop skills, and open doors of opportunity.

VALUES
God
People
Relationships
Redemption
Structure
Collaboration
Community
Racial Justice
FOCUS AREAS

EDUCATION & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
Education and youth development opportunities for students ages 2-24, with a focus on parent engagement.

HEALTH & WELLNESS
Behavioral health, food access, sports and fitness programs, and medical care for individuals in East Garfield Park.

NETWORK MODEL
All programs are built on the foundation that more relationships lead to more learning, support, and opportunities.

KEY CONCEPTS

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
Providing opportunities and resources that foster financial wellness and economic stability.

VIOLENCE PREVENTION
Reducing violence through a comprehensive, scientific, public health approach that changes behaviors and eliminates the conditions that allow violence to spread.

TRAUMA INFORMED
Breakthrough structures services to acknowledge and overcome the negative impact of trauma in daily life.

DIVERSE FUNDING BASE
An intentionally diverse funding base from corporations, foundations, individuals, churches, and government ensures financial stability.

HOW WE SUPPORT PEOPLE

HOUSING
Transitional and permanent supportive housing for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Daily supportive services for those in crisis.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION
Individuals have the option to participate in devotionals, prayer, Bible studies, and spiritual direction.

DIGNITY & RESPECT
All individuals are worthy of dignity and deep respect. Breakthrough is committed to empowering individuals and honoring what they bring to the restoration process.

COMMUNITY DNA
The only way to truly become part of a community is to build intimate connections, listen, and respond by often putting our own agendas aside.

GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS
One of the most unique things about Breakthrough is our commitment to community revitalization within a 40-block zone.

EDUCATION & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

DEVELOPMENT
Education and youth development opportunities for students ages 2-24, with a focus on parent engagement.

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The new Community Economic Development (CED) program at Breakthrough reflects a deepened commitment to the wellness of East Garfield Park. With resources for education, work experience, and supportive services, the CED program provides an integrated approach to economic stability and financial empowerment.

Breakthrough is committed to meeting residents where they are. To that end, we walk with individuals on their personal finance journey in a few key ways: workforce development, financial coaching, income support, housing, and supporting the launch of small businesses.

“When I first started this program here at Breakthrough, I was unsure about my future and I was intimidated by the workforce,” says Keysha, a former Community Economic Development participant. “Since being in the program, it has allowed me to brush up on my skills as far as resume-building, how to look for jobs on the computer, and how to budget my money.”

In its inaugural year, the Community Economic Development program served nearly 200 individuals and has already seen the impact of its services. Wilonda Cannon, Senior Director of Economic Opportunity, defines the vision as this: “In the coming years, the Community Economic Development program will be a hub of resources, so no matter where you are or where you want to be, this is a place that’s going to bring everything that seems unreachable within arms reach so that people really can change the trajectory of their lives.”

Wilonda Cannon
Senior Director
Community Economic Development

Hope is Rising...

as we witness resiliency from participants in the Community Economic Development program. Their commitment to themselves coupled with a radically engaging approach inspires hope in us all.
Providing opportunities and resources for economic stability and financial empowerment

Ages 18+

197 PEOPLE SERVED

- 61% of participants in career readiness workshops were placed in employment
- 92% of people who were screened for benefits received income support services
- 79% received more than one service (employment, financial, or income support)
For more than 20 years, the Breakthrough Youth Network (BYN) has offered academic enrichment and extracurricular opportunities to students in East Garfield Park. But, as programs became more integrated into the community and expanded to reach youth ages two to 24, the need for a behavioral health component in order to holistically meet the needs of the community became apparent.

“There were additional barriers that youth and families were facing to access those programs, but, more specifically, to succeed in those programs,” says Marcie Curry, Chief Program Officer of the Breakthrough Youth Network.

Last year, Breakthrough began offering behavioral health services to school-age youth. Behavioral Health Coordinator Alece McFadden provides one-on-one and group therapy for students in the Nettie Bailey Student Achievement Program. Additionally, she equips staff with tools, offers counseling services and resources to families, and ensures a continuity in students’ lives through partnerships with parents, teachers, and schools.

A catalyst for this program was the recognition of the impact of gun violence and trauma on residents of all ages, Marcie said. The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the social isolation students experienced during the last school year also increased the need for behavioral health services.

“It’s really about meeting the children where they are and growing with them,” Alece says. “The children have the reins, but we’re just here to help guide them and steer them in the right direction.”
Education and youth development opportunities with a focus on parent engagement

1,103 STUDENTS SERVED

**BREAKTHROUGH BEGINNERS**

- **STUDENTS SERVED**: 71
- 100% of exiting preschool students are kindergarten ready
- 81% of students demonstrated age-appropriate self-regulation skills
- 54 youth received behavioral health support services

**NETTIE BAILEY STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM**

- **STUDENTS SERVED**: 170
- 1,056 hours of remote learning support during the school day
- 98% of Arts & Technology students reported positive relationships with STEAM professionals

**LONDON JOHNSON ARTS & TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY**

- **STUDENTS SERVED**: 128
- 98% of Arts & Technology students reported positive relationships with STEAM professionals
- 100% of students are kindergarten ready
- 81% of students demonstrated age-appropriate self-regulation skills
- 170 students reported positive relationships with STEAM professionals

Due to Covid-19, Breakthrough intentionally measured new ways we supported students.
Education and youth development opportunities with a focus on parent engagement

1,103 STUDENTS SERVED

of Sports & Fitness students demonstrated positive, prosocial behavior
79%

of youth reported supportive relationships with adults
85%

26 high school students received financial support through Breakthrough’s scholarship program

53 students supported through the annual Trunk Party

SPORTS & FITNESS ACADEMY
407 STUDENTS SERVED

BREAKTHROUGH BEYOND
127 STUDENTS SERVED

Ages 6-18
Ages 14-24
The voices of teens subsided as they finished dinner and a trader from the Chicago Trading Company shared about his job from the front of the classroom. The high school students listened eagerly as they learned about the stock market and a new career path.

Tuesday night college and career readiness skills classes are part of Breakthrough’s expanded offerings to high school and post-secondary students called Breakthrough Beyond. Teens have met professionals from a variety of fields, from a trader to an emergency room doctor. “The exposure has gotten them more career-focused,” says Myisha McGee, Director of High School and Post-Secondary Education.

The class has a strong focus on financial literacy, and Myisha hopes when students finish the program they will have a practical toolkit. “Just to be able to see the progression in the conversation, the way that they show up every week, the way that they take financial literacy so seriously, they’re exceeding the expectations that I set,” she says.

Over the years, Breakthrough has provided support to high school and post-secondary students through the annual Trunk Party, scholarships, and employment opportunities. However, Breakthrough recognizes that many local students are not fully prepared for college and careers. Many students need resources for independent living, financial management, and workplace skills. Others need access to internships or trade school opportunities.

To address these needs, Breakthrough Beyond has already grown with the addition of opportunities like college and career readiness skills classes and the expansion of current support. In the coming years, the program will continue to offer new, robust opportunities to East Garfield Park’s next generation.
The COVID-19 pandemic has emphasized how critical housing is for the wellness of individuals and communities. In response to this crisis, All Chicago and the Chicago Continuum of Care (CoC) developed the Expedited Housing Initiative (EHI), a homeless intervention program that uses federal funding to connect individuals and families to available rental subsidies and units quickly by removing barriers.

To effectively carry out the program, EHI hosts Accelerated Moving Events (AME) at shelters like Breakthrough. During these one-day events, participants are able to complete several steps of the housing process. Breakthrough hosted an AME on April 13, 2021.

During the event, Lauren Cole, Director of Housing, hurriedly guided participants to the waiting room, then to the room where they could work with the AME team to view photos of units and fill out an application. “Pure excitement, pure joy – there is a sense of urgency and hope in the air today,” she says.

Princess, a participant in the event, said she arrived feeling excited and nervous. “I’m grateful that I’m here today and for all the resources they have at their disposal and for how comfortable that they try to make the clients,” she says. During the Accelerated Moving Event, 26 men and women were connected to permanent housing. Each participant has received ongoing financial and support services.

“I think COVID, while it has been devastating, it has also highlighted some of the things that we really need to work on in our city,” Lauren says. “I hope that the system continues to work harder and faster to get people in their own homes.”

ONE-DAY PROGRAM CONNECTS 26 PARTICIPANTS TO PERMANENT HOUSING
Transitional and permanent supportive housing for individuals and families experiencing homelessness

Daily supportive services for those in crisis

908 PEOPLE SERVED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOUSING</th>
<th>PEOPLE SERVED</th>
<th>DAYTIME SUPPORT CENTER</th>
<th>TRANSITIONAL HOUSING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAMILY HOUSING</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transitional Housing</td>
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<tr>
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<td>51%</td>
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<td>of adult guests were placed in</td>
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<td>of transitional housing</td>
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<td>guests who found independent</td>
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<tr>
<td>120+ days</td>
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<tr>
<td>PEOPLE SERVED</td>
<td>756</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>received essential resources such</td>
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<td>as food, showers, laundry, and</td>
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<td>technology</td>
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<td>of permanent supportive housing</td>
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<td>of guests maintained or</td>
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<td>increased their income</td>
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<td>families received permanent</td>
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<tr>
<td>housing and wraparound support</td>
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</table>

PEOPLE SERVED

908

586

41

47

234

64

11

50%

68%

51%

100%
Though residents are leading transformation across Chicago, in communities like East Garfield Park, individuals and families are affected by violence everyday, and the long-term impact is profound.

Breakthrough’s Violence Prevention team, as part of a city-wide collaboration of community-based outreach organizations called Communities Partnering 4 Peace (CP4P), responds with an understanding of the burden traumatic events put on our neighbors and an effort to restore dignity and respect.

As the team quickly responds to incidents in East Garfield Park, Victim Advocates partner with outreach workers and case managers to provide comprehensive trauma-informed services to individuals who have been victims of violence and their families. With a focus on emotional support and victim services, Victim Advocates visit crime scenes and victims’ homes and accompany families to hospitals, medical examiner’s offices, and funeral homes.

“They are a response team, but it goes deeper than that,” says Damien Morris, Senior Director of Violence Prevention. “They come from a stance of compassion. They provide comfort, resources, and their listening ear.”

A continuation of this support is offered on a recurring basis for up to six months if desired. These supports are guided by key principles: an understanding of the prevalence of trauma and its effects, resisting re-traumatization, and supporting the resilience of individuals.
Breakthrough’s violence intervention programs are part of a collaborative with 16 other local community-based agencies working in 28 communities called Communities Partnering 4 Peace, as well as Metropolitan Family Services, the City of Chicago, and the Chicago Police Department.

Reducing violence through a comprehensive, scientific, public health approach that changes behaviors and eliminates the conditions that allow violence to spread

400+ PEOPLE SERVED

- 82 individuals received case management services
- 70 individuals received re-entry services
- 60 safe space events held throughout the year in the Garfield Park community
- 68 individuals received employment services
- 107 referrals made

Ages 16+
May is Mental Health Awareness Month, a national movement to raise awareness and reduce the stigma around mental health.

Breakthrough’s Behavioral Health program partners with participants across program areas to provide on-site access to medical and mental health care, trauma-informed care, and resources for developing healthy behaviors. For the month of May, the Behavioral Health team devoted attention to staff as well.

“Mental Health Awareness Month was the perfect opportunity for us to decide while we’re focusing on our guests and giving them tools, we can also focus on our staff,” said Cheron Massenburg, Chief Program Officer of the Adult Support Network.

Throughout the month, staff at Breakthrough received resources for mental health, including weekly, virtual Mental Wellness Moments. The moments included stress relieving exercises, wellness topics, and discussions with professionals. Additionally, the team shared free virtual events, podcasts, and other tools from leading mental health organizations.

“All of us have mental health, or are somewhere on the spectrum of mental health, and can work towards improving our mental health,” says Lisa Wiese, Director of Behavioral Health services. “It’s going to look unique for everybody, but as we work on our own mental health, we’re in a position to help others improve theirs.”
HEALTH AND WELLNESS

of transitional housing participants reported an increased awareness of the relationship among trauma, choices, and behavior

Partnering with individuals to foster wellness through behavioral health services

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Ages 18+

462 PEOPLE SERVED

462 adults experiencing homelessness received behavioral health care

100%

69% of support center guests were connected to additional services

100%

54 youth served through the new Behavioral Health position
Providing high-quality, fresh foods to local residents in our community

**FRESH MARKET**

- All Ages

**4,196** RECURRING FAMILIES ACCESSED THE PANTRY FOR A TOTAL OF **19,760** UNIQUE VISITS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

**644** Fresh Market shoppers were connected to additional supports

**20** community leaders volunteering each week to run the Fresh Market

**666,771** POUNDS OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED
Breakthrough’s model of service delivery is based on the Bible’s teaching about love, hospitality, and generosity for our neighbors. Our mission, vision, and values are rooted in ensuring love is a verb. At Breakthrough, our faith is put into action and motivates us to use all that we are given to develop programs that help individuals, families and community thrive.

“JUST AS THE BODY IS DEAD WITHOUT BREATH, SO ALSO FAITH IS DEAD WITHOUT GOOD WORKS.”
- JAMES 2:26
Individuals have the option to participate in devotionals, prayer, Bible studies, and spiritual direction.

- Breakthrough staff embody the compassion of Christ as we partner with our neighbors in the East Garfield Park neighborhood and beyond.
- Monthly staff gatherings foster community building, communication, and spiritual development.
- Staff gather weekly to pray for leadership, staff, and our neighbors.

90+ volunteers served in Breakthrough Youth Network programs—this, as part of the Network Model, connects youth to caring adults who provide support, mentorship, and access to opportunity.

3 days a week, staff and volunteers facilitate Bible studies at the Men's and Women's Centers for guests experiencing homelessness.
Luke Shepard and his dad, Jeff Shepard, have been volunteering with Breakthrough for five years, teaching the robotics class at the Breakthrough Youth Network in the winter and spring in preparation for the First Lego League competition each fall. “My dad taught me to code when I was in middle school, which set me up for a career in software,” Luke says. “I love watching these kids learn what they are capable of doing as they explore and learn about not only robotics and coding but teamwork and invention.”

Paul Meyer has faithfully volunteered to plant and tend to Breakthrough’s garden for more than 8 years. Each spring, he obtains donated vegetable seeds and seedlings from a local greenhouse to plant in the garden. These vegetables are grown, harvested, and used in the meals prepared at our Men’s and Women’s Centers. “I have enjoyed interacting with the men from the center as they have commented or asked questions about a particular plant; a number of them have been reminded of helping their grandparents in their gardens growing up,” he says.
F3 Chicago has partnered with Breakthrough for the past two years and has participated in projects across the Breakthrough campus, such as organizing clothing donations, volunteering in clean-up efforts, and setting up the Christmas Store. According to Jon Kleiden, when the group serves, “An incredible power and connection is unleashed through the action of service, not only for the people and projects we hope to impact, but also for us individually and as a group.”

TTX Company has been involved with Breakthrough for three years. They have generously provided gifts for the annual Christmas Store and donated TVs to the Community Economic Development program for classes. Brian Powers, Vice President, Chief Human Resources Officer of TTX Company, leads their partnership with Breakthrough. “At TTX Company, one of our core values is ‘Do the Right Thing,’” he says. “In partnering with Breakthrough, we not only do what is right for the East Garfield Park community, but we also learn and grow with each other in the process.”

People Church has been involved at Breakthrough for several years faithfully serving meals with Manna Ministry and volunteering at events like the Christmas Store. This year, they helped pilot our Hunger Hero advocacy program, which involves learning about food insecurity and taking action to be a part of the solution through volunteer experiences. A group completed every step and are official Hunger Heroes! They are just a few of many heroes who are working to address issues of food insecurity in East Garfield Park and throughout Chicago.

Park Community Church Lincoln Park has been an incredible partner to Breakthrough for the past 21 years. They have served meals to guests at the Men’s and Women’s Centers, offered generous support during the COVID-19 pandemic, and teamed up with us for the Chicago Triathlon. Member Jackie Craig is a champion for Breakthrough’s work, “Breakthrough has an amazing heart and spreads love in so many ways in East Garfield Park, and it’s a privilege to be part of even a small piece of their endless involvement in the neighborhood,” she says.

People Church

Park Community Church

F3 Chicago

TTX Company
### Support & Revenue

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<tr>
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<td>Government Grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revenue from Forgiven Debt*</td>
<td>5,654,800</td>
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<td>Program Fees</td>
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<td>Gifts in Kind</td>
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*Revenue from Forgiven Debt includes New Market Tax Credit loans, Paycheck Protection Program loans, and part of an unsecured loan.

### Expenses

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<td>Management and General</td>
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### Change in Net Assets

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### Revenue

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<td>Foundations &amp; Corporations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individuals</td>
<td>26%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gifts in Kind</td>
<td>6%</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Program Fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Churches</td>
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### Expenses

<table>
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<td>7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management &amp; General</td>
<td>4%</td>
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</table>
as we see our community rise above challenges and into its fullest potential.

Hope is Rising...
ST LOUIS
Email info@breakthrough.org   | Phone (773) 722-1144   | Fax (773) 722-1434

3330 W. Carroll Ave.
Est. 2000

402 N. St Louis Ave.
Est. 2008

3334 W. Carroll Ave.
Est. 2014

3330 W. Carroll Ave.
Est. 2000

3219 W. Carroll Ave.
Est. 2015

214 N. Homan Ave.
Est. 2019

40 BLOCK ZONE

GARFIELD PARK

WASHINGTON

MADISON

FRESH MARKET

WOMEN’S CENTER

FAMILYPLEX

VIOLENCE PREVENTION CENTER

Est. 2014

Est. 2000

Est. 2015

Est. 2019

Email info@breakthrough.org   | Phone (773) 722-1144   | Fax (773) 722-1434