



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 19

# Promote the Program with Student Voices

Students are the best spokespeople to advocate for BTE's success. BTE programs are asked to invite select students, through a rigorous process, to attend ABTS as Student Ambassadors. Student Ambassadors represent the best of BTE; at ABTS, they act as ambassadors from local BTE programs to the wider world of BTE, and also bring lessons and experiences from ABTS back to local programs. While at ABTS, Student Ambassadors contribute to sessions, learn from colleagues from other sites, and work together with their fellow students on a project and presentation to share with the ABTS audience. Student Ambassadors are vital to BTE and to ABTS, because they help focus BTE

partners on why BTE matters, provide evidence of what BTE can accomplish, and allow BTE to celebrate as a family the impact the program has on students.

Beyond ABTS, BTE programs rely on student voices to advocate for BTE. For example, students participate in community presentations, board meetings of partners, and town hall sessions at Johnson & Johnson. Students can speak directly to the impact BTE has had and back up their advocacy by demonstrating the professionalism and poise they have learned through BTE.

“[The days at] ABTS were the best days of my life. I made friends, made bonds, and learned about community work... Before my ABTS experience, I didn't appreciate how much people learn from each other and are thankful for you helping others.”

– Pamela Nicole, BTE Student  
BTE-San Lorenzo, Puerto Rico