



▶ **UNLIMITED POTENTIAL**

Every person has a unique purpose, remarkable gifts and unlimited potential to lead a successful life.

▶ **GREAT EXPECTATIONS**

We are part of a community that values and empowers every individual, and expects every student to graduate from high school ready for college or a career.

▶ **REAL OPPORTUNITY**

Children have access to quality education, positive experiences and helpful resources... from cradle to career.

**Believe 2 Become** is a collaborative partnership of people and organizations who believe in Grand Rapids students. It's about creating real opportunities for students to become the people they aspire to be.

**It's about believing in the ability of everyone to become their dreams.**

A network of support includes summer enrichment and after-school experiences for students, workshops and mentoring for parents, and positive recognition for achievement—all directed by residents who live, work and learn in four central-city neighborhoods.

**LOCAL PARTNERS**

ASCET/Michigan Works!	Doug & Maria DeVos Foundation	Heart of West Michigan United Way	New Hope Baptist Church	Schools of Hope
Boys and Girls Club of Grand Rapids	Early Learning Neighborhood Collaborative	Hispanic Center of Western Michigan	North American Choral Company	Steepletown Neighborhood Services
Brown-Hutcherson Ministries	Gatherings of Hope	Jubilee Jobs	Oakdale Neighbors	Strong Beginnings
Calvin Christian Reformed Church	Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore	LINC Community Revitalization	Our Community's Children	True Light Baptist Church
Camp Fire USA	Grand Rapids Initiative for Leaders	Mosaic Life and Grand Rapids Dreams	Recreation Reaps Rewards	United Church Outreach Ministry
West Michigan Council	Grand Rapids Public Schools	Messiah Missionary Baptist Church	Redeemer Lutheran Church	United Methodist Community House
Center for Social Research at Calvin College	Grand Rapids Student Advancement Foundation	National Community Development Institute	Renaissance Church of God in Christ	Vietnamese American Association of Michigan
City of Grand Rapids	Grandville Avenue Arts and Humanities	Neland Avenue Christian Reformed Church	Restorers, Inc.	Wellspring Church
Community Research Institute at GVSU			Roosevelt Park Community House	W. K. Kellogg Foundation
Divine Grace Ministry			Salvation Army Kroc Center	Word of Faith Grand Rapids
				YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids

## CONNECTED STRATEGIES

Four connected strategies support the success of students in school, work and life.



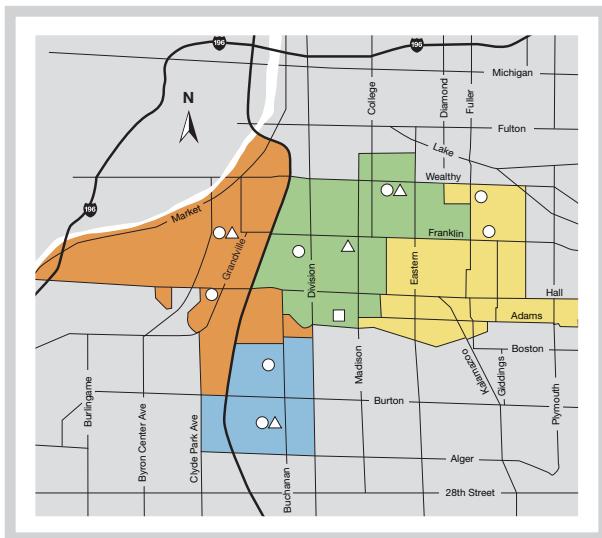
All students have the capability for high achievement. Efforts that support **strong schools** help ensure that students reach academic milestones and graduate prepared for college and career.

Grounded in **community partnership**, Believe 2 Become involves local residents, congregations and community leaders in planning, supporting and celebrating student success.

Together with local organizations, **parent resources** help families prepare children for school and stay on track academically so they complete key transitions from kindergarten to elementary, middle and high school and beyond.

Delivered by neighborhood partners, **student experiences** expand learning beyond the classroom. Opportunities to read, study, travel, and work after school and during the summer help students achieve their goals.

Serving 15,000 children in four Grand Rapids neighborhoods



○ elementary school    △ middle school    □ high school

## SUPPORTED BY RESEARCH AND DATA

### National Resources

Johns Hopkins University  
 National Community Development Institute  
 National Summer Learning Association  
 University of Notre Dame  
*Center for Research on Educational Opportunity*  
 University of Pittsburgh  
*Institute for Learning*

### Data Collection

nFocus

### Evaluation

Basis Policy Research  
 Center for Social Research at Calvin College  
 Community Research Institute at Grand Valley State University