

# 2020 MINNESOTA IMPACT REPORT

**College Possible is a nonprofit making college admission and success possible for students from low-income backgrounds through coaching and support.** Since 2014, College Possible Minnesota has received appropriations from the State of Minnesota to expand our work across the state to support more students as they pursue higher education. This report describes College Possible's impact as a result of that support.

#### **COMMUNITY NEED**

Today, high-income students (71%) are more than twice as likely to graduate college as their low-income peers (32%). And yet, a college degree is the surest pathway out of poverty. **With a college degree, the probability a person is employed is 24% higher.** Annual earning for degree holders are 134% higher and lifetime earnings are approximately \$1.2 million (114%) greater. Moreover, there is no evidence that the college earning premium is declining. In fact, it has been increasing.

#### **COVID-19 IMPACT**

We are seeing stark examples in the importance of a college degree during the current recession brought on by the pandemic. **The risk of unemployment during this time has been far less for those with Bachelor's degrees.** The April 2020 unemployment rate for those with a Bachelor's degree and higher was 8.4%, almost half of the rates for those with only a high school degree or those with some college, 17.3% and 15%, respectively. Aside from unemployment, it can also impact safety as **only 12% of adults with just a high school degree are able to work from home** compared to 52% of those with a college degree.

### **PROVEN RESULTS**

College Possible has demonstrated success in closing the opportunity gap for low-income students: **98% of our students earn admission to college**, and they go on to graduate at nearly the same rate as students from all income levels nationwide. **Overall, our students are 3 times more likely to earn a college degree** than their low-income peers. When a student joins our program, we commit to serving them through college graduation.

#### **RIGOROUS EVALUATION**

A Harvard evaluation confirmed that College Possible significantly improves low-income students' chances of enrolling in college. The evaluation showed College Possible more than doubles a student's chances of enrolling in college and has a significant positive impact on four-year college enrollment rates. A social return on investment analysis found an **investment in a College Possible student yields a 333% return to society.** 

#### **COVID-19 RESPONSE**

College Possible's award-winning experience helping students navigate the world of higher education, as well as our strong foundation in tech-connected coaching, have perfectly positioned us to meet students' needs right now. All College Possible students have the opportunity to attend 1:1 sessions with their coach online or through phone calls, access new online resources and be able to participate in virtual training sessions in high school and in college. We have also activated emergency funds to help students with expenses that affect their education.

### HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL INNOVATION

Since 2014, we have expanded our reach to students and school partners across Minnesota through our Navigate program. Dedicated AmeriCorps members collaborate with our high school partners to provide near-peer mentoring, research-based guidance, and differentiated support to college-bound students.

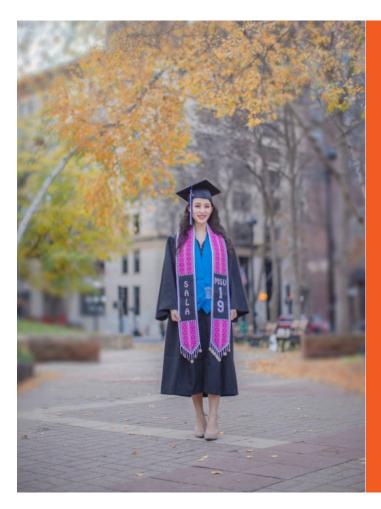
### COLLEGE LEVEL INNOVATION

Catalyze is College Possible's initiative to impact student persistence and success directly on college campuses. Our model serves students by embedding our near-peer coaching model and curriculum on a college campus. College Possible extends the reach of a campus' existing student support services, increases student retention rates and closes the opportunity gap for students from low-income backgrounds. Catalyze programming currently supports students at St. Cloud State University.

## **COLLEGE POSSIBLE MINNESOTA'S REACH & RESULTS**

- + 72 College Possible high school and college coaches
- + 66 partner high schools across Minnesota
- + 6,234 high school and college students from Minnesota currently being served by College Possible throughout the country
- + 99% of the class of 2020 earned admission to college

+ **3,562** degrees earned by students since College Possible's founding in 2000

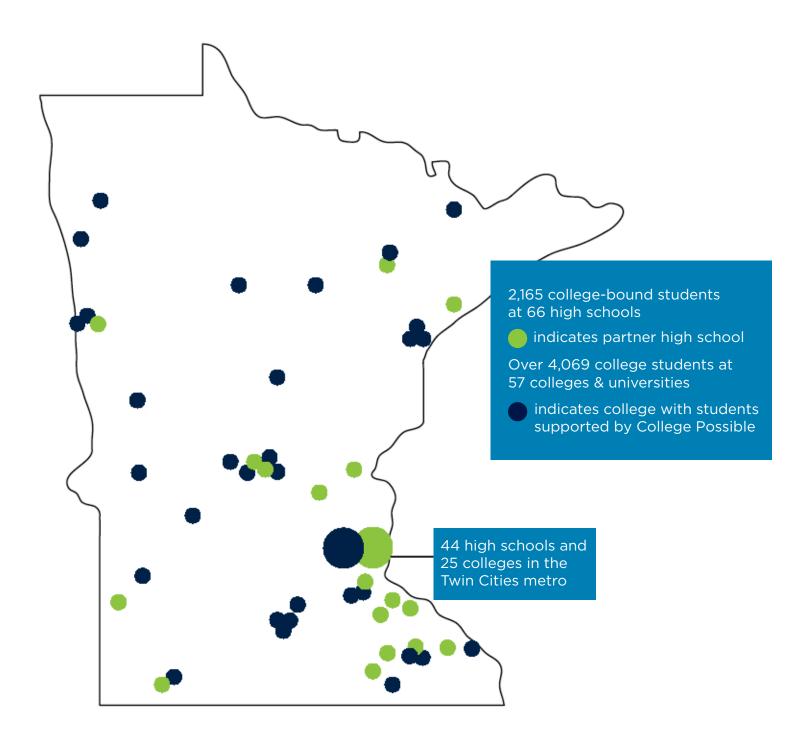


"I'm very thankful for the internship opportunities during my college experience. It truly allowed me to gain real world experience that led to a full time software engineering role. I wouldn't have completed this milestone without the help of College Possible, though. They have always guided me to reach my goals. They are a part of my success story."

#### Sala

Metropolitan State University '20 Computer Applications Development Major

## COLLEGE POSSIBLE MINNESOTA STATEWIDE IMPACT IN 2020



## MINNESOTA HIGH SCHOOLS & COLLEGES ATTENDED BY COLLEGE POSSIBLE STUDENTS

#### **High Schools**

Apollo Senior High School Battle Lake High School Becker High School Blaine High School **Blooming Prairie High School Bloomington Jefferson High School** Bloomington Kennedy High School Burnsville High School Cambridge-Isanti High School Cannon Falls High School Central Senior High School Century High School Champlin Park High School Columbia Heights High School **Community of Peace Academy** Como Park Senior High School Coon Rapids High School Cristo Rey High School Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton High School East Ridge High School Eden Prairie High School Edina High School Edison High School Farmington High School Frazee High School Fridley High School Harding Senior High School Hiawatha Collegiate High School Highland Park Senior High School Humboldt Senior High School Irondale High School Johnson Senior High School LEAP High School Leroy-Ostrander High School Mahtomedi High School Metro Schools College Prep Moorhead High School Mt. Iron-Buhl High School North Community High School North High School Orono High School Park Center Senior High School Park High School Patrick Henry High School Perham High School Red Wing High School **Richfield High School** Robbinsdale Armstrong High School Robbinsdale Cooper High School Rock Ridge High School Roosevelt High School Roseville Area High School **RTR High School** St. Paul Conservatory for the Performing Arts Sartell High School Spring Lake Park High School St. Charles High School St. Louis Park Senior High School

Tech High School The FAIR School Tower View Alternative High School Triton High School Ubah Medical Academy Washington Technology Magnet School Wayzata High School Worthington High School

#### Colleges

Anoka Technical College Anoka-Ramsey Community College Augsburg University Bemidji State University Bethany Lutheran College **Bethel University Carleton College** Central Lakes College-Brainerd Century College College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University Concordia College, Moorhead Concordia University, St. Paul **Crown College** Dakota County Technical College **Dougherty Family College** Dunwoody College of Technology Gustavus Adolphus College Hamline University Hennepin Technical College Herzing University - Minneapolis Inver Hills Community College Itasca Community College Lake Superior College Macalester College Mesabi Range Community and **Technical College** Metropolitan State University Minneapolis College of Art and Design Minneapolis Community and **Technical College** Minnesota State Community and **Technical College** Minnesota State University, Mankato Minnesota State University, Moorhead Minnesota West Community and **Technical College** Normandale Community College North Central University North Hennepin Community College Northland Community and Technical College **Ridgewater College Riverland Community College Rochester Community and Technical** College Saint Cloud State University Saint Cloud Technical and Community College

Saint Mary's University of Minnesota Saint Paul College - A Community and Technical College South Central College Southwest Minnesota State University St. Catherine University St. Olaf College The College of Saint Scholastica University of Minnesota, Crookston University of Minnesota, Duluth University of Minnesota, Morris University of Minnesota, Rochester University of Minnesota, Twin Cities University of Northwestern University of St Thomas Vermilion Community College Winona State University