



# Newsletter

WINTER 2018



On Jan. 25th, 2018, RBI Mentor Booker Gilbert stands beside his mentee as Leighton shares with our 815 Now at Bat guests the impact Booker and RBI Austin have had on his life.

A fresh haircut, a new suit jacket, hours of practicing his speech – none of these stopped the nerves from coming on Thursday morning.

*"He was terrified. We didn't know for sure how many people he would be speaking in front of, but I just kept encouraging him, 'You can do it.'"*

*So, when I saw my 12-year-old son on that stage talking to a ballroom filled with people, I teared up.*

*I can honestly say that was one of the moments I've been most proud of Leighton.*

*He was nervous the day of the event, but he had Booker's support, Matt's support, and my support. He did something he was scared of doing because he believes his story is important."*

Willie Mae, Leighton's mom, reflected on the pride she had in her son as he presented during the 2018 Now at Bat program in front of 815 guests.

This is just one example of how **your generosity is impacting East Austin families.**

You are changing lives and empowering young men. You are contributing to a mother's pride in her son.

**With your help, someone is there to teach Leighton how to pick out a suit, how to practice public speaking, how to do things that push him out of his comfort zone.**

More importantly, your generosity enables a positive, adult role model to speak the love and grace of Jesus Christ into Leighton — motivating him and us to love others sacrificially.



All business before the event. Leighton and Willie Mae pose before Leighton's speech.



The side-smile of relief! Leighton, Booker's son Jalen, and Matt Price pose for a post-speech selfie.

**GOING, GOING, GIVE GOAL**   
**NOW AT BAT GOAL** 

## WE HIT OUR GOALS BECAUSE OF YOU!

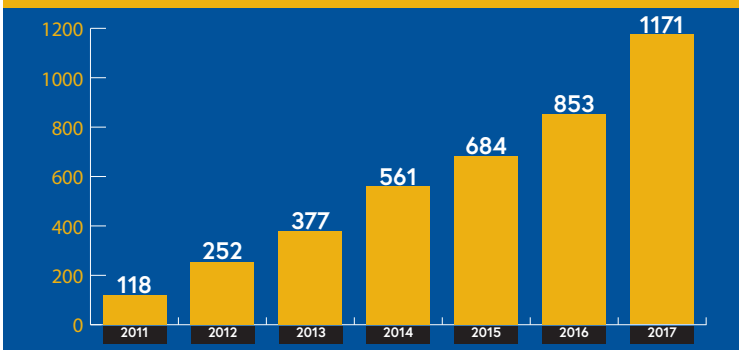
Your generosity helped us hit both of our goals during our year-end *Going, Going, Give* campaign and last month's annual benefit *Now at Bat*!

We know that what happens in the "off season" lays the foundation for the team's regular season. Your gift is setting RBI Austin up for success for our upcoming season as we grow and dig deeper with our kids and families.

## 37% PARTICIPANT GROWTH

The number of RBI Austin kids grew by 37% in 2017. This wouldn't have been possible without you. The money raised during *Going, Going, Give* and *Now at Bat* will allow us to continue to dig deeper with our growing number of kids in 2018.

## RBI AUSTIN PARTICIPANT GROWTH



Want more updates?  
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# Thank you!