FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Breaktime Awarded $100,000 Cummings Foundation Grant

The Boston nonprofit has received two years of funding from the Cummings Foundation that will support over 100 young adults experiencing homelessness launch their careers.

Boston, June 3, 2021 — Breaktime, a Boston-based nonprofit working to end young adult homelessness, was one of 140 local nonprofits selected to receive a grant through the Cummings Foundation’s $25 Million Grant Program. Breaktime was chosen from a pool of 590 applicants during a competitive review process and will receive $100,000 over two years to help launch the careers of more than 100 young adults experiencing homelessness.

In 2020, Breaktime launched its Double Impact Initiative — a transitional employment and job training program — which, to date, has employed 40 young adults experiencing homelessness who prepared and served over 700,000 nutritious meals to food-insecure individuals while earning a living wage. Through purposeful, skill-building transitional employment, Breaktime empowers young adults experiencing homelessness to build stability in their lives while also promoting community health throughout Boston.

According to our Co-Founder and Executive Director, Connor Schoen, “This catalytic funding will support Breaktime’s ability to launch the careers of over 100 young adults experiencing homelessness in the next two years. We are immensely grateful for the commitment of the Cummings Foundation to ending young adult homelessness across Massachusetts.”

Backed by the City of Boston, Liberty Mutual, BlackRock, as well as hundreds of other partners, Breaktime has expanded the Double Impact Initiative’s adaptive model since last year to fill the pressing labor needs of community health organizations across Boston, whose work has only become more vital during the pandemic. To serve those urgent staffing needs in 2021, Breaktime has established job placements for young adults experiencing homelessness at nonprofit partners including food pantries, soup kitchens, and community health centers throughout Boston.

Connor Schoen and Tony Shu, who met while volunteering at a youth-run homeless shelter as Harvard undergraduates, co-founded Breaktime in 2018. They were recently named to the 2021 Forbes 30 Under 30 Social Impact list and are among the youngest Forbes honorees this year.

The Cummings $25 Million Grant Program supports Massachusetts nonprofits that are based in and primarily serve Middlesex, Essex, and Suffolk counties. This year’s grant recipients represent a wide variety of causes, including social justice, homelessness prevention, affordable
housing, education, violence prevention, and food insecurity. The nonprofits are spread across 43 different cities and towns.

CONTACT:
Samantha Goodman, Director of Communications
(617) 959-1281
sam@breaktime.org