

August 28, 2018

Dear OneGoal Family,

A year ago today, Houston was in the midst of one of the greatest natural disasters to ever hit the city. Hurricane Harvey made landfall on August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and in the days that followed, it is estimated that some areas collected over 51 inches of rain. At a time when Fellows and Alumni were preparing to head back to campus as high school and college students, the ramifications that Harvey brought were significant. Fellows and their families were displaced, homes were destroyed, schools were shut down, and post-secondary planning was halted for many.

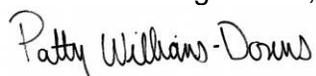
The courage and generosity of members of the OneGoal community was and continues to be completely moving. We are filled with immense gratitude for your support and for your contribution to the Emergency Fund that was established to provide relief for our Fellows who were effected. Together, we were able to raise \$132,000 and your donation fueled OneGoal-Houston's ability to,

- Support students and their families with the rebuilding of their homes
- Supplement transportation costs to college due to destroyed vehicles
- Purchase school supplies via Amazon gift cards, college textbooks, and cover remaining tuition fees for those whose families were unable to provide financial support

The harsh reality in America is that young people growing up in historically underserved communities have seemingly countless obstacles that prevent them from reaching their greatest postsecondary ambitions. In the wake of Hurricane Harvey, our Fellows and Alumni faced an additional massive set of challenges that could have easily impeded their future. Thankfully, you were there to provide assistance in such a critical time. Amanda, a OneGoal alum wrote, "I'm pursuing a career in nursing and my dream of obtaining my BSN are now coming true! Since the hurricane I have been without the finances I needed, and haven't been able to study for the HESI exam. Now, thanks to this Amazon gift card you guys sent me, I can get my book!"

One of the greatest lessons that this natural disaster has taught the OneGoal network is to always remember the resilience and independence of our Fellows. As we continue to serve young people across the city of Houston, we hope it is evident that although academic and non-cognitive support is at the forefront of our mission, they are not the singular measure of our impact. Our commitment to seeing our Fellows reach their own aspirations of success and the authentic care and consideration we show each of them is what helps to propel them forward. Thank you for choosing to be a part of the OneGoal community and for your powerful commitment to our program and our Fellows. Together, we go farther.

With immense gratitude,



Patty Williams-Downs  
Executive Director, OneGoal Houston