



What a Fantastic Year it's Been!

As we turn the page to 2025, I'd like to take a moment and honor those that work tirelessly to make STARS such a special organization and share some exciting moments we have celebrated!

Meet the Board & STARS Staff.



Photo Credit: Melody Allensworth-James

Behind the scenes of all of our student focused social events, coaching, programs and career development, is a team of dedicated educators and

experience in autism from academia, clinical, personal experience and many being the parent of a child with autism. Autism is near and dear to the heart of this group; with one central goal of providing resources and guidance to help our students thrive.

From left to right:

Dr. Colby Taylor, Board Secretary, InsideOut Facilitator

Dr. Rod Vogl, Board Chair, Academic Coach

Amy Harlan, Academic Coach

Dr. Bruce Keisling, Board Member

Kim Jameson, Executive Director, Academic Coach

Geoff Calkins, Board Member

Connor Hagen, Board Member

Mary Ellen Chase, Board Member

Carols Molina, STARS Social Program President

Not pictured: Dr. Lewis Reich, Board Member

We are so grateful to Dr. Rod Vogl and Dr. Colby Taylor for serving on the Board for the past 6 years. Due to term limits, their time as board members must come to an end; but their significant work will continue on.

Thank you, Dr. Rod Vogl!



Photo Credit: Melody Allensworth-James

Dr. Rod Vogl has served as the Chair of the Board since STARS' corporate inception in 2018. During his tenure, he has supported STARS in countless ways. He will continue to serve as an Academic Coach and supervising the study lab leaders. We are grateful to him for all he has done to help STARS become what it is today. We look forward to Dr. Bruce Keisling stepping in to continue the important work as Board Chair in 2025.

Thank you, Dr. Colby Taylor!



Photo Credit: Melody Allensworth-James

Dr. Colby Taylor has served as the Secretary of the Board since 2018. In addition to keeping accurate minutes of our quarterly meetings, he has been an active member of STARS in numerous ways. Colby has been growing the InsideOut program since its inception in 2020. Week after week, and year after year, he worked out with a STARS' student and started establishing the protocols of this program. We are thankful that he has devoted so much time to the students and their wellbeing. Also, he has been the best advocate for autism awareness and understanding on campus. Colby is always ready and willing to share his knowledge with the campus community and beyond.

Thanks to the 2024 STARS Leadership Team!



The 2024 STARS Leadership team makes the events we do special for everyone. They work hard to plan each get-together and make sure everyone feels comfortable and has a good time. We cannot thank them enough for ALL they do, ALL year long!

From left to right:

Melyssa Barcellos, Public Relations Chair

Carlos Molina, President

Lizbeth Cisneros, Vice President

Noah Hendree, Student Ambassador

Ciri Genchi Cortez, Student Ambassador

So Much To Celebrate!



Our STARS Holiday Celebration was a huge success. Not only did the students enjoy a nice, Italian dinner, but we also celebrated Noah on his 22nd birthday! It is fun when an event night coincides with a birthday so we can show them a good time on their special day.



Congratulations, Ciri!!!!



We couldn't be prouder of Ciri Genchi Cortez on her upcoming graduation from CBU this month. We have been blessed to have Ciri serve on the STARS Leadership Team while she was at CBU. Not only has she been a shining star to us, but also to the campus community. She was recently honored with the CBU Lasallian Fellow Award and our All-Star Award, too! We will greatly miss



It has been a great year and an honor working with these amazing students, their parents, the STARS Board of Directors, and the CBU campus community. I am very thankful for all of the support we receive from all the people who believe in our mission.

This next year marks our 10th anniversary. It is the perfect time to kick off the 'Hire to Inspire' campaign! Thank you for your financial support to this pilot program. All donations received during this holiday season will help fund this campaign and the STARS *Connects* program.

Wishing you a happy and healthy 2025!

Kim Jameson



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