



**Operation Breakthrough**  
**educates, feeds, heals**  
**and loves 430 children.**  
**Every day.**

**We want to do  
more. Will you  
help us build our  
**Bridge To A  
Brighter Future?****





OPERATION Breakthrough

# Bridge to a Brighter Future

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

This Campaign will expand Operation Breakthrough's enrollment to **720 children**. That's at least 80 additional preschool and 210 more school-age children who will be participating in our before-school, after-school, and summer programs **until age 14**.



**We believe that all children — regardless of zip code — deserve the opportunity to achieve their highest potential.**

Operation Breakthrough has helped at-risk children and families since 1971. More than 70% of enrolled families live on less than \$12,000 per year. About 20% of the children are homeless or near homeless. Many live in domestic violence or homeless shelters or transitional living programs. Some sleep on the sofas of friends or relatives, some even live in cars, rundown hotels or abandoned buildings.

**In 2016, 96% of our 5-year-olds were on track to be kindergarten ready.**

Nationally, fewer than 50% of children living in poverty enter kindergarten ready to learn. Our commitment to the education and well-being of children and their families works. Our services support both children and their parents and caregivers to create healthy environments that promote learning and help children reach their full potential.

**We send children to school ready to learn and help them succeed.**

A child in poverty who does not read on grade level by third grade is 13 times less likely to graduate on time. Last summer, on achievement tests in language arts and math, our children collectively outperformed students at all 19 other urban KC sites that used the same reading curriculum.

**Every year we must turn away 2/3 of our preschool graduates because we don't have enough room in our school-age program.**

These are children who need the ongoing academic support and stability that Operation Breakthrough provides.





### MAKERVILLAGE\*

STEM, DIGITAL MEDIA,  
CULINARY, TEXTILES, ARTS,  
CODING AND BIOTECH

### GYMNASIUM

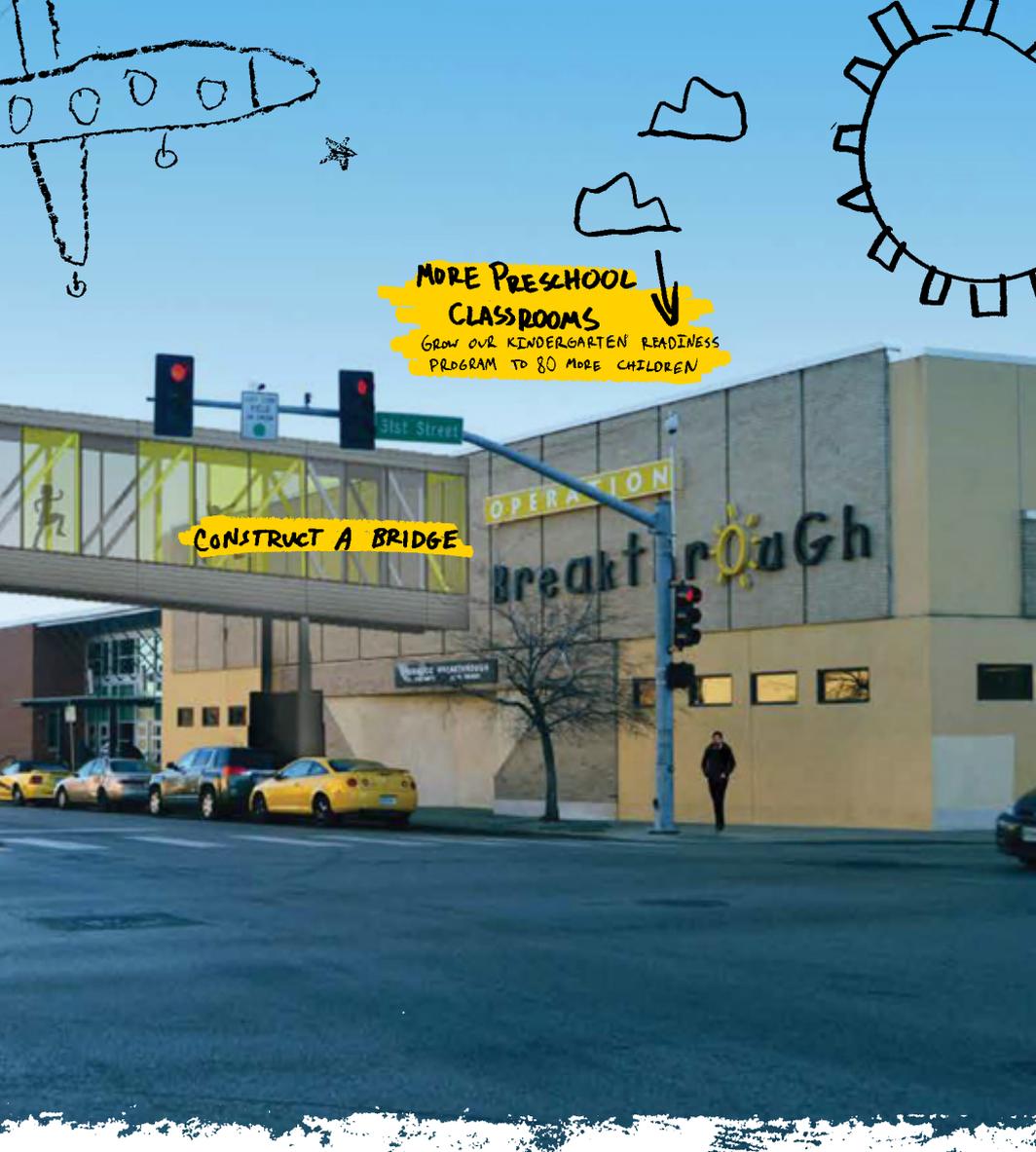
### WAREHOUSE

DONATED HOUSEHOLD GOODS FOR  
FAMILIES IN NEED

### HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER

EXPANDED HEALTH AND BEHAVIORAL  
PROGRAMMING FOR OB FAMILIES  
AND OTHER UNDER-SERVED RESIDENTS  
IN THE COMMUNITY

**Operation Breakthrough has purchased and is renovating the building immediately west of the current facility. A bridge over Troost will connect the two campuses.**



\*Imagine a Maker Village where children learn to persist and problem solve while programming robots; bringing motors to life by creating electric circuits; making animated movies from their drawings; using hydraulics, levers, pulleys and catapults to move objects — working together to make things they never dreamed they could make.

**“We have to do a lot of measuring and math and science. It’s like stuff we do in school, but harder.”**

— 10-year-old Caillou, member of an Operation Breakthrough robotics team.



**Sister Berta Sailer and Sister Corita Bussanmas started Operation Breakthrough with four babies in their living room.**

They knew that to help children leave poverty, they had to address their health, social and emotional needs and also had to empower their families. That wrap-around, two-generation approach still informs everything we do at Operation Breakthrough.

Today, we serve more than 400 at-risk children every day and our goals are the same: Success in school for our children and emotional and financial stability for their families. Our safe and loving environment focuses on the whole child, with education, health and wellness and parent engagement as priorities.





**“Operation Breakthrough is the best and largest example I’ve seen of an intentional and innovative childhood development program with robust wrap-around services that close the school readiness gap.”**

—Tom Vander Ark, Author of *Smart Cities that Work for Everyone* and Partner in Learn Capital.

**“I laid my foundation  
for who I would  
become at Operation  
Breakthrough...  
Programs like OB’s  
literally save lives.”**

—Aaron Randle,  
OB Alumnus & Reporter  
for *The Kansas City Star*



**Operation  
Breakthrough**  
3039 Troost Ave  
Kansas City, MO 64109  
816.756.3511

[operationbreakthrough.org](http://operationbreakthrough.org)

