



OUR THEORY OF CHANGE

BUILDING A MORE EQUITABLE AND INCLUSIVE
EDUCATION SYSTEM IN INDIANAPOLIS

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JUST OVER A YEAR AGO, I launched RISE INDY with the foundational belief that the cornerstone of any vibrant community is a strong public education system. At RISE INDY, we envision a city where every student can walk down their street and access an exceptional public school. To realize this vision, RISE INDY created a strong and diverse coalition of Indianapolis residents who are committed to supporting the growth of an equitable public education system that fosters a prosperous and inclusive community for everyone.

Many of us are aware of the rampant inequities within our education systems, but too often there are seismic gaps between organizations and sectors, between policy makers and practitioners, creating sporadic collaboration and inefficient efforts which ensures that our students continue to be underserved.

Our mission is to give voice to the students and parents experiencing injustice in our system, and to align with teachers and leaders fighting to improve outcomes for children.

We want to bring together a coalition of people who intrinsically understand the issues in a way that will allow us to identify local and state policy solutions, and to elevate the leaders who will make them a reality.

This report primarily details how, throughout 2020, the RISE INDY team engaged with, listened to and partnered with members of our community to better understand these issues. Further, the report outlines action steps and details how you can join the movement.

As I shared in the *Indianapolis Recorder*, protests and activism in pursuit of racial justice this year have resonated with millions across our country and had a direct impact on the issues facing our public education system and students. For me, the ongoing protests bring back childhood memories of my own father's fight for justice in the case of Michael Taylor, a 16-year-old Black boy killed by Indianapolis Police in 1987. Michael Taylor's death and subsequent fight for justice provided the backdrop for my youth. It also serves as much of the inspiration for what has become my life's work, fighting for a more just and equitable community.

Too many systems have failed our students, many of whom look like Michael Taylor. These young people have, for too long, been furthest from opportunity and most in need of a system that delivers for them. The conversations we have had over the last year have strengthened our resolve at RISE INDY and fortified our belief that social justice begins with educational equity. However, we cannot isolate this issue. Racism and inequality in one system invariably lead to disparate outcomes and unfairness in another — be it education, housing, criminal justice, or health care.

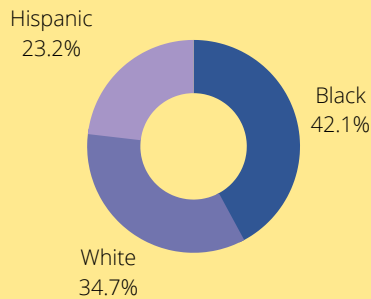
We look forward to continuing to listen and learn as an organization, and to working together with all of you to change these systems to improve our community for our students.


JASMIN SHAHEED-YOUNG
FOUNDER & CEO

MARION COUNTY

11 townships & school districts

151,935 students



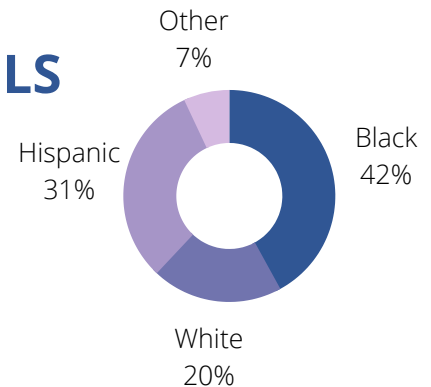
The largest school district within Marion County is

INDIANAPOLIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

which has

31,885 students

66% qualify for Free & Reduced Price Meals (FRPM)

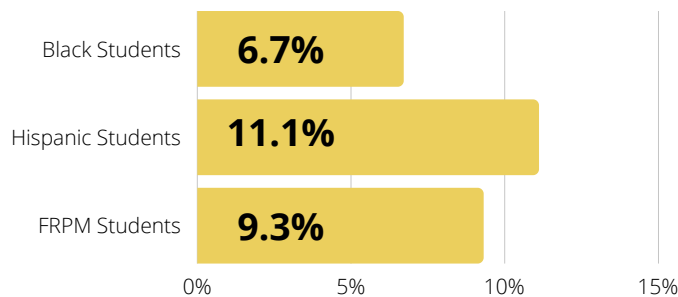


INDIANAPOLIS SCHOOLS HAVE SEEN TREMENDOUS GROWTH IN RECENT YEARS

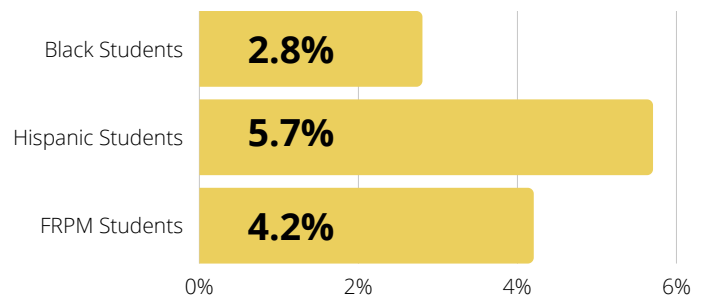
Graduation rates now exceed 75% for IPS students and Indiana growth data shows schools continue to make significant progress for historically underserved students; however, proficiency rates show consistent gaps. In 2019, results for historically underserved students on new Indiana state standardized tests are as follows:

IPS Student Proficiency

3rd-8th Grade Math & ELA



10th Grade Math & ELA



We share these results not to cast aspersions. **Indianapolis students, educators and school communities are doing remarkable work in the face of many challenges, particularly during this unique time.** In 2015, IPS improved from an F-rated district to a D-rated district on the State report card. Under the new leadership of Superintendent Aleesia Johnson, we are excited to see the district's continued improvement and success. RISE INDY exists to amplify these positive steps and to advocate for policies and practices that will bring all schools to a high level of

excellence and accountability. Our collective challenges are linked to a struggling public education system - community safety, gaps in healthcare, food and childcare deserts, and a lack of access to jobs in 21st-century industries and businesses. **If we work alongside our most vulnerable communities to build an equitable, empowering public education system, we will be able to further transform Indianapolis into a world-class city for all of our residents.**

WE CAN ALL INVEST IN A MORE VIBRANT INDIANAPOLIS

WHO WE ENGAGED

RISE INDY's top priority in our first year was to listen to and engage with as many community leaders as possible. Engagement took all forms, from large-group meetings and small-group listening sessions, to coalition member meetings and one-on-one conversations.

This report highlights our conversations and spotlights some of our many valued partners. We are deeply thankful for the generosity of spirit and wisdom that has informed our work and will guide our thinking moving forward.

At RISE INDY, we believe an investment in our education system improves our city as a whole, which is why we've brought together families, teachers, students, business leaders and community members to work together to improve schools.



3134

phone calls with parents, teachers, and community members



1528

one-on-one conversations and listening sessions



482

attendees at coalition meetings and small group convenings

**IN ALL, WE ENGAGED OVER
5,000 MARION COUNTY RESIDENTS
IN OUR FIRST YEAR.**

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

JENNIFER DARBY

VP OF ADVANCEMENT & PROGRAMS,
INDIANA BLACK EXPO
RISE INDY ADVISORY COUNCIL

**"YOU HAVE A BEAUTIFUL SMILE.
NEVER STOP SMILING."**

My work is inspired by a second grade teacher who made me feel special, named Mrs. Messenger at School 84, where I also worked after college graduation.

There were times as a young person where it felt like my days were falling apart. But Mrs. Messenger took the time to lift me up. I'll always remember one instance in particular when she told me: "Jennifer, you have a beautiful smile. Never stop smiling."



I'm involved with RISE INDY because it is bringing together an exciting and diverse coalition of people focused on education equity and creating opportunity for children, many of whom experience challenges like I did as a child. The structure RISE INDY has created in particular is so important. I really value the fact that RISE INDY is being so deliberate about how each of the areas that affect children intersect, and how we can come together to make change.

HOW DO WE MAKE OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM MORE EQUITABLE AND INCLUSIVE FOR ALL INDIANAPOLIS CHILDREN? HOW CAN WE MAKE SURE OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM IS A FOUNDATION TO MAKE INDIANAPOLIS A WORLD-CLASS CITY?



EDUCATE

community and policymakers on student outcomes, community needs, and policy solutions.



ENGAGE

with families and schools to understand their K-12 challenges and student barriers to education.



ORGANIZE

our coalitions to support student-centered policies and advocate for students and families with a collective voice.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT
CHARLIE WILES

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR INTERFAITH COOPERATION
RISE ADVISORY COUNCIL

“SCHOOLS SHOULD BE WELCOMING SPACES IN ALL OF OUR COMMUNITIES WHERE CHILDREN FEEL SAFE TO LEARN AND GROW.”



When I was working for the State legislature in the 1980s, I lived in a part of town that had been neglected for many years. I remember the contrast standing out between the high-minded policy work at the State legislature, and returning home to a neighborhood where there were many barriers for our residents.

One thing that really struck me, and really saddened me, was that kids were growing up being suspicious about school. School represented government and police, and other things to be avoided. Rather than being a bridge to success, the local schools seemed like another brick wall in the way. This experience was a driving force for me when I helped found the Peace Learning Center in 1997; a non-profit program in Eagle Creek Park focused on promoting peace-building and conflict resolution practices for children using nature and lessons from some of the great leaders in our history.

It is also why I've gotten involved with RISE INDY, because I have found its partners to be a unique and inspiring group of community voices. It is fostering a healthy conversation, and in doing so, we are shining a spotlight on important issues facing our young people and working collaboratively to identify solutions.

OUR VALUED COALITIONS

In our first year, we established eight coalitions that are working to close the opportunity gap for students.



THESE COALITIONS ARE WORKING WITH RISE INDY TO CREATE AND ADVOCATE FOR POLICIES THAT WE KNOW WILL ENSURE THAT ALL INDIANAPOLIS STUDENTS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO THRIVE IN AN EXCELLENT PUBLIC SCHOOL.

- » Increased autonomy so that schools and teachers are able to address the needs of their unique student populations.
- » Improved and expanded Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) programming.
- » Recruitment and retention of excellent teachers, especially teachers of color.
- » Mental health professionals and resources distributed equitably in every school.
- » Revised accountability measures that include actionable supports for schools, teachers, and students.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT TREZANAY ATKINS, J.D.

SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER
PIKE HIGH SCHOOL
TEACHERS ALLIANCE FOR EQUITABLE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CIRCLE CITY LEADERS

"THE RISE INDY CIRCLE CITY LEADERS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM IS SUCH A WORTHWHILE PROGRAM. IF ANYBODY IS EVER CONSIDERING IT, LET ME REPEAT: IT IS WORTHWHILE. IT IS INCREDIBLE."

I remember when I realized that teaching was it for me. I'll never forget it. I had this one student, he was black and hispanic, and he said "I ain't never had no black person teach me no math. And if you ain't no good, I ain't fittin' to learn."



He was a tough student. But because of my experience in my previous career, and the lessons I learned making mistakes, admitting those mistakes, peeling back the layers about my history, and then changing careers and getting into education, I realized I knew how to help him be more vulnerable and view my classroom as a safe place to make mistakes. I used my experience to get deeper with students like him to support them. First in peeling back their layers, so that ultimately they could move forward to really grow and learn.

I think what makes RISE INDY so necessary are really two parts of its mission: First, that it is student-centered, and second, that it empowers teachers. I think a lot of our laws have gotten in the way of those two things - that connection between the student and the teacher. And I think that RISE INDY is trying to give us a collective voice. And it is not just giving us a voice, they are actually giving us the tools to make change, and giving teachers an opportunity to impact policy.

1

INDIANAPOLIS NEEDS EXCELLENT SCHOOLS FOR ALL CHILDREN

At the heart of education equity is fostering, supporting and creating great schools for all students, particularly those who historically have been underserved by our schools. Our partners highlighted the following as priorities:

- » Ensure every school has strong leadership and increased autonomy so that schools and teachers are able to address the needs of their unique student populations.
- » Recruit and retain culturally competent teachers and teachers of color.
- » Ensure that students have equitable access to technology and e-learning resources.
- » Improve and expand Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) programming.

87%

of Indianapolis residents want improvements in STEAM programming for historically marginalized students.*

WITH THIS WORK, INDIANAPOLIS WILL BE:

AN INCLUSIVE CITY, CULTIVATING EACH STUDENT'S UNIQUE VALUE AND SKILLS THROUGH OUR PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

SARAH TEKOLSTE

SPANISH TEACHER, SHORTRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL IB PROGRAM ADVISORY COUNCIL, TEACHERS ALLIANCE FOR EQUITABLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

"SUCCESS STORIES SHOULD BE THE RULE, NOT THE EXCEPTION."

Teaching at Manual High School was the most formative experience in my life. Manual was underserved by the school district and considered a failing school for many years - rated an F on the State scale. It was eventually taken over by the State Board of Education and turned over to a for-profit charter organization. The for-profit organization was not great to work for, but somehow what they offered still seemed better than what the school district had offered previously. It showed me that too often our highest need children are left with nothing but a host of bad choices. Some students went onto college, but very few stayed, and success stories were the exception to the rule. I remember leaving and thinking that I'm going to devote the rest of my life to make sure that there are better systems in place to serve students.



RISE INDY is a great organization because it brings a very holistic view to these issues. We are at tables where people aren't just talking about education policy. They are talking about police violence, the economy, and racial justice; and looking at the bigger picture. RISE INDY has religious leaders, parents of school children, business leaders, and educators, all talking about how their work intersects with K-12 education. This seems essential to me if we are going to make a difference for our students.

RISE INDY

*Opinion Research & Strategy Poll Conducted August 2020.

OCTOBER 2020

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

LAUREN FRANKLIN

PRINCIPAL

CRISPUS ATTUCKS HIGH SCHOOL

"FAIRNESS MEANS A LOT TO ME."



As the principal of Crispus Attucks High School, a school that was opened in the early 1900s as the only public high school in the city designated specifically for African Americans, I definitely would say that RISE INDY's focus on race and equity stands out. Fairness means a lot to me.

Being 1 of 4 siblings growing up, I was always ready to point out when things weren't fair or equal between my siblings and I. This was an innocent thought at the time, but when I think about our students, I think about fairness.

Particularly with our black and brown students, I'm interested in giving them the same fair shot that so many white and affluent students are more likely to get.

I firmly believe that everybody deserves a fair shot at a great education and a shot at the American Dream. I don't think education is the only way - but it is the primary way - to break generational poverty. My parents didn't go to college and my grandparents didn't go to college, but they stressed education for me so that I could succeed beyond previous generations. How do we help black and brown families create generational wealth today? For my family, education was the solution, and I think it can be for many of our students.

2 RACIAL JUSTICE BEGINS WITH EDUCATIONAL EQUITY

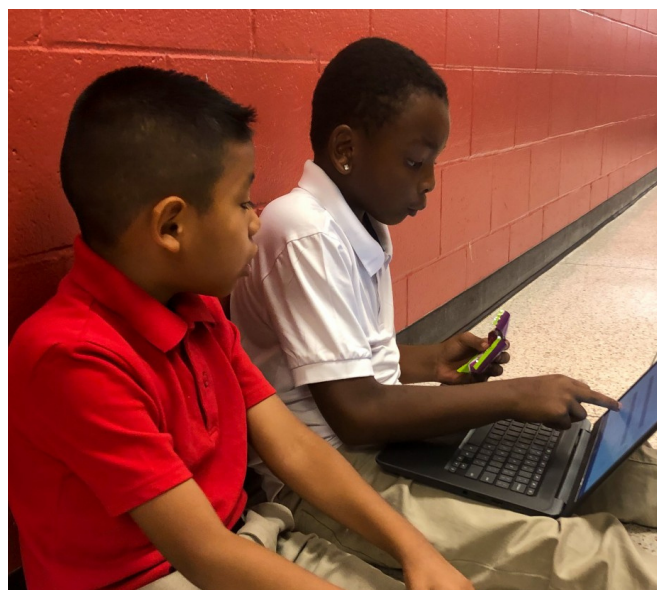
The tragic deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and too many others inspired nationwide protests and deeper conversations everywhere about Black Lives, but race must always be a central theme in our conversations with Indianapolis community members.

8 in 10

Indianapolis residents want IPS to expand programs supporting students that will address racial inequity.*

WITH THIS WORK, INDIANAPOLIS WILL BE:

AN ANTI-RACIST CITY, ACKNOWLEDGING THE IMPACT OF RACE ON EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES TO EMPOWER YOUTH OF ALL BACKGROUNDS TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS.



*Opinion Research & Strategy Poll Conducted August 2020.

3 INVESTMENT IN OUR CHILDREN WILL LEAD TO ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

Local citizens have high hopes for the future of Indianapolis. They are proud of the progress the city has made in recent years, and want to help the city continue to grow and progress.

92% of Indianapolis residents want expanded vocational training at the high school level.*

WITH THIS WORK, INDIANAPOLIS WILL BE:

AN ECONOMICALLY PROSPEROUS CITY
CONNECTING OUR LOW-INCOME
NEIGHBORS TO CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
THAT HELP TO EQUIP FAMILIES FOR
SUFFICIENCY LONG-TERM.



*Opinion Research & Strategy Poll Conducted August 2020.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

YECENIA TOSTADO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PROJECT AZUL
RISE INDY ADVISORY COUNCIL

As immigrants, my parents sacrificed their own desires to give me the opportunity to succeed, but I had to learn how to navigate many of our education institutions and early job opportunities on my own, because of their lack of familiarity with them.



My goal is to pay forward the sacrifice my parents made, by giving back to young people in my community who need help navigating work and education systems that lead to opportunity.

I don't want people to see Latinos only as cleaning and service staff. Latino children should have the same opportunity as all children in our country to pursue diverse and meaningful careers. ALL students have potential to succeed if schools and systems are set up for them to thrive. This is my guiding principle when I think about this work.

"ALL CHILDREN SHOULD HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO GET A GREAT EDUCATION REGARDLESS OF THEIR BACKGROUND OR ZIP CODE."

4 SCHOOLS NEED TO BE SAFE PLACES FOR ALL STUDENTS TO LEARN

During this challenging time, it is not enough to focus on the quality of teaching, the rigor and alignment of a curriculum, or the programs a school offers. We have to put student safety - both physically and emotionally - at the center of our work. We have to make sure students are prepared to learn and be their fullest selves in their classrooms.

88%

of Indianapolis residents want IPS to increase family and community supports, such as mental health services, access to food, and more.*

- Advocate for true restorative justice practices in schools.
- Elevate social and emotional learning for marginalized students, particularly through these challenging times.
- Increase family and community supports, like connecting students to mental health care, vision care, and consistent, nutritious meals.

WITH THIS WORK, INDIANAPOLIS WILL BE:
A SAFE CITY, AFFORDING ALL RESIDENTS ACCESS TO EMOTIONAL AND MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS NEEDED TO DEVELOP AND THRIVE.



PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

EARL MARTIN PHALEN

CEO & FOUNDER, PHALEN LEADERSHIP ACADEMIES
SCHOOL LEADERS CIRCLE

"THIS AIN'T THE PLACE FOR THAT"

Darrence is a scholar in our high school who faced many barriers in his life outside of school. He told us initially that the only reason he went to school was to clown around and cause mischief. And so when he came to our middle high school acting that way, we had leaders take him aside consistently to say in a thoughtful way to say - this is ain't the place for that - it is not the place for the behavior you are showing. He realized pretty soon that "these people really care about me."

Fast forward and he is now the president of the school. He has great grades, is a star football player, and is a model citizen in our community. One who really has extolled the virtues of the community to other students by telling them this is a safe place, a loving place, and we need to respect that. His is just one of thousands of stories like this.

I don't want to make this seem overly simple though, because the violence and trauma that students in our community face everyday is real. I was just speaking with another student recently who told me she sleeps with her feet toward the window at night because when stray bullets fly she figures that this way they may just hit her legs.

To have an organization like RISE INDY focused on educating lawmakers - saying you've got to know our kids and why they need more resources - is very important. It is powerful to have people that understand the forces against our scholars, to get a taste of the needs here, and to be sure they understand what they are going through as they make policy and allocate resources to our schools and communities.

5 INDIANAPOLIS NEEDS TRANSPARENT AND INCLUSIVE POLITICAL LEADERSHIP AT ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT

An active theme in our conversations was the need for the right individuals to be leading on behalf of our children and families. We've also heard the need to empower parent voices, and to lead with copious opportunities for community input that provide transparency and accountability in follow-through and decision making.

50% of Indy residents believe that, out of four potential actions to improve IPS, the most important step is to bring together families, teachers, students, business leaders, and community members to advocate for better schools*

WITH THIS WORK, INDIANAPOLIS WILL BE:

A CONNECTED CITY, PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESIDENTS TO CONNECT WITH POLICYMAKERS WHO DIRECTLY IMPACT THEIR LIVELIHOOD.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT BILL SHREWSBERRY

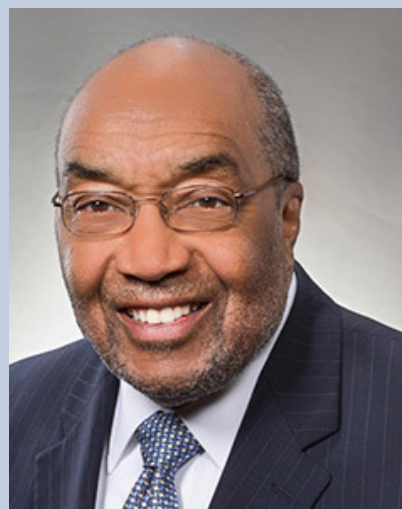
PRESIDENT & CEO, SHREWSBERRY & ASSOCIATES
RISE INDY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeffersonville, Indiana was not the most progressive place to grow up. But I had an awakening in 1968 when Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. came to Indiana. His message immediately struck a chord in me, and showed me that it was possible for us to be judged by the content of our character and not the color of our skin.

Once I had that awakening, I started small by organizing and advocating for the hiring of black policemen and black firemen in our town. A few years later, I was elected at-large to the Jeffersonville City Council. I was the first black councilman ever to be elected in Jeffersonville and went on to serve four terms. This work provided a springboard to a fulfilling life of civic involvement that I am grateful for, eventually having the opportunity to work in the Governor's Office, the Indianapolis Mayor's Office, and then starting my own engineering business.

After a life and career in public service, I've stayed involved in education, and got involved with RISE INDY in particular, because I believe getting it right in education and schools is as close to the silver bullet as there is.

We need leaders who are educated about what our students need to find success, and focused on identifying real solutions. The value of RISE INDY is that they are not just bringing people together, but they are actively finding and educating leaders to better prepare them to advocate and lead on our students behalf. This is such important work.



"RISE INDY IS ACTING AS A CONNECTOR IN OUR COMMUNITY TO BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER."

EARLY EFFORTS AND CAMPAIGNS

During our first year of listening, unprecedented events inspired us to take immediate action parallel to our existing engagement work.

Organized IPS Parents for Referendum Dollars:

Some public schools are serving students well with fewer resources. We engaged IPS parents to attend a school board meeting and advocate for shared referendum dollars with Innovation Network Schools.

Assessed Community Needs during COVID: In the midst of a global pandemic, we shifted to thinking about student needs and issued a survey that reached over 600 families.

Provided COVID Funding: We dispersed \$50,000 for technology, food, and safety to public schools in Center Township and the IPS Foundation.

Your Life Matters Campaign: In the wake of police brutality during this time, we responded with a message for marginalized students and families - *You Are Seen, Heard, and Valued*. The video reached over 2,000 viewers and included polling sites for Marion County voters.

Voter Registration: This summer, we registered 500 voters in Center Township to vote. As a part of these efforts, we reminded voters about the importance of voting for School Board.



RISE INDY

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT REV. DARIAN C. BOUIE

SENIOR PASTOR AT PROGRESSIVE
BAPTIST CHURCH
RISE INDY ADVISORY COUNCIL,
FAITH LEADERS COALITION

A mentor of mine who grew up in the civil rights era told me as a child that when he was my age folks would say: "If you want to hide something from a black person, put it in a book." His advice to me in response to this was, "but if you educate yourself, no one can ever hide anything from you."



My goal from there was to never be in the darkness, and to ensure the next generation of children aren't either, by emphasizing the importance of education and making sure we have schools that are preparing them for success.

I've gotten involved with RISE INDY because it is an authentic organization. Everyone I've met is genuinely concerned with the well being of students and are willful participants in change that doesn't benefit them directly. To me, this shows the genuine concern and genuine passion for young people that is so important in my ministry. Because at the end of the day when you come into these spaces, you've been called to be a servant.

"WE MAY NEVER SEE THE SEEDS WE PLANT TODAY GROW, BUT THEY STILL HAVE TO BE PLANTED TODAY. I WANT TO MAKE SURE WE ARE PLANTING THOSE SEEDS."

OCTOBER 2020

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

EVA OROZCO

INDEPENDENT DISTRIBUTOR, OMNILIFE
PARENT LEADER COALITION

I was born in Veracruz, Mexico, where I was only able to attend school through the elementary grades, because it was a forty minute walk just to get to school, and because I started working at the age of eight in agriculture to help support my parents and



younger brothers. At the age of 12, I started attending a local church, where I learned how to be a leader in my community through the service and social work I participated in with the church community. This showed me the importance of serving, engaging with and organizing in my community.

When I got to Indianapolis, I got involved with the education of my children because I didn't have the opportunity to get an education. One thing I'm particularly passionate about is that my children learn to read English and Spanish. I need to prepare my child for the future to face the world and to participate in different types of cultures. It is very important to be aware of our children's school lives. I believe parents have to instill principles for our children to succeed.

I did not hesitate in joining the RISE coalition because it is so important to me to advocate for my children's education needs, and because I know we can do great things for schools. I believe that RISE is a safe organization that is focusing on education equality. I also appreciate the fact that RISE is involving the Hispanic community - it motivates me more to bring voice to our children's needs. I am proud to be able to participate in this coalition and look forward to working together to achieve something better for our community.

"I AM INVOLVED WITH THE EDUCATION OF MY CHILDREN BECAUSE I DIDN'T HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO GET AN EDUCATION."

NOTE: THESE WORDS WERE SHARED IN SPANISH AND HAVE BEEN TRANSLATED.

RISE INDY

OUR PROMISE

This year of engagement strengthened our belief that an investment in our education system will improve our city as a whole. We have learned a lot by listening and have begun to lay the foundation to improve student outcomes and address generational inequities. In order to succeed, students, parents, teachers, the business community, the non-profit community and the electorate, collectively must engage and focus on the challenges that systemically affect our education system and design solutions that prepare students for graduation and beyond. At RISE INDY, we promise:

1. Students will be the center of all education discussions.
2. Families will be informed and empowered to choose, as well as advocate, for what's best for their children.
3. Educators will have the autonomy and flexibility to design, develop and implement an approach that best meets the needs of their schools and their students.

We are deeply grateful to those who have taken the time to share their stories and partner with us this past year, along with all those who have taken the time to read this Community Engagement Report. We look forward to engaging with all of you to create a brighter future for all of the children of Indianapolis.

The work continues,

RISE INDY Team



OCTOBER 2020

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Students: You are the future. Now, more than ever, we need your voice, experience, and ideas to be elevated.

[Join the Student Coalition](#)



Parents: You are powerful change agents. We need more empowered voices to advocate for what is best for students.

[Join the Parent Advocates Coalition](#)



Teachers: You are our most valuable community asset and truly our front line workers. Join our conversations to ensure we create meaningful policies to support you and your students.

[Join the Teacher Coalition](#)



Business Community: You are the economic engine powering our city. Your engagement is necessary as we seek to build up an education system that produces, attracts, and retains diverse, world-class talent.

[Join the RISE Advisory Council](#)



Non-Profit Community: You are already the driving force in the fight against inequality. Together, let's build collaborative partnerships to create a network of support and advocacy for Indianapolis residents.

[Join the RISE Advisory Council](#)

WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO INVEST IN GENERATIONAL CHANGE FOR MARGINALIZED STUDENTS. AT RISE INDY, EACH DAY IS DEDICATED TO THIS MISSION, BUT EVERY SINGLE MEMBER OF OUR COMMUNITY CAN JOIN US IN THESE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE OUR CITY FOR ALL RESIDENTS AND UPLIFT EVERY CHILD TO SUCCESS.