



BEGREAT  
—  
*Together*



*Annual Report*

.....

**2023**



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# OUR VISION

BeGreat Together empowers teachers within their leadership and inspires students to become the leaders that they are.

## WE DO THIS BY...

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- Providing funding to teacher and student nominated k-12 programs
- Offering one year of programming and technical assistance
- Establishing school-to-community partnerships that create sustainability



# \$60,000

**DISTRIBUTED TO SCHOOL PARTNERS SINCE 2021**

# BUILDING MOMENTUM

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A national average of 90% of parents living in communities of concentrated poverty support public funding for school programs. Yet, K-12 public school students are underfunded by an average of \$5,000 per pupil. To enhance the educational environment for public school students we must provide resources that lead towards empowerment of teachers. Along with that, we must provide community support to inspire students.

# OUTCOMES

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Since our October 2021 launch, BGTs program development approach has gained an overall 98% growth in proficiency and/or practices of partnered school programs and initiatives.



# OUR PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT MODEL

**BeGreat's signature program development support for teachers and students focuses on 5 components:**

**PROFICIENCY | PRACTICES | PREPAREDNESS | PURSUIT | PARTNERSHIP**



## **PHASE I**

Proficiency (Knowledge, Awareness, Motivation)

*What are you looking to improve for students overall?*



## **PHASE II**

Practices (Behavior)

*What will students be able to do, say, and/or feel after completing your initiative or program?*



Preparedness (Readiness)

*Do you currently have internal and external resources to support your goal and objective?*



Pursuit (Action)

*What activities will you or your partners offer for students to ultimately reach their goals and objectives?*



## **PHASE III**

Partnership (Sustainability)

*What ongoing resources or partnerships do you have or will you need to develop to sustain momentum?*

## **EDUCATOR TESTIMONIALS**



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# OUR CURRENT ECOSYSTEM



Family and Consumer Sciences



50+ Students



8 Academic and Career Pathways



Multilingual Library



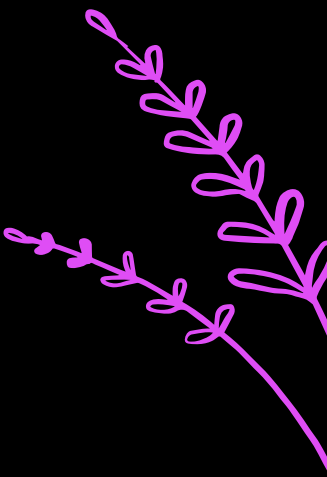
86+ Families



10+ Languages



20+ Countries



# NEW TO THE ECOSYSTEM

## Computer Modeling and Digital Design



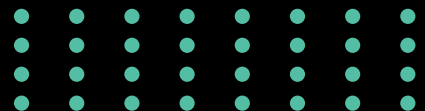
"As my colleague and I work through this first few months of being a part of BeTogether Program; we are learning a great deal about opportunities for us as well as our students and what we can do to help benefit them and provide more tools for their toolbox."

- *David Moore (Center Academy)*

## Dual Language Program

I view bilingual education as not just an effective educational model but also the most critical, fitting, and restorative means of educating U.S. students overall. In a country with an especially complex history of tragedy, survival, ingenuity, and growth, multilingualism is not a luxury but an empowering opportunity to embrace our nation's multicultural identity overall.

- *Olivia Flores (Paseo Academy)*



# PRIORITIES FOR 2023–2024 SCHOOL YEAR

Planned program development improvement will include focus in the following areas:



**BEST PRACTICES**



**NARRATIVES**



**DESIGN**

## 2023 QUALITY HIGHLIGHTS

### TEACHERS

Through BGT program development, I feel empowered to:

Connect with new community partners

50% rated 5 stars ★★★★★

50% rated 4 stars ★★★★★

Lead my program with improved confidence

50% rated 5 stars ★★★★★

50% rated 4 stars ★★★★★

Analyze our next steps

75% rated 5 stars ★★★★★

25% rated 4 stars ★★★★★

### STUDENTS

Through BGT program development, I feel empowered to:

Think about my future/ Pensar en mi futuro

89% voted YES

Be a leader / Ser un líder

60% voted YES

Learn more about myself / Aprender más sobre mí mismo

81% voted YES

*"BeGreat Together has done a great job of providing resources and working with teachers to establish and improve programs in our underserved urban schools."  
– Kansas City Public Schools*



## PARTNER STORIES

# MULTILINGUAL LIBRARY

Global Academy at Kansas City Public Schools supports recently arrived immigrants and refugees for up to one year after arrival. The students arrive after experiencing unimaginable events in their home country that have caused significant and persistent trauma and gaps in their educational history.

The goal of the initiative is two-fold. First, it intends to provide books in students' native language(s) to foster continued literacy development in their dominant language in addition to developing a love and habit of reading. Literacy development is the primary goal of the center.



**Books added:**  
389 Titles  
710 Physical Books

98%

**Average rate increase of monthly student engagement with the Multilingual library**

95%

**Percentage of students who have expressed an increased ability to read and communicate in their native language**

93%

**Percentage of multilingual library growth through community partnerships**

## MULTILINGUAL LIBRARY



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## PARTNER STORIES

# MULTILINGUAL LIBRARY CONT'D

### FABLE OF THE WEEK



BeGreat partnered with Global Academy teachers and students to launch "Fable of the Week." Each Monday students provided community educational readings in their native language. The goal is language inclusivity, understanding, and overall student empowerment.

### MADE IN KC PARTNERSHIP



BeGreat partnered with Made In KC, Rainey Day Books, and Global Academy's library to expand its collection of multi-lingual books, allowing students to learn to love reading and instilling a culture of learning. This initiative was a call to action for anyone who believes in the power of education.

BeGreat teamed up with the Latino Art Foundations to host a writing workshop for Global Academy students over the summer. Students participated for three weeks and wrote short stories about their personal life experiences.

### CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP



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## PARTNER STORIES

# REFLECTIONS OF SUCCESS

BeGreat worked with teachers and staff at Global Academy to develop the idea of "Future Reflections of Success." The idea is simple: youth with immigrant and/or refugee backgrounds have opportunities to hear professional success stories from industry leaders who also have an immigrant and/or refugee background. These professionals have gone on to excel in their respective industries. Unique to this common concept is that students are presented in their native languages as well. KCPS has the largest population of immigrant and refugee children in the state of Missouri. Almost all arrive and do not speak English, along with their families. This opportunity gives students the inclusiveness and exposure they need, to be inspired to endeavor towards the image of a person who reflects their identity and story (Reflections of Success). Thus far students have been able to meet with representatives at the Federal Reserve of Kansas City and architectural designers at Multistudio

95%

**Percentage of students who have expressed an increased ability to read and communicate in their native language.**

### REFLECTIONS OF SUCCESS: TABITHA DARKO



### MULTISTUDIO VISIT: STUDENT INTERVIEWS



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## PARTNER STORIES

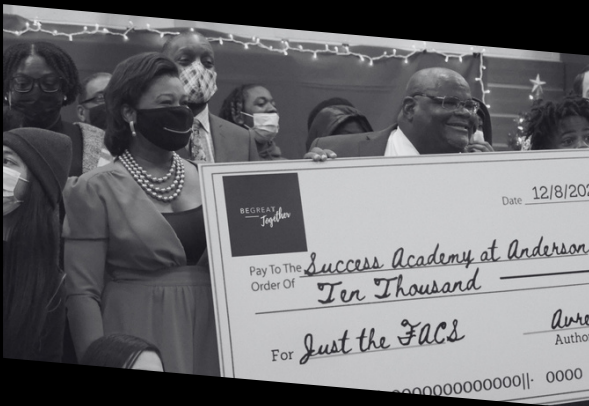
# FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE

Success Academy at Anderson's Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS) class is a new elective that was added to their curriculum. It is an extremely valuable course in a student's education, as it teaches life skills that relate directly to the real world. Students learn content, skills and critical thinking in regards to math, science, health, nutrition, kitchen and cooking safety, etiquette, family life, and entrepreneurship. FACS helps students be prepared for possible future careers related to food, apparel design and overall human development. These important skills will benefit them now and after graduating from high school.

8+

Academic and Career Pathways

## BEGREAT AWARD TO SUCCESS ACADEMY



## SUCCESS ACADEMY: MS. JOHNSON DISCUSSES FACS



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## PARTNER STORIES

# FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE CONT'D

Through supporting FACS, BeGreat Together has been able to form an official partnership with Metropolitan Community College (MCC). The generous partnership of MCC will provide applicable BeGreat partner programs and students with the potential to earn professional certifications before graduation, setting a foundation for their futures.

### AVRELL STOKES, CEO, BEGREAT



"As Executive Director of BeGreat Together, I am thrilled about this partnership with Metropolitan Community College (MCC). We extend our gratitude to Dr. Alicia Dickens, Associate Vice Chancellor, for her support in establishing this strategic partnership. Together, we are working with students and teachers to pave alternative avenues of a brighter future through education."

### SUCCESS STUDENTS EXPLORING CAREERS THROUGH VR



### METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE PARTNERSHIP



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## PARTNER STORIES

# COMPUTER MODELING & DIGITAL DESIGN

Center Academy for Success (CAS), within Center School District, caters to middle and high school students who need an alternative environment to continue their education. Utilizing 3-D modeling and router equipment in the Computer Modeling and Digital Design class, students are provided opportunities to create real and meaningful 3-D designed and printed products, with a particular application to the field of architecture. Additionally, teachers and students explore the field of tech and robotics.

CAS staff are always looking to provide students with unique, engaging opportunities to help them learn in an alternative setting that will prepare them for success in the real world. Teachers work to provide students with as many electives as possible in order for them to find their passion.



6

### Additional pathways for students

- Sound and Studio Production
- Woodworking and Design
- Ceramics
- Family and Consumer Science
- Greenhouse and Gardening
- Yearbook Elective Course



## CENTER ACADEMY: DIGITAL MODELING PROGRAM



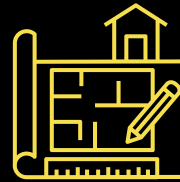
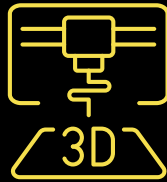
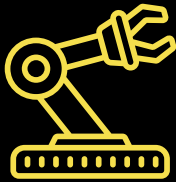
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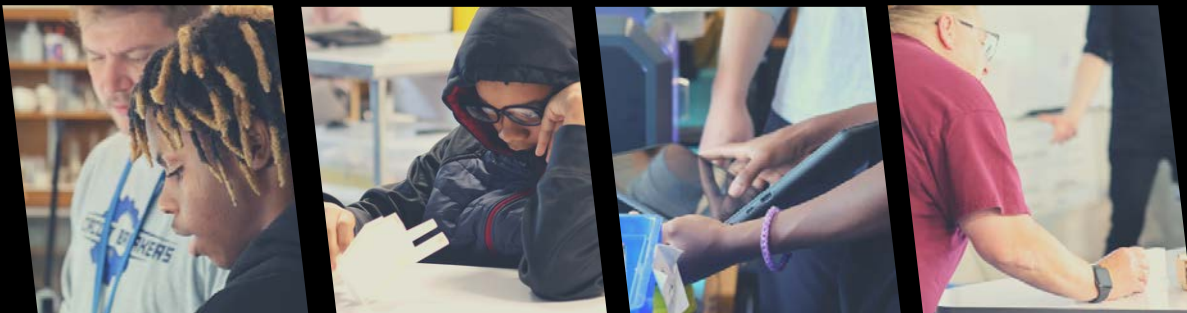
## PARTNER STORIES

### COMPUTER MODELING & DIGITAL DESIGN CONT'D

BeGreat partnered with architectural design institution Multistudio and Center Academy's computer modeling and design program as they supported student's knowledge in regards to 3D printing and design, related to the field of architecture. Being teacher and student led, this program provides growth and empowerment towards utilizing technology and design to applicable industries. Students are additionally able to identify future professional skills and opportunities.



#### CENTER ACADEMY STUDENTS WORKING WITH MULTISTUDIO



#### NICOLAS BOCK ON ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN



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## PARTNER STORIES

# DUAL-LANGUAGE

Paseo Academy High School is rich with signature curricular programs in the arts, in the exceptional education of Autistic children, and in the education of deaf and hard of hearing students. In addition to the robust integrated curricular offerings of these programs, Paseo contains another complimentary program that sets it apart: a competitive, largely community and teacher-driven academic track called the Paseo Dual Language Program.

This program offers students a variety of core and elective classes in the target language of Spanish. A program open to all children starting in kindergarten, it is intentionally designed to contain a mix of native and non-native Spanish speakers who will not only continue to develop as multilingual, multicultural, and multiliterate together, but who will also receive through this program the most dual credit and advanced placement classes of any group of students.

**Teachers and students have worked together and achieved impressive outcomes:**



Dual language students were the highest scoring performers in every content area



9th grade dual language students became youngest students in the district to receive dual credit with University of Missouri Kansas City

### SCHOOL AWARD FOR PASEO ACADEMY



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## PARTNER STORIES

# DUAL-LANGUAGE CONT'D

Bridging school-to-community partnerships is vital to BeGreat Together's program development model. A part of aiding in this process is promoting the inclusion of parents along the student educational journey. Paseo Academy's Dual Language program has held that same value from inception. A key BeGreat program support best-practice is identifying and coordinating champions both internal and external to school partners. BeGreat has been provided the opportunity to support teachers and students of dual language who have begun their process of engaging parents and community at-large.



Dual-language program leader, Olivia Flores, guides students and parents through a process of casting vision and identifying opportunities for involvement.

### KEY FOCUS AREAS:



### PASEO ACADEMY: DUAL LANGUAGE PROGRAM



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# PHUNDS: FOOD & FINANCE

Financial technology company, Capway, and BeGreat Together have partnered to provide food to students in underserved communities while also teaching them about money through our digital financial literacy program, Phunds. The partnership is missioned to provide students with two key elements needed for a chance at a brighter future—food and finance.

## HOW IT WORKS



Students take modern, relatable financial education modules through Phunds.



Students gain rewards points for each financial literacy module they complete.



Students use their rewards points to "purchase" food in the CapWay Store located inside of the school. Students can fill up an entire bag per week.



- Presented in different media formats
- Covers over 20 financial topics, ranging from credit to investing
- Can be accessed via our mobile app or website, Phunds.com

### Notables:

- The store will end or renew on an annual basis.
- In addition to food, students will have access to toiletries and other necessities and goodies.

## PHUNDS: STUDENT INTERVIEW



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# PHUNDS: PILOT SNAPSHOT

## STUDENTS

### CATEGORIES EXPLORED:



**Personal Finance**



**Banking**



**Budgeting**

**Examples of Financial WHYS**

In order to stay motivated during your financial journey, it is important to identify and remind yourself of your financial WHY. Watch the video below to see some examples of other people's financial WHY.

Previous 7 of 7 Next

**Check-Cooking Services**

Let's take a look at the following services:

- Food Bank
- Community Center
- Food Pantry
- Homeless Shelter
- Job Training Program
- Local Government
- Non-Profit Organization
- Religious Institution
- School District
- State Government
- University
- Volunteer Organization
- Workplace

## TEACHERS

100%

*I feel better equipped to lead in financial literacy exploration*  
100% of participants voted 4 out of 5 stars



100%

*I am satisfied with the food and finance partnership*  
100% of participants voted 4 out of 5 stars



**18 TOTAL HOURS CONTRIBUTED TO NUTRITION & FINANCIAL EDUCATION**

*A special thank you to Michael Watson, CEO of Raytown REAP, and the partnership that they have provided in school food assistance.*



# LOCAL & GLOBAL EXPOSURE

## WEBSITE



6,200 Website Visitors



38 Countries Reached



426 Cities Reached Globally



Top age demographics: 18 - 54

## MEDIA COVERAGE

Startland News  
The Pitch  
KMBC 9 News  
KCUR  
NPR  
KSHB  
Black News  
The Black Wallstreet Times  
Prosperi Press  
Authority Magazine  
India Education Diary  
Where It Begins  
Thrive Global

## FACEBOOK

Q1 vs Q2-Q4  
539% Increase in Reach

## INSTAGRAM

Q1 vs Q2-Q4  
167% Increase in Reach

## LINKEDIN

Q1 vs Q2-Q4  
202% Increase in Reach

## TWITTER

Q1 vs Q2-Q4  
511% Increase in Reach

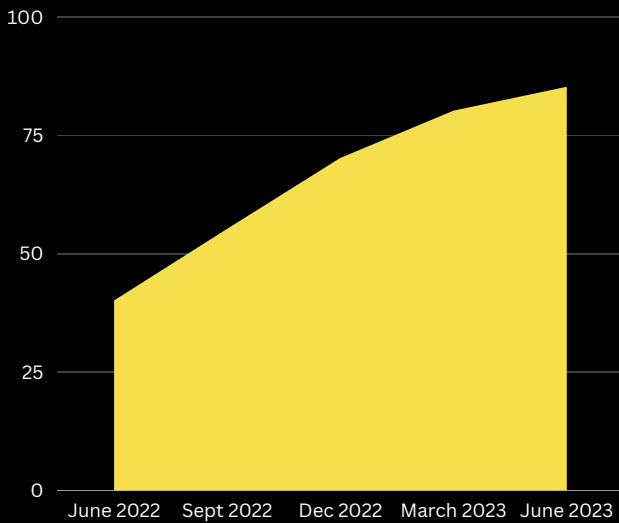
## FOLLOW US



# SOCIAL MEDIA GROWTH

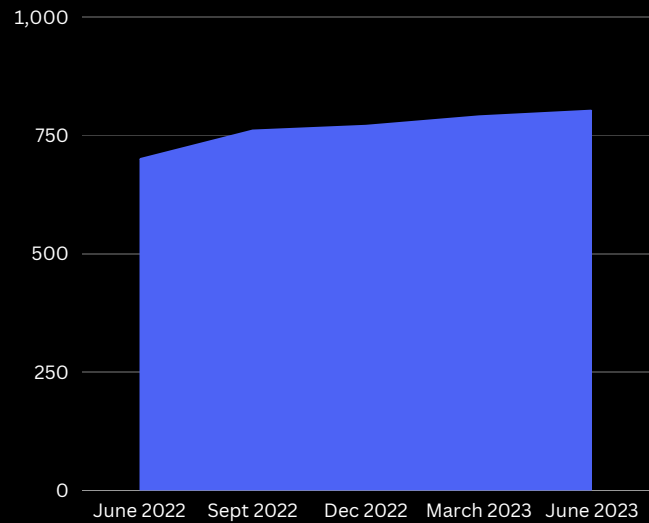
## FACEBOOK

112% Increase in Total Followers



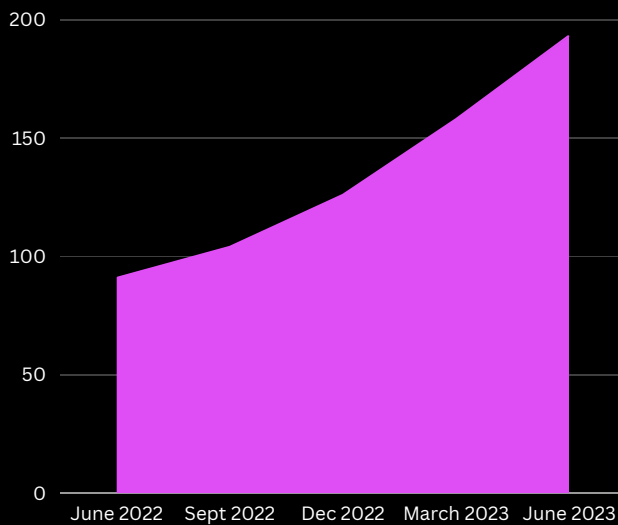
## INSTAGRAM

14.5% Increase in Total Followers



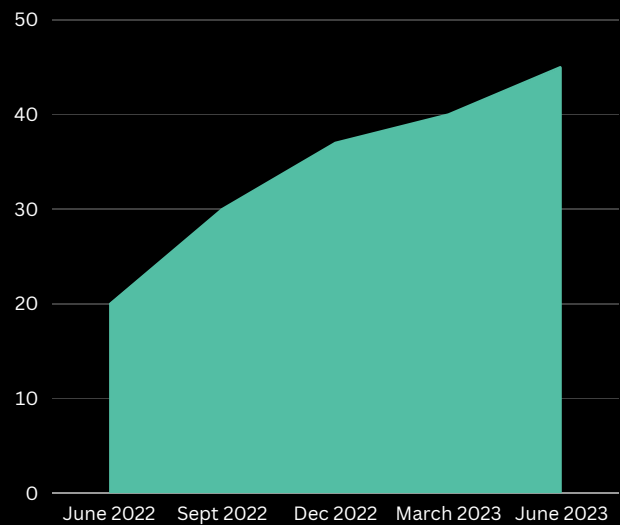
## LINKEDIN

112% Increase in Total Followers



## TWITTER

125% Increase in Total Followers



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Chief Executive Officer  
*Assemble.fyi*



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Chief Communications  
Officer *Pinterest*



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