

the **BREAKTHROUGH** **CHALLENGE**

CAMPAIGN YEAR TWO REPORT

In 2019, Breakthrough launched The Breakthrough Challenge - a \$10 million campaign to propel the organization toward an ambitious new North Star: to double the number of college graduates from low-income communities in Central Texas.

Central Texas has one of the lowest college graduation rates in the state among students from under-resourced communities. We challenged the community to join us in changing that...and you accepted our challenge!

186 generous community members came together to invest \$10.5 million in The Breakthrough Challenge campaign.

With this generous investment, even the pandemic has not derailed our long-term plans. The Breakthrough Challenge campaign funds are providing the critical launch capital to help Breakthrough achieve growth, scale programs, and build capacity for greater impact by 2023.

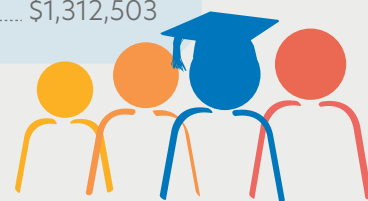
We are pleased to share the following highlights. While this report reflects the short-term impact of our community's investment, we know that every new first-generation college graduate creates an enormous ripple effect that lifts the hopes, dreams and ambitions of their immediate and extended families and their communities.

THE PROMISE FUND

Approximately twenty-percent of the funds raised through The Breakthrough Challenge campaign are being used to establish The Promise Fund, an endowment to help ensure Breakthrough can always fulfill the 12-year promise we make to our students.

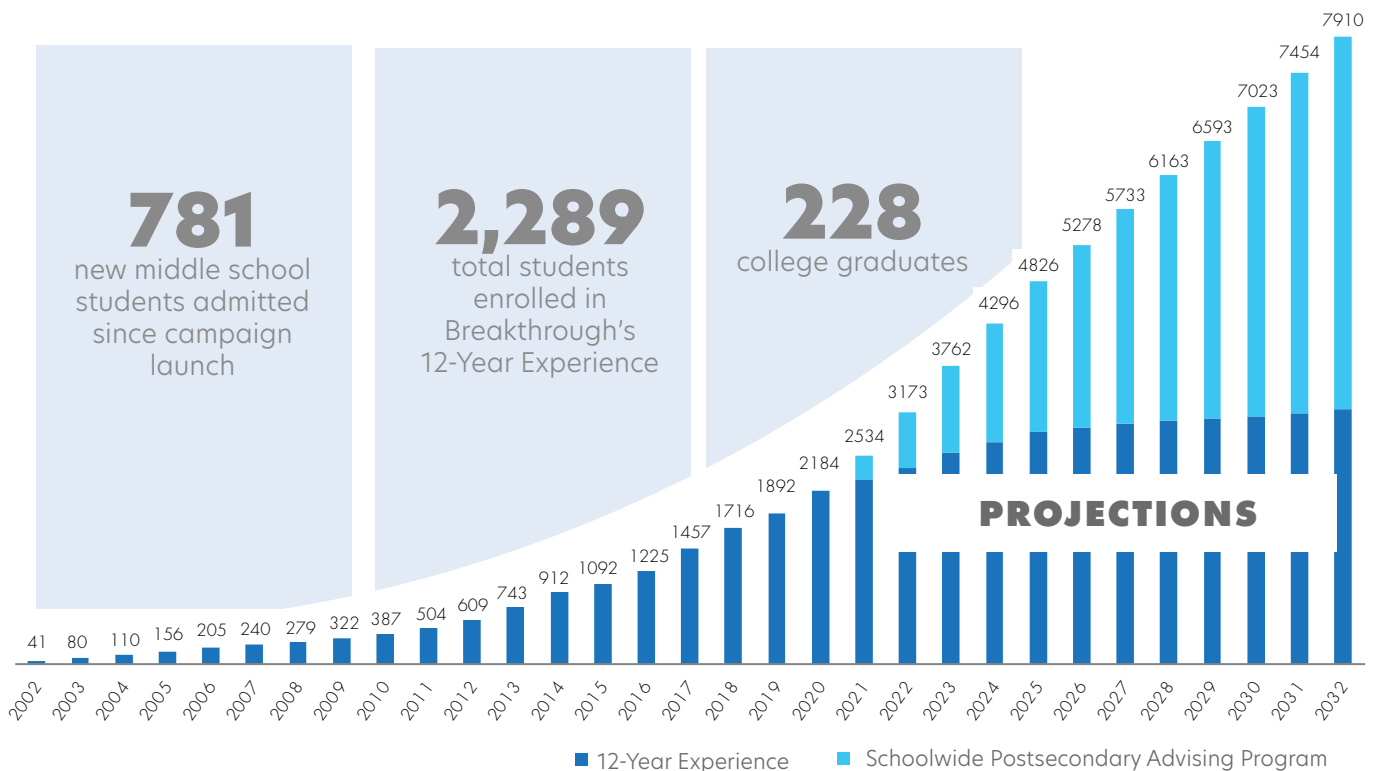
Endowment Fund Financial Report for December 31, 2020 through December 31, 2021:

MARKET VALUE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2020	\$946,558
GIFTS RECEIVED.....	\$230,330
INCOME AND INVESTMENT GAINS/LOSSES	\$135,615
MARKET VALUE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2021	\$1,312,503



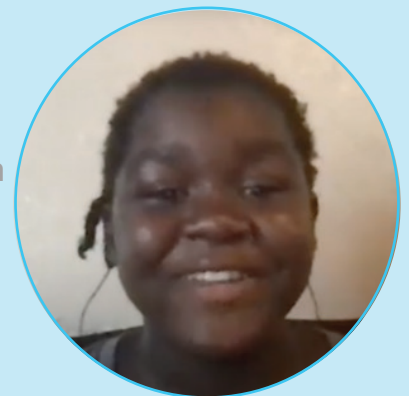
ACHIEVING GROWTH

While recruitment efforts in 2021 continued to be challenged by the pandemic and limited opportunities to connect with prospective students and families in a virtual setting, we are now more than halfway to our goal of enrolling an additional 1,400 middle school students into Breakthrough's 12-Year Experience by 2023. In addition, the number of college graduates has more than doubled since the launch of the campaign.



One of my favorite things about this summer was being able to talk about what's happening in the world that impacts us, like racism and social justice. I also liked learning more about the country I'm from in an Exploration Class. I'm from Cameroon, Africa, and in our Exploration Class, we were taught about the different countries in Africa. It was cool to be able to learn more about my country and culture.

SHEILA, 7TH GRADE



SCALING PROGRAMS



HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

During the 2020-2021 school year, Breakthrough successfully launched our Del Valle High School program guiding our first pioneering class of Del Valle students through their freshman year, 10th Grade Summer Leadership Institute, and transition to their sophomore year, all while navigating the return to in-person classes.

COLLEGE & CAREER SUCCESS PROGRAM

With the addition of the Class of 2021, Breakthrough's College Completion Program grew to serve 582 students - a 100% increase since the campaign launch in 2019. Breakthrough increased the number of peer student mentors and piloted a new co-advising model for students at St. Edward's University that we hope to scale to other in-state partner schools. The College Completion Program was renamed the College & Career Success Program to better represent Breakthrough's inclusive approach to supporting students to find success in a variety of postsecondary pathways, including 4-year, 2-year, and certificate programs.

Staff added in 2021 to scale high school and college completion programs:

1

full-time advisor

3

full-time
AmeriCorps leaders

6

Summer College
Completion Fellows



HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2021

536

unique admissions

102

colleges & universities

160

students transitioned to
College & Career Success
Program

81%

began their college journeys
virtually & in-person at
institutions around the
country



Emily Jaimes is a graduate of Manor Senior High School. She attends Houston Baptist University on a full-ride academic and athletic scholarship.

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR GREATER IMPACT

In order to achieve our long-term vision for greater regional impact, The Breakthrough Challenge has allowed us to expand from one program strategy focused solely on direct service to students and families to three program strategies that seek to increase educational equity at the student, campus and policy level.

POSTSECONDARY SCHOOLWIDE ADVISING PROGRAM (PSAP)

In February 2021, Breakthrough formally launched the pilot for the Postsecondary Schoolwide Advising Program (PSAP), serving our first class of juniors - the Class of 2022 - at Manor New Tech High School. Through this new model, Breakthrough is now offering personalized postsecondary advising for all juniors and seniors on campus, as well as capacity building services for the entire high school. The goal: shift focus from simply high school graduation to success after high school. Students will have the option to continue receiving services for six years beyond graduation through Breakthrough's College & Career Success Program. One full-time staff member and two full-time AmeriCorps members were hired in 2021 to support the design of programs and services for seniors and the addition of our second class of juniors.

245
students served

Increase campus financial
aid application
completion from
50% to 90%

Decrease campus school
counselor-to-student
ratio from approximately
1:300 to 1:75



POLICY ADVOCACY

Breakthrough's policy advocacy practice is driven by a core belief: youth and practitioners, the individuals who are navigating and being personally impacted by inequitable educational policies, should be the leading voices in the construction and reform of those very policies.

Since the inception of our policy advocacy practice in 2020, Breakthrough has developed a policy agenda that leverages our 20 years of practical expertise and elevates the voices of students, families and community partners to advocate for public policymaking that helps all young people and their communities to thrive, especially those most vulnerable.

4

coalitions in which Breakthrough actively participates

The Austin College Access Network (ACAN)

NATIONAL COLLEGE ATTAINMENT NETWORK

TEXAS PACE

TLEEC
Texas Legislative Education Equity Coalition




Breakthrough's Executive Director is proud to serve as chair of the Policy Committee for ACAN, a coalition of 15 community-based organizations and institutes of higher education committed to advancing educational equity in the Central Texas region.


12

educational/advocacy events Breakthrough helped host


EXAMPLES OF BREAKTHROUGH'S POLICY ADVOCACY:




Creating a Student Policy Fellowship to advocate alongside other National College Attainment Network (NCAN) organizations to increase the federal Pell grant and make college more affordable for low-income students



Providing Comment and Testimony on municipal and state policy that more equitably serves all students, especially students of color, first-generation college students and students from historically underrepresented backgrounds



Informing and mobilizing community members, students, advocates and lawmakers around issues like educational funding and equitable advising practices



Building internal processes and trainings for staff to better serve and advocate with immigrant and refugee students, families and communities