INVESTOR REPORT

As of December 2015

transforming education by transforming philanthropy
A Better Chicago is a venture philanthropy fund devoted to dramatically improving educational opportunities for low-income students. We provide funding and management support to a select portfolio of high-performing nonprofits that are putting low-income students on a path toward high school and college success.

**MISSION**

**INVESTMENT ACTIVITY - LAST 12 MONTHS**

- **ORGANIZATIONS SCREENED**
  - 300+ Organizations reviewed
  - Additional screening
    - Due diligence
    - Board / leadership council approval
  - **3 NEW GRANTEES**
    - 11 grantees total

- **VALUE PROVIDED TO PORTFOLIO**
  - Monetary grants $1.7M
  - Management support $0.2M
  - Pro-bono support $1.4M
  - Leveraged funding $0.2M

**PORTFOLIO CHANGES - LAST 12 MONTHS**

**PORTFOLIO ADDITIONS**

- **Growth Fund:** Significant investments to grow successful organizations with strong track records

- **The Noble Network of Charter Schools** is one of the highest performing charter school networks in the country, serving over 10,000 students across 15 high schools and one middle school.

- **Bain & Company** collaborated with A Better Chicago to develop a multi-year business plan and fundraising strategy to help **One Million Degrees** reach its ambitious growth targets.

- **A Better Chicago** has helped **LEARN** build its executive team, which includes hiring a Chief Talent Officer, Chief Academic Officer & Chief Financial Officer. Our pro bono partner, **Heidrick & Struggles**, led LEARN’s search for a Chief Financial Officer.

**PORTFOLIO EXITS**

- We exited two relationships that are not aligned with our strategic plan objectives. **Upwardly Global** is focused on job placement rather than educational attainment, and **Citizen Schools** experienced slower than expected growth.

**VALUE ADD - LAST 12 MONTHS**

- **A Better Chicago** partners with top-tier companies and industry experts to help our grantees tackle their most pressing strategic and operational challenges.

**RECENT HIGHLIGHTS**

- **Bain & Company** collaborated with A Better Chicago to develop a multi-year business plan and fundraising strategy to help **One Million Degrees** reach its ambitious growth targets.

- A Better Chicago has helped **LEARN** build its executive team, which includes hiring a Chief Talent Officer, Chief Academic Officer & Chief Financial Officer. Our pro bono partner, **Heidrick & Struggles**, led LEARN’s search for a Chief Financial Officer.
PORTFOLIO PERFORMANCE

As part of our strategic plan launched in 2015, A Better Chicago has established portfolio-wide performance targets in two areas—student achievement and scale.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The below dashboard details our student achievement targets for 2025. While our ultimate goal is college graduation, we track a range of indicators along the education continuum to understand whether our students are on track for college success. Additionally, the dashboard compares our 2025 targets and current performance to city and national benchmarks.

### KEY METRICS TO ACHIEVING HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE SUCCESS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Chicago Average</th>
<th>National Average</th>
<th>ABC Portfolio</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PROFICIENT IN 3RD GRADE READING</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent meeting or exceeding average growth</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>70%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent at or above average performance</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>PROFICIENT IN 3RD GRADE MATH</td>
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<td>Percent meeting or exceeding average growth</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent at or above average performance</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROFICIENT IN 8TH GRADE READING</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent meeting or exceeding average growth</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent at or above average performance</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent at or above average performance</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>ATTENDANCE</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>94%*</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRESHMEN ON TRACK</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>83%*</td>
<td>92%</td>
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<td>AVERAGE ACT SCORE</td>
<td>18.2</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>22.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE OF 9TH GRADERS</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>90%</td>
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<tr>
<td>COLLEGE ENROLLMENT RATE OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>95%</td>
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<tr>
<td>COLLEGE GRADUATION RATE OF 9TH GRADERS (2-YR OR 4-YR)</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### SCALE

By 2025, A Better Chicago will help its portfolio organizations increase their service capacity by 80,000 students. This graph details our projected cumulative targets by year and phase.
## A Better Chicago’s Portfolio

### Bottom Line
- **Program Type:** College access and persistence
- **Description:** College success counseling for first-generation, at-risk students
- **Investment:** $220K + management support (since 2014)
- **FY15 students served in Chicago:** 157

### Genesys Works
- **Program Type:** College access
- **Description:** Training and internships for economically disadvantaged students
- **Investment:** $350K + management support (since 2012)
- **FY15 students served in Chicago:** 175

### KIPP Chicago Schools
- **Program Type:** Charter school (K-8)
- **Description:** Operating 4 open enrollment public schools
- **Investment:** $450K + management support (since 2013)
- **FY15 students served in Chicago:** 1,228

### Learn Charter School Network
- **Program Type:** Charter school (K-8)
- **Description:** Operating 8 open enrollment public schools
- **Investment:** $1,175K + management support (since 2011)
- **FY15 students served in Chicago:** 3,501

### Noble Network of Charter Schools
- **Program Type:** Charter school (6-12)
- **Description:** Operating 15 open enrollment public schools
- **Investment:** $250K + management support (since 2015)
- **FY15 students served in Chicago:** 10,225

### OneGoal
- **Program Type:** College access and persistence
- **Description:** Preparing underperforming high school students to enroll in and complete college
- **Investment:** $790K
- **FY15 students served in Chicago:** 1,876

### One Million Degrees
- **Program Type:** College persistence
- **Description:** Providing low-income community college students with academic, financial and personal support
- **Investment:** $575K + management support (since 2013)
- **FY15 students served in Chicago:** 252

### Reading in Motion
- **Program Type:** Early education
- **Description:** Using arts to drive reading improvements for young students
- **Investment:** $550K + management support (since 2013)
- **FY15 students served in Chicago:** 4,600

### Venture Fund
Seed investments in promising, early stage models with strong leaders

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### College Possible
- **Program Type:** College access and persistence
- **Description:** College access and success coaching for low-income high school and college students
- **Investment:** $100K (since 2015)
- **FY15 students served in Chicago:** n/a (new program)

### Intrinsic Schools
- **Program Type:** Charter school (7-12)
- **Description:** Operating an open enrollment public charter school that uses blended, personalized learning
- **Investment:** $50K (since 2015)
- **FY15 students served in Chicago:** 449

### Strive for College
- **Program Type:** College access
- **Description:** College access mentoring for low-income high school students
- **Investment:** $100K (since 2015)
- **FY15 students served in Chicago:** n/a (new program)