



CELEBRATING
THE BTE STORY:

25 YEARS,
25 LESSONS

Celebrating the BTE Story: 25 Years, 25 Lessons distills BTE's 25 years of experience into words of wisdom from those who have been there and done the work. Here we share one of those lessons.

LESSON 15

Connect Academic Learning with the Real World and Get Hands On

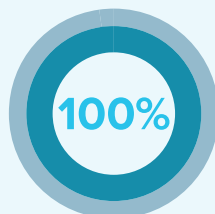
Resources from local operating companies and community partnerships make BTE a venue for experiences students can't get anywhere else. Applied learning activities through BTE can make academics seem more relevant to students as it exposes them to different careers.

Student feedback to BTE partners, informally and in formal end-of-year evaluations, consistently shows that students want more opportunities for interactive, hands-on learning activities. FHI 360 encourages local BTE partnerships to consider what hands-on activities they can offer themselves or through other local venues. Local partners can offer research practice in one labs. Students can observe medical procedures in action. Students can develop presentations or posters to gain experience in distilling and disseminating

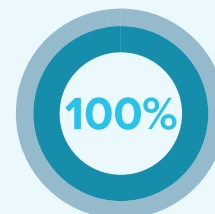
information. Students can practice teamwork and public speaking skills by presenting at BTE events. FHI 360 builds on the local experiences, by providing hands-on, step-by-step lesson plans for BTE Volunteers to use on the BTE website at bridge2employment.org.

Participating in hands-on activities keeps students engaged in and excited about BTE. BTE programs know their interactive activities are working when the students keep showing up and they are happy and excited to be there.

IMPACT ON BTE GRADUATES (2011-2015)



BTE graduates aware of higher education opportunities (vs. 84% of comparison group)



BTE graduates possessed key work readiness skills (vs. 80% of comparison group)