



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 24, 2019

**Local education nonprofit's Future Focus
bridges education equity gap across Central Texas**

*Breakthrough Central Texas creates path to and through college with real-world work
experience for students from under-resourced communities*

WHAT: Breakthrough Central Texas' Future Focus Summer Internship Program

WHEN: Tuesday, August 13, 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**WHO: Breakthrough Central Texas
Michael Griffith, Executive Director Breakthrough Central Texas**

**WHERE: SolarWinds
Building 400, 7171 Southwest Parkway
Austin, TX 78735**

AUSTIN, TEXAS – The Future Focus Summer Internship Program is a collaboration between Breakthrough Central Texas, KIPP Collegiate, and Austin-area businesses that provides professional experience through paid internships for recent high school graduates from low-income communities. On August 13, 2019, nearly 36 Breakthrough college students will give presentations on what their internship experience taught them to a panel of volunteers.

Breakthrough Central Texas works with students from underserved communities and their families, beginning in the sixth grade, to create a path to and through college. Breakthrough students will become the first in their family to earn a college degree. First-generation college students often lack the resources and network to secure a valuable internship, and may not be able to afford an unpaid internship.

“Our students are dedicated and determined,” says Breakthrough Central Texas Executive Director Michael Griffith. “We are honored to introduce them to resources like Future Focus which help them to gain invaluable experiences and learn more about potential career paths.”

This summer, 36 Breakthrough students interned with 17 Austin-area companies. To mark the conclusion of the experience, SolarWinds will host Future Focus interns on August 13. Interns will give presentations to a panel of community volunteers, and share what this experience has meant for each of them.

SolarWinds is a corporate partner of Breakthrough Central Texas. Since its inception in 2011, Future Focus has placed more than 350 interns with more than 100 Austin-area companies. To volunteer for Future Focus, please contact [Kate Garrett](#), Director of Corporate Partnerships at Breakthrough Central Texas, or visit breakthroughctx.org/experience-breakthrough.

ABOUT BREAKTHROUGH CENTRAL TEXAS

Breakthrough Central Texas is a student-centric education nonprofit that creates a path to and through college for students from low-income communities. From sixth grade through to college, the organization offers out-of-school learning experiences, leadership skills, and comprehensive advising to students. The organization makes a 12-year commitment to students and their families to guide them through the process of preparing for, enrolling in and completing college. The long-term model ensures the success of students and families from middle school to high school graduation to college diploma and beyond. Join the conversation on Twitter [@BreakthroughCTX](#), Instagram [@BreakthroughCTX](#) and at [Facebook.com/BreakthroughCTX](https://www.facebook.com/BreakthroughCTX). To learn more, visit www.breakthroughctx.org.

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