



NORTHSIDE ACHIEVEMENT ZONE

FUTURE COLLEGE GRADUATES LIVE HERE

WHAT IS NAZ?

The Northside Achievement Zone (NAZ) exists to permanently close the achievement gap and end generational poverty in North Minneapolis. Together with our partner organizations, we are walking side by side with *740 low-income families* as they put their *1735 children* on a path to college.

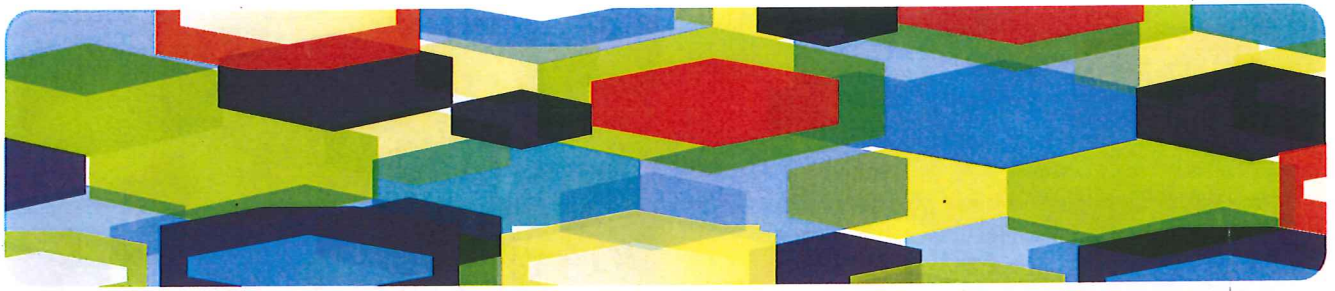
- **NAZ has a game-changing approach that is closing the achievement gap.** NAZ's wraparound framework effectively supports low-income children of color so that they will graduate from high school prepared for college.
- **Our approach is working.** NAZ-enrolled families are making remarkable strides. Our children are not only showing improved academic outcomes at key kindergarten and third grade benchmarks, but families are stabilizing their housing, employment, and health. These early successes are already driving a culture change on the Northside.
- **Return on investment.** A study just completed by Wilder Research demonstrates that each dollar invested in NAZ provides more than a \$6 societal return.

SUPPORTING KINDERGARTEN READINESS

- A total of 146 Race to the Top scholarships have been awarded to 0-5 year olds
- 73 parents have graduated from College Bound Babies 12-week parenting classes since 2010
- 83% of NAZ parents with 0-4 year olds are engaged in goal setting with a focus on supporting kindergarten readiness (333 children)
- 740 families and 1,735 children are enrolled in NAZ (year end 2014)

THE NAZ APPROACH
To permanently closing the achievement gap





For more information, visit the-naz.org.

STAR JUMPS AHEAD

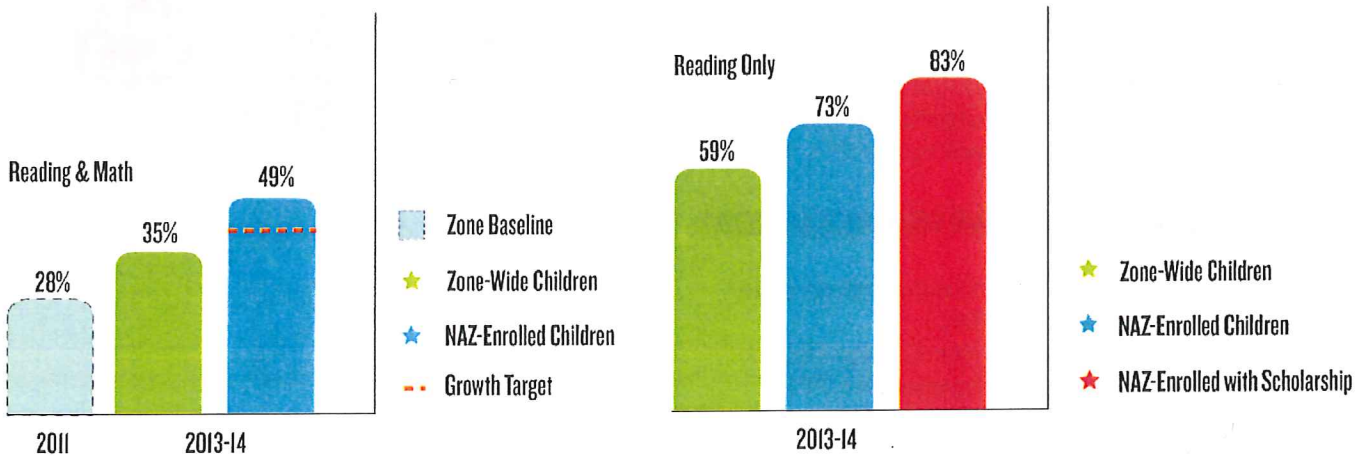
Star was a shy little girl with a severe speech delay. When her family enrolled in NAZ, their Connector and Early Childhood Navigator worked with them to connect Star with a scholarship to a 4-star-rated early childhood center, The Family Partnership.

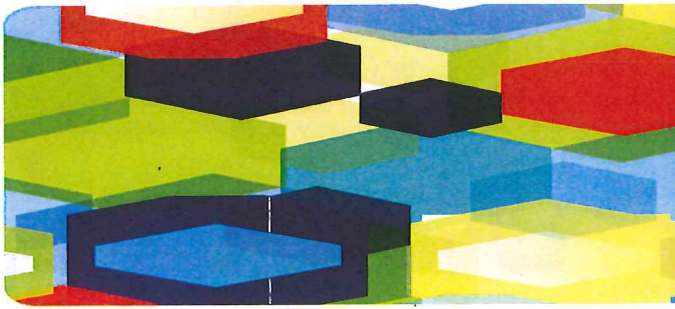
At first, she was nervous about playing with the other children and never said a word. Her speech delay was identified early and she started on-site speech therapy. As time went on, Star came out of her shell. During circle time, she would name colors and shapes, when previously she had remained silent. "She's one of the brightest kids in the room," her teacher remarked, "She's a star!"

Because of the early identification of Star's speech delay, her brightness is coming through. She is off to a great start on the path to college and beyond!

In Star's North Minneapolis neighborhood many children are not ready for kindergarten. NAZ works to connect *146 families* like hers with Race to the Top scholarships to attend excellent early childhood programs through our partner organizations. This is a key first step in closing the achievement gap.

KINDERGARTEN READINESS INCREASES





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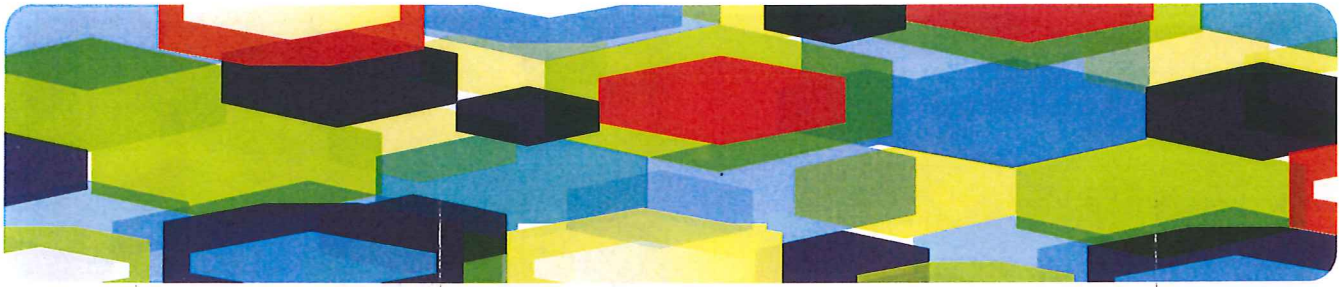
EARLY RESULTS

- NAZ scholars are more likely to be ready for kindergarten (59% vs. 73% in reading)
- MCA scores rise with enrollment length
- 740 families and 1,735 scholars are enrolled in NAZ

THE NAZ APPROACH To permanently closing the achievement gap



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TEAM ALLEGRA

FAMILY

NAZ
CONNECTOR



LA CRECHE
PRESCHOOL

EMERGE

PCYC AFTER
SCHOOL &
SUMMER

URBAN
HOMEWORKS

HARVEST PREP
SCHOOL

TWO GENERATIONS ARE SUCCEEDING

Through NAZ, two generations of Northsiders are now leading themselves out of poverty. Hundreds of parents have made college a top family priority and they are taking effective action to support the success of their children, starting at birth. Children are surrounded by a team that partners with them along their path to college.

TEAM ALLEGRA

When Allegra came to NAZ, she knew that she wanted a better life for her family. Thanks to scholarships secured through NAZ, she was able to enroll her three youngest children in La Crèche, a four-star rated early learning center. Allegra also learned skills to support early learning for all her kids, including six-year-old Richard. Richard's scores on the Beginning Kindergarten Assessment showed that he arrived at kindergarten ready to learn, and he is now on the A honor roll at Harvest Prep's Mastery School.

Allegra is now focusing on her own education and pursuing her long-held dream of working in health care. Allegra was matched with a job counselor at EMERGE, completed Certified Nursing Assistant coursework, earned her license, and is in the process of searching for a job.

CONNECT WITH NAZ

Sign up for our quarterly newsletter on the-naz.org, follow daily updates on Facebook and Twitter (@NAZMPLS), and join NAZ events.

EVENTS:

Family Academy Graduation, May 9
NAZ Community Celebration, May 28

