



MAKING IT BETTER

2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT



IMPROVING LITERACY, LEADERSHIP AND LIFE SKILLS FOR UNDER-SERVED ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

MAKING IT BETTER served 1,080 students and 163 adults this year.
A BIG thanks to our donors, volunteers, board and staff for making this possible!

93% of our students live in low-income households.



Free and Reduced Lunch

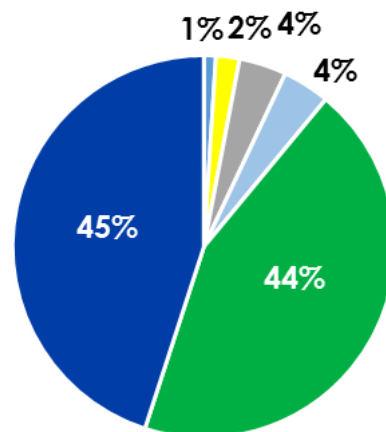
Thanks to YOUR generous support, we distributed over 2,600 books to begin or add to home libraries!



51% of our students are from single parent households.



DEMOGRAPHICS



■ Mixed
■ White
■ African American
■ Other
■ Asian
■ Hispanic

LIVES CHANGED

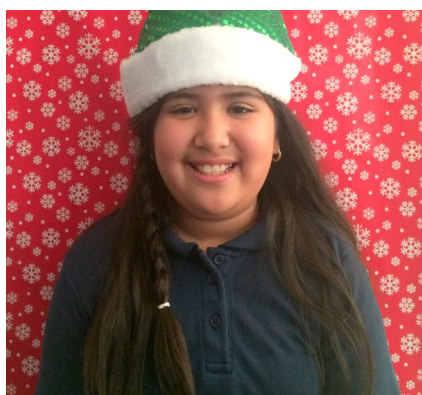
INSPIRING YOUNG READERS



Bria had never been to school and was starting the 1st grade. She did not know any letters of the alphabet including the ones in her own name. She also struggled emotionally and would frequently leave the table and cry when she did not get her way. It took a lot of encouragement from her tutor, Audrey Hollis, to get her to return to the table. Thanks to continued support throughout the 23 week **Reading Intervention** program, the frequency of Bria's emotional meltdowns decreased and she began returning to the table on her own. Not only was that a huge accomplishment, but by the end of the program, Bria knew most of her letters and was eager to learn to read!

YOU helped us serve 298 students in the Reading Intervention program. 78% of students in our Reading Intervention program moved up at least 1 Reading Grade Level, with 13% of those moving up 2 or more Reading Grade Levels.

PREPARING FUTURE LEADERS



Vivia was a 4th grader in our **Steps 2 Success** program who was not very outgoing, interactive or trusting of her peers. "She tended to stay in the background and kept to herself most of the time," recalls S2S Site Director, Madeline Sandhop. "I really made a point throughout the year to engage her in conversations and invite her into the group." During the 2nd semester, Madeline noticed that Vivia had begun using many of the social skills strategies that were discussed and practiced through various program lessons and activities. By the end of the program, Vivia had developed more self-confidence, which enabled her to engage more with her peers and form several close relationships.

YOU helped us serve 27 students in the Steps 2 Success program. 100% of surveyed parents noted a positive change in their child's self-esteem and improvement in their grades.

PROVIDING POSITIVE ROLE MODELS



Emma has volunteered as a **Lunch Bunch** mentor at Walnut Bend Elementary for the past 2 school years. She mentored a group of 6 girls through their 4th and 5th grade years. "Seeing these girls every week was a privilege and joy. For most of them, their unique personalities were hidden behind emotions like insecurity, anger, and apathy. We talked about having healthy self-esteem, the importance of education and setting goals, and treating all people with respect. To watch them mature and shed some of the negative emotions was extremely rewarding. As they launch into middle school, I know that the **Lunch Bunch** program has better positioned them to meet the challenges that lie ahead."

YOU helped us serve 63 students in the Lunch Bunch program. 98% of surveyed students believe the program helped them talk about their emotions and resolve conflicts in a positive manner.

EMPOWERING FAMILIES WITH SKILLS AND SUPPORT



Parent Partnership programs that YOUR support has made possible include **Parent Workshops; Family Literacy Nights; Ready, Set, Read!; Book Bags.**

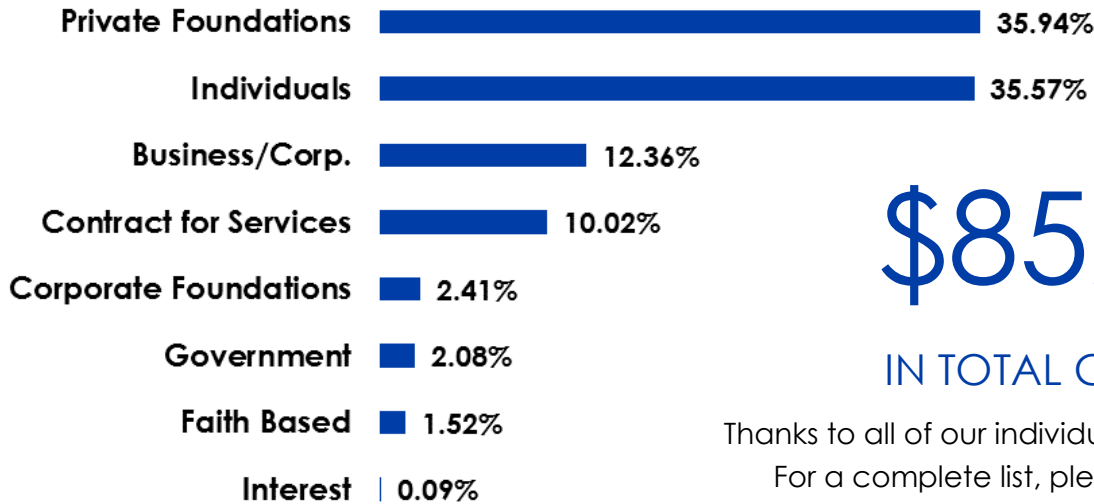
"The **Ready, Set, Read!** program is a blessing," stated one mom from Belmont Place Apartments. "Before we came here, it was hard to sit Akilah down and teach her, because she wouldn't do anything. But since we have been coming to this program once a week, she sits down and reads from morning until night. She loves it! This morning she woke me up and said, "Mommy, school!" I said, "Okay, let's go and brush our teeth," she said. "No, Mommy! Shoes! School!"

YOU helped us serve 692 kids and 163 adults through our Parent Partnership programs. 100% of surveyed parents reported they would use what they learned in our programs at home.

FINANCIALS

FISCAL YEAR SOURCES OF INCOME

Each contribution, large or small, matters! Your continued support is critical so that the work of changing children's lives can continue.



\$852,884

IN TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Thanks to all of our individual and corporate donors!

For a complete list, please visit our website at

www.mibtx.org.

THANKS TO OUR FOUNDATION DONORS

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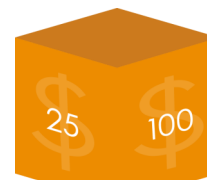
H-E-B TOURNAMENT
OF CHAMPIONS



THE HAWKINS FAMILY FOUNDATION

HOW YOUR DONATIONS HELP OUR KIDS

Provides healthy snacks
for 1 week at a
Steps 2 Success after
school program site



Provides 35 books
to be distributed to
children attending
Family Literacy Nights

Covers rental of two
15 passenger vans, giving
children the gift of
expanding their worlds
through field trips

Provides all materials
and supplies needed for
1 Reading Intervention
program site

Provides books and
activity supplies for 1
Family Literacy event

Provides materials and
supplies for 10
Parent Workshops

Covers the cost of
1 tutor at 1 Reading
Intervention program site

Provides funds to launch
a Ready, Set, Read!
program

Sponsors 13 students in
our Reading Intervention
program

Covers the annual
materials and supplies for
our Parent Partnership
programs, fostering
parent involvement



MAKING IT BETTER

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Matching Gifts

Will your company match your gift?

<https://doublethedonation.com/mibttx>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Weekly opportunities Oct.—April

Reading Intervention Tutors' Assistant
Lunch Bunch Mentor
Ready, Set, Read!

One-time Opportunities

Steps 2 Success after school program
Family Literacy Nights
Administrative Projects
Special Events Assistance



*For more information, please contact our Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator at volunteer@mibttx.org