# Together, we're empowering the college dream





College means so many things to me. College means knowledge. Having knowledge is a power because it opens so many doors. College also means independence, growth, individuality, and perseverance. It is a time where you can find yourself.

Alison Taylor Milwaukee Lutheran High School '23, Marquette University '27

### 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR IMPACT REPORT

#### **REGIONAL REACH**

1,945 students are closer to their goal of a college degree

100% students from underinvested communities

89% students of color

**88%** are the first in their family to attend college<sup>1</sup>

#### **COLLEGE ACCESS**

83% applied to college<sup>2</sup>

> 83% admitted to college<sup>2</sup>

88% enrolled in college<sup>2</sup>

#### **COLLEGE SUCCESS**

**72%** persisted from first-to-secondyear in college<sup>3</sup>

**103** college degrees earned<sup>4</sup>

- <sup>2</sup> High school class of 2023 to any degree-granting institution
- <sup>3</sup> High school class of 2022 represent fall-to-fall enrollment to any degree-granting institution

<sup>4</sup> 18 AA degrees, 80 BA degrees and 5 certificates earned between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> High school class of 2022 to any degree-granting institution

## Thank you for your support

#### **KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

In the 2022–2023 program year, College Possible Milwaukee served 1,945 students, including 189 juniors and 162 seniors at 14 partner high schools, and 1,594 college students at various local and national institutions. Eighty-eight percent of the students served were people of color, and 89% were first-generation college attendees.

Strategic successes during this period strengthened our operations and expanded our impact. Our focus on educational equity involved recruiting AmeriCorps coaches who have a deep understanding of the college admissions process and the ability to mentor authentically through shared lived experiences. Efforts to address coach recruitment challenges included securing grant funding, notably from the United Way of Greater Milwaukee and Waukesha County's Racial Equity Fund. This support facilitated the recruitment of highly qualified coaches, enabling College Possible Milwaukee to meet increased demand, reach more students, and maintain personalized support for student success and program goals.

College Possible Milwaukee is dedicated to addressing the strengths and needs of our students by expanding our project sustainably and enhancing support services. A crucial aspect of this strategy is the continuous recruitment and retention of AmeriCorps coaches, who are integral to our mission. We aim to develop additional funding sources and partnerships to ensure competitive stipends for coaches. These efforts are vital in attracting and retaining talented individuals committed to educational equity.

We're excited about the growth of the Career Pathways Program, which supports students postgraduation. Aligned with students' career aspirations, this program offers a wraparound approach to postsecondary success, providing networking, mentorship, and internship opportunities. Recognizing the critical transition from college to career, Career Pathways aims to equip students with the tools, confidence, and connections they need for a successful entry into the workforce.



I had a whole group of people cheering me on from back home in Milwaukee, encouraging me to get back up. Even when I was feeling so small in a school with over 35,000 students, and I didn't know if I was doing college right, looking beside me and knowing that all these people believed in me, made a world of a difference.

Maria Del Carmen Rosales St. Thomas More '18, UW-Madison '23



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