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A letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends of Breakthrough,

Our first newsletter contains just a snapshot of the many things happening at Breakthrough. Hundreds of stories like these are unfolding every day, as we support nearly 1,100 students on their path to college. Just like our students, Breakthrough is growing and maturing, and it is exciting to be a part of it.

We think a lot about growth at Breakthrough, as we see our students grow, literally and figuratively, from middle schoolers to well-spoken, hardworking young adults. Our organization is growing too: we are on track to nearly double our student body in the next five years. I am so proud of the work that happens at Breakthrough, and I hope you are proud to be a part of it, too. Our progress is only possible because of people like you, who believe in our students and support their dreams.

You are essential to our efforts to help students go from sixth grade all the way to college graduation, and we want to keep you informed any way we can. Please watch for two editions of this newsletter each year. And thank you, always, for all that you do for our students.

With gratitude,

Michael Griffith

BRIGHT FUTURES for the high school class of 2015

In 2009, a group of 49 sixth grade students from across Austin made a commitment to their futures by joining Breakthrough. After six years of summer programs, homework help, and guidance counseling, this group of young adults has already accomplished a great deal:

High school graduation is the first of many milestones for our students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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Enrolling in college immediately after high school greatly increases a student’s likelihood of earning a degree.

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The Breakthrough class of 2015 has worked hard to beat those odds. Now, they are in the middle of their first semester of college. To see our college freshmen and the schools they are attending, please visit www.BreakthroughAustin.org/college-enrollment.

Breakthrough Student Body Doubles by 2020

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<td>387</td>
<td>609</td>
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Partner Spotlight: Bazaarvoice and Bazaarvoice Foundation

Bazaarvoice has supported Breakthrough since 2011, and employees are frequent volunteers. From annual backpack and healthy snack drives that give our students the tools they need for school success, to the many hours that Bazaarvoice employees dedicate to serving as mentors and volunteers for Breakthrough, we are fortunate to have this local company as a key partner.

“We believe in supporting students to become innovative leaders, which Breakthrough does by ensuring its students succeed along their educational journeys.” – Kelly Ballard, Executive Director, Bazaarvoice Foundation

Bazaarvoice is a member of Breakthrough’s Corporate Council, a group of Austin businesses invested in helping low-income students in Central Texas become first-generation college graduates. To see the full list of our partners, visit www.BreakthroughAustin.org/2015-Corporate-Partners
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Meet Erika.