

**“College
Possible**

is helping me
prepare for
the next
big step in
my life.”

- Kylie,
Ralston class of 2019





“College Possible and my coach have been great.”

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Profoundly deaf since birth, Kylie has become a strong advocate for herself and wants to be an influence for other deaf people in the future.

“I received a cochlear implant at age three, which helped greatly in developing my speech and my ability to hear the world around me,” said Kylie, who has navigated her way through public schools in the hearing world since pre-school. But as the prospect of attending college approached, she reached out to College Possible for help.

“I knew I needed help preparing for college admission. A deaf upperclassman at my school told me the coaching help they received from College Possible led to their acceptance to college. I applied for the program and started attending sessions this fall.”

As a junior, Kylie’s College Possible sessions have focused on ACT test prep and essay writing. “I’ve seen quite an improvement in my English skills this year.”

Her goal is to become a teacher in the deaf world. “My first two years of elementary school were not the best,” said Kylie. “I want to be able to teach deaf students grades K-12 and make them aware of and understand how much the culture of the deaf world has influenced the hearing world.”

Admission to Gallaudet University is the next step beyond high school, with a life of teaching and advocating for the deaf to follow, thanks to the help of College Possible.

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for talented low-income students

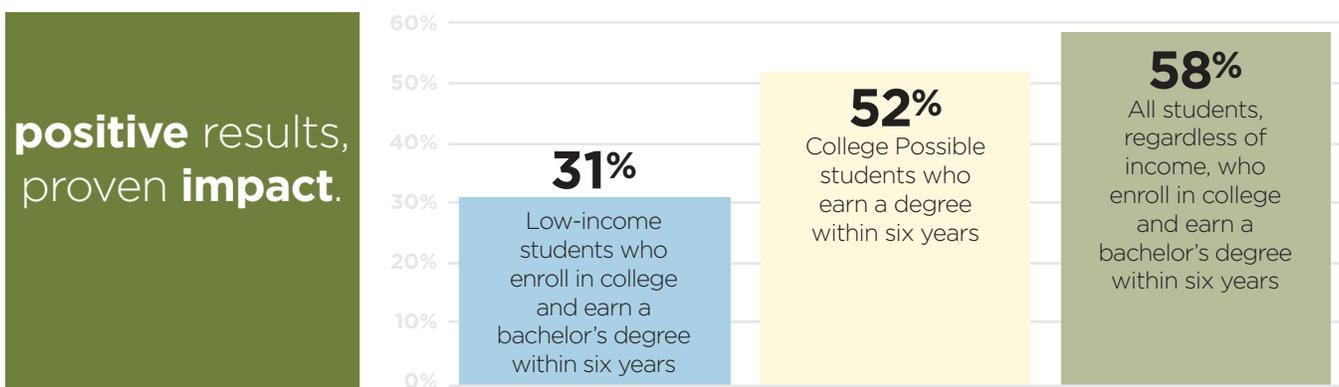
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“With **College Possible**,
your focus is on
getting things done
with no excuses.”

- Niyo,
Omaha South Magnet
High School class of 2018



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“College Possible has helped me keep my priorities straight.”

- Niyo, senior class of 2018



Since age eight, Niyonkuru has known he wanted to attend college. Because of his first visit to a dentist.

“My family came to America from a refugee camp in Tanzania in 2007. I had never been to a dentist before coming here, and I was struck by the wonderful work that dentist was doing,” said Niyo, as he is known to his friends. “Before I left the office that day, I knew I wanted to be a dentist. And I knew I would have to go to college to make that happen.”

Having the grades to gain college admittance is not a problem for Niyo, who is in the top 15 percent of his senior class at Omaha South Magnet High School. Coaching from College Possible is helping him focus on his

strengths that colleges look for, honing his test taking skills and applying for scholarships, grants and other financial aid that will make his dream of college a reality.

Between classes, varsity football, powerlifting and varsity track, Niyo knows to expect the best from himself in everything.

“You can make any excuse for yourself for not getting things done. With College Possible, your focus is on getting things done, with no excuses.”

“Each degree takes you further. A high school degree will only take you so far. I want to go beyond that and do all I can for others and myself.”

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As participants in **College Possible**,

High School Juniors

- find best 'fit' colleges
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High School Seniors

- engage in intensive college application assistance
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College Students

- connect to campus resources and opportunities
- receive ongoing financial aid coaching
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In 2016-17,

- juniors, on average, **raised their ACT scores by 22%**
- seniors **earned more than \$1.9 million in scholarships**
- **98% of seniors earned admission to college**
- **74.4% of first year College Possible college students returned for their second year**, compared to the state average of 71% for all students, and only 56.5% for low-income graduates*

* 2017 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report: College Continuation Rates for Nebraska Public High School Graduates Based on NSC Data 2007-2008 through 2014-2015: Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education



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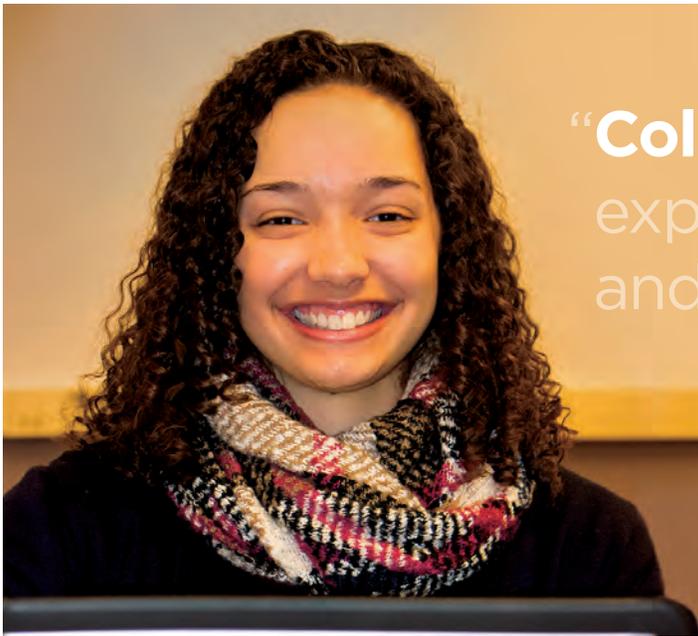


“Thanks to
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I have a
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- Dorothy,
Westside class of 2018



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“College Possible has expanded my horizon and **my future is limitless.**”

- Dorothy, Westside class of 2018



“I really value the prospect of continued education, but I didn’t have the tools or resources to get there,” says Dorothy, a 2018 high-school senior. College prep classes were a luxury her family couldn’t afford but while a sophomore, she heard from seniors how College Possible had helped them navigate through the process of college application and admission. For Dorothy, the two afternoons a week and occasional test prep weekend have been well worth it. “Some people might not appreciate the compromise of giving up other activities, but I consider it an opportunity cost.”

Support from College Possible coaches has helped Dorothy network and achieve many goals, including attending a Summer Scholars

program at Washington University in St. Louis between her junior and senior years. “I’ve been able to take advantage of College Possible, and it has led to many other opportunities.”

Dorothy looks forward to a life of learning. College Possible is making that happen.

As she finishes high school, Dorothy awaits more acceptance letters from across the Midwest and offers of scholarships to continue her education. “The gift of education — to be a lifelong learner — college is an essential step towards that,” she said. “Without College Possible, I’m not sure I’d be as far as I am today. I’m very grateful for the opportunities given me.”

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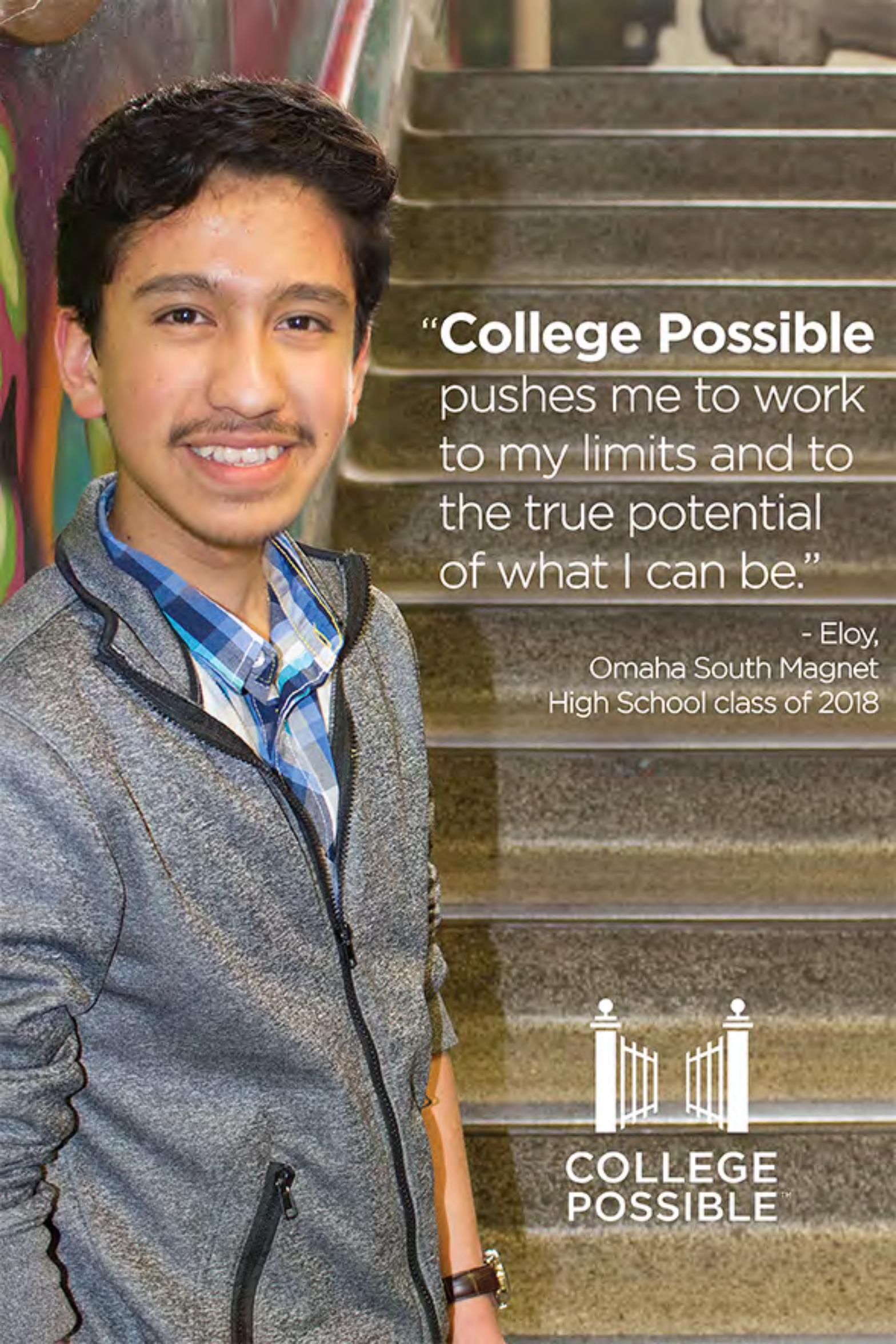
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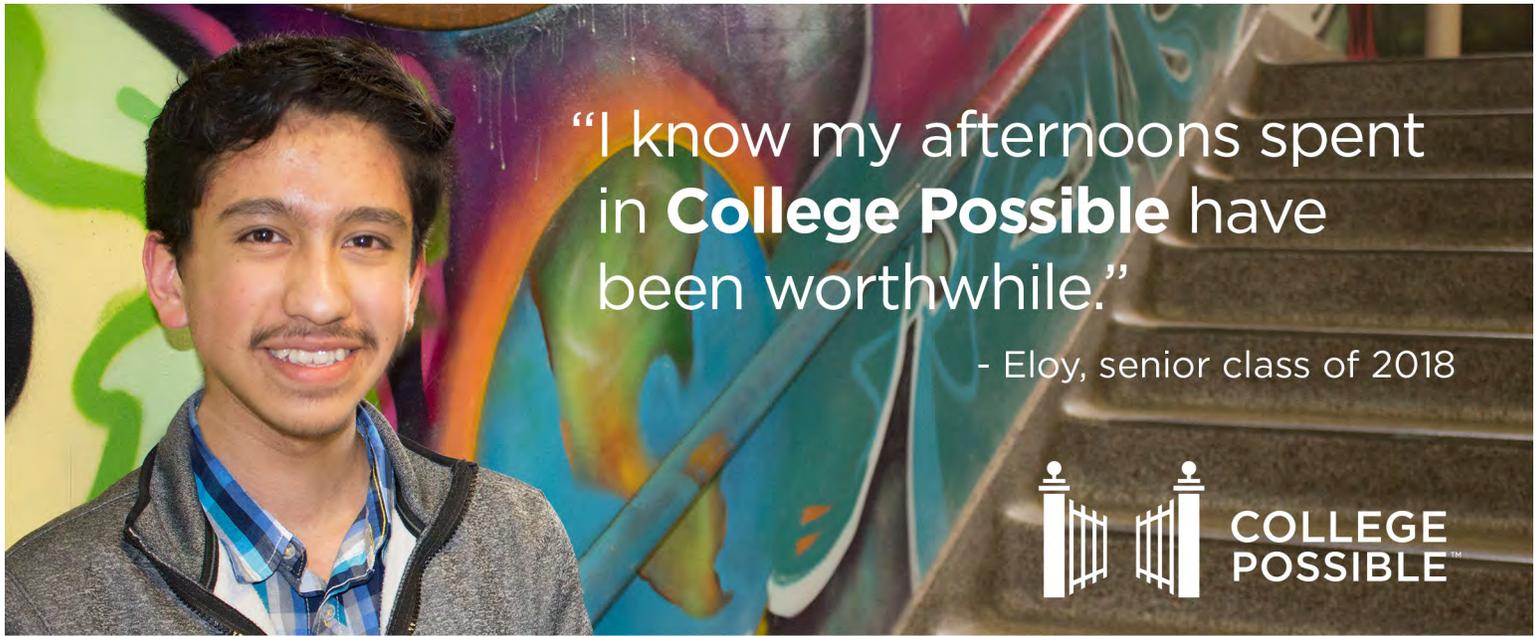


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- Eloy,
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“I know my afternoons spent in **College Possible** have been worthwhile.”

- Eloy, senior class of 2018



For Eloy, taking part in the College Possible program was a no-brainer. “I was in no position to not take advantage of this opportunity,” he said.

Although Eloy is ranked 8th academically in the Omaha South Magnet High School class of 2018, the financial burden of college is not something his family can afford. The coaching and support of College Possible is helping him prepare for a future beyond high school.

“My parents have been so attentive to what I’ve needed in my life. I want to make sure I have a career that will allow me to give back to them,” Eloy said. “My College Possible coach has made the process of applying for admission and all of the financial support I might be eligible for much easier. It is a lot of

work now, but there will be a better result for my efforts soon.”

A DACA student, Eloy has participated in Summer Scholars and was a QuestBridge finalist.

“College Possible pushes me to work to my limits and to the true potential of what I can be,” Eloy said. “I wouldn’t have accomplished a lot of the things I’ve done without College Possible.”

While his goal to further his education and achieve a successful career is in part to thank his parents for their sacrifices, he also has a message to those who support College Possible.

“To anyone who has ever given to College Possible, saying thank you will never be enough for helping me achieve my dreams.”

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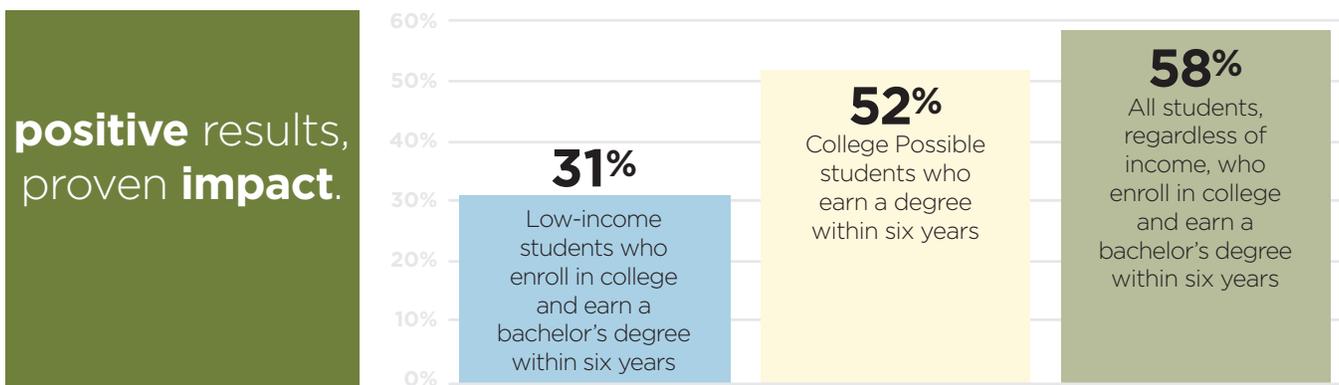
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“College Possible

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- Karina,
UNO class of 2019



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“I’ve learned through
College Possible that
I can do anything.”

-Karina, UNO class of 2019



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As Karina prepares to graduate from the University of Nebraska – Omaha, the changes in her life over the past six years have been phenomenal.

“When I started, I doubted myself,” said Karina, who joined College Possible at Papillion La-Vista. “I knew what I wanted to do but wasn’t sure if I was capable. If not for College Possible, the support I received in high school and the coaches who believed in me throughout my school career, who pushed me to bigger things, I wouldn’t be where I am today.”

For this first generation college student graduation with a Bachelor’s degree in social work comes after receiving a full-ride Thompson Learning Community Scholarship at UNO. While not attending classes, Karina is completing a two-year internship as a mentor to sophomores at TLC, co-facilitating a seminar course

her final semester, being a wife and mother to her year-and-a-half old child and sometimes providing childcare for her 10-year old sister and 6-year old brother.

“My siblings look up to me for all I’ve been able to do. They both want to attend college when they are old enough.”

“My brother says I’m his superhero for managing school, work and being a mom,” said Karina.

Karina plans next to obtain her Master’s degree in social work and either work with children in a school setting or help refugees and immigrants adapt and succeed in their new surroundings.

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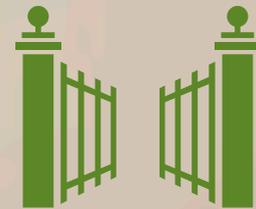
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