



opportunity  
NORTHEAST

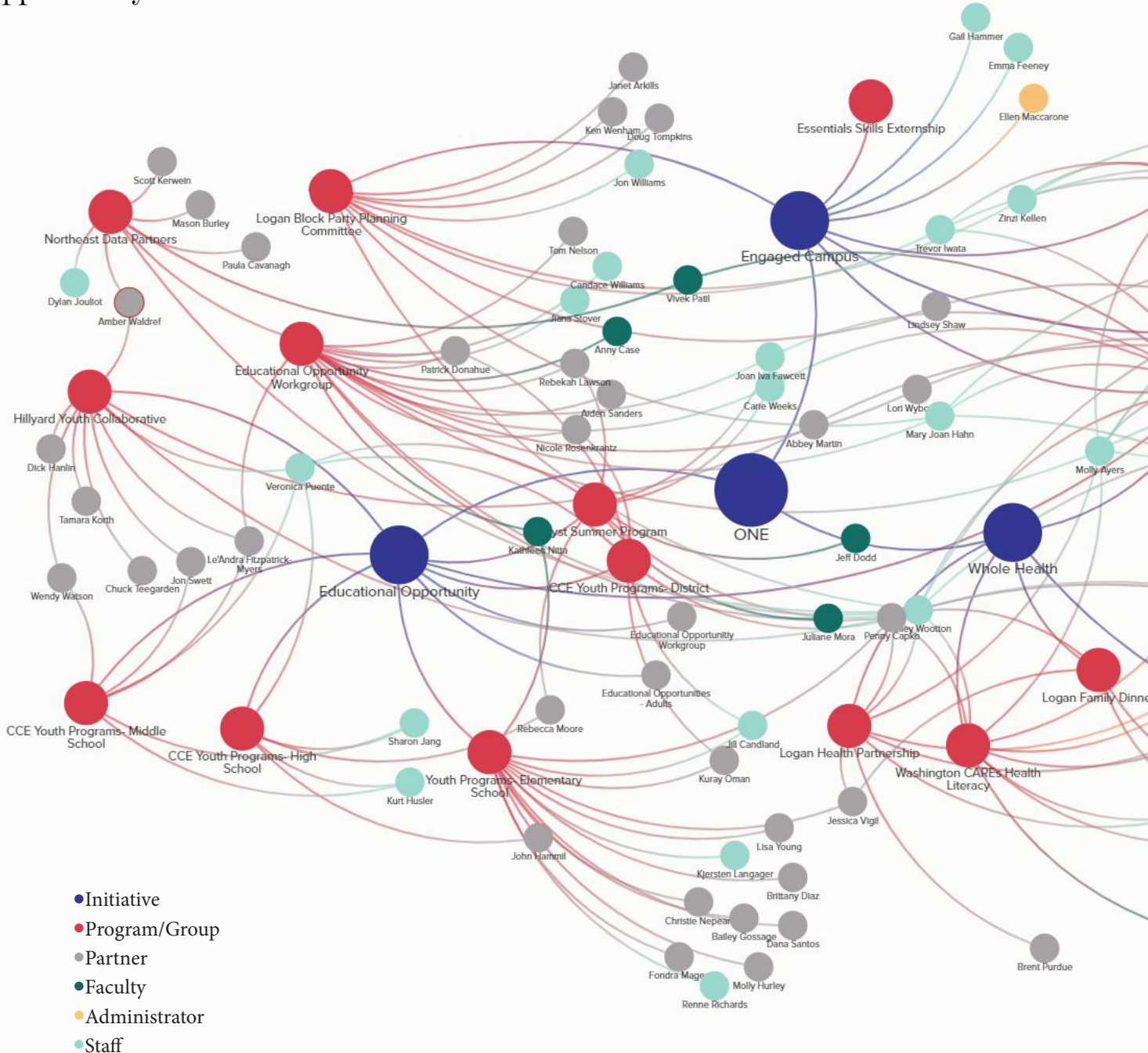
# Impact Report

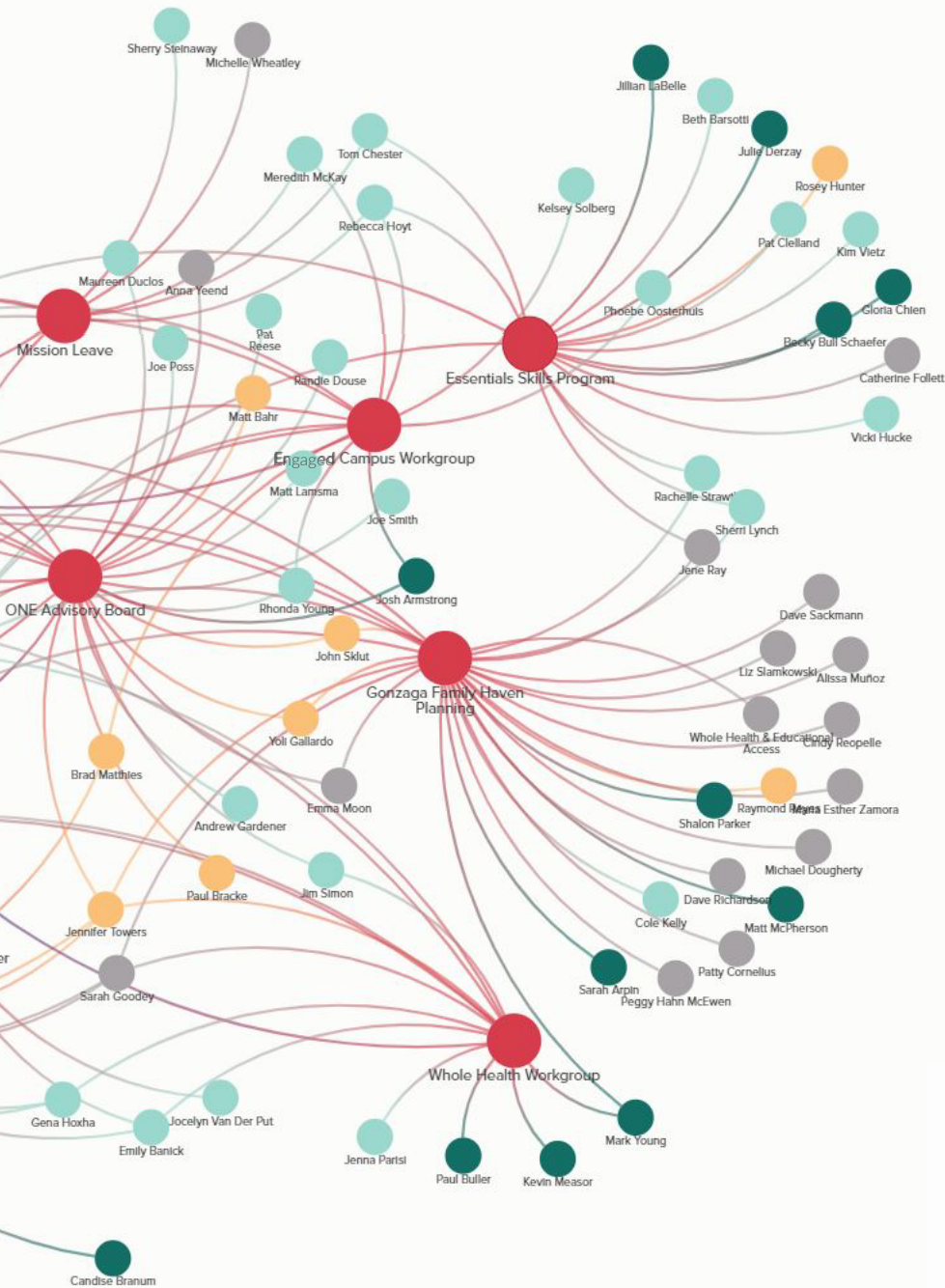
2020 - 2022



# 2022 Network Map

## Opportunity Northeast





The network map is a visual representation of the various stakeholders, individuals, organizations and projects that are involved with Opportunity Northeast.

It shows connections between these essential elements and the many relationships that make our shared work possible.

This is a useful tool for identifying potential partners, determining gaps in resources or capacity, and coordinating efforts to achieve our goals.

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When Gonzaga University's Opportunity Northeast initiative was officially launched in February 2020, no one could have envisioned the scale and impact of the coming COVID-19 pandemic. While this world-changing event disrupted our lives and our work, it also proved how vital community engagement initiatives like Opportunity Northeast are to our collective well-being and ability to overcome societal challenges.

The initiative's three focus areas – **Whole Health, Educational Opportunity**, and **Engaged Campus and Community** – have shown over the past two-and-a-half years to be as relevant as ever to engaging with and supporting our neighbors in Northeast Spokane.

Although progress has looked different than expected, we have made important strides towards the key objectives laid out in the Opportunity Northeast Strategic Plan. The following pages highlight the outputs and outcomes of work accomplished over the first two years of this initiative. The progress and impact made since Opportunity Northeast's launch is due to the committed partnerships, collaborations, investments, and creative vision of dozens of campus colleagues and community partners.

**To build capacity, encourage continuous learning among all initiative stakeholders, and sustain the work, four foundational strategies support Opportunity Northeast's strategic priorities.**

**1) Fostering a professional learning community among faculty, staff, and partners in the community to remain current with place-based community engagement trends and frameworks, develop promising practices, and contribute to the field.**

Opportunity Northeast partners participate in **continuous learning** through regional and national networks. Over the past two years, ONE leaders have made **three** presentations at national conferences. The ongoing dissemination of best practices is a priority.

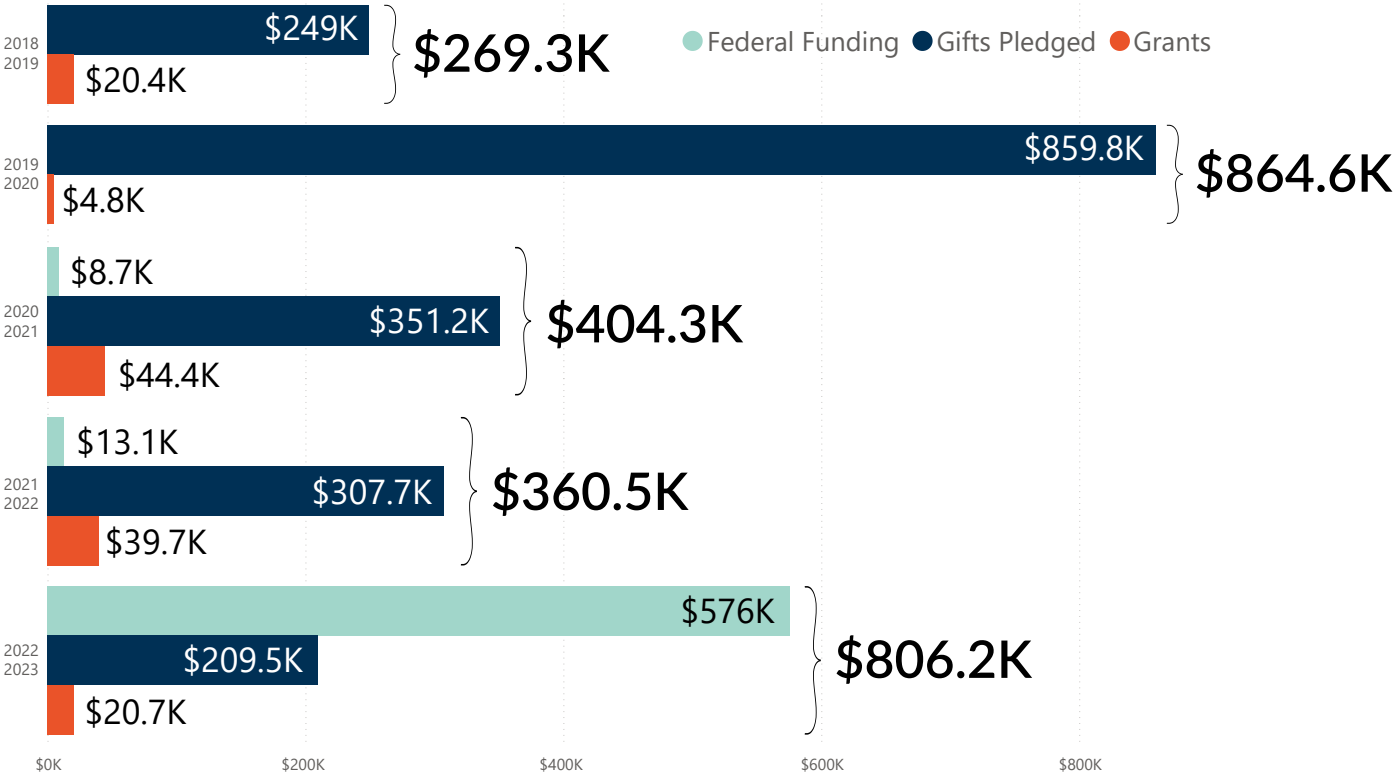
**2) Ongoing communication and outreach to share stories of our collective work and its impact with campus and community stakeholders.**

The ONE **comprehensive communication plan** includes: the development of 1) an externally facing website to connect residents to university and community resources, 2) a social media strategy to actively engage campus and community stakeholders in ONE projects and programs, 3) ONE collateral to share the story of the work, and 4) quarterly newsletters with program highlights and updates.

**3) Continually improving ONE programs and practices through ongoing assessment of student learning outcomes as well as institutional and community impact.**

The development of an assessment plan that includes evaluation of student learning as well as campus and community impact outcomes is underway. This impact report highlights project outputs from '20 to '22. Through data sharing agreements with Spokane Public Schools, Catholic Charities Eastern Washington, and the Spokane Regional Health District, we hope to provide an additional layer of population and individual-level indicators in future reports.

4) Ensuring Opportunity Northeast’s financial sustainability by identifying, diversifying, and increasing funding sources such as endowments, grants, gifts, sponsorships, and institutional support.



## Whole Health

Improve whole health outcomes for individuals and families residing in Northeast Spokane by developing projects and partnerships that increase access to health and wellness services, healthy foods, and high-quality affordable housing while building a more connected community and strengthening social capital.

Housing Security

Sense of Belonging

Food Security

Health & Wellness Services





## Housing Security

The Gonzaga Family Haven (GFH), an innovative partnership between Catholic Charities Eastern Washington (CCEW), Gonzaga University, and Gonzaga Preparatory School, opened its doors to families in fall 2021. GFH serves as both a housing community and an educational hub and community center. The Haven provides long-term, supportive housing to families who have transitioned from homelessness. This community provides not only long-term stable housing, but wrap-around services including case management, mental healthcare, and educational enrichment programs for children, youth, and adults. For students and faculty at Gonzaga University, GFH provides a dynamic opportunity for them to put their values and education to work in the community for an immediate and tangible impact.

In addition to wrap-around supports provided to families by CCEW, programs offered in partnership with Gonzaga University include:

- After school youth mentoring and educational enrichment programs (Center for Community Engagement and School of Education)
- Legal aid clinics (Law School)
- Leadership development (School of Leadership Studies)
- Workforce development
- Health & wellness clinics and programs (School of Nursing and Human Physiology)
- Financial literacy clinics (School of Business Administration)
- Community meal program (CCE Campus Kitchens and Zag Dining)

**70+** Families receive long-term supportive housing

**82** Adults

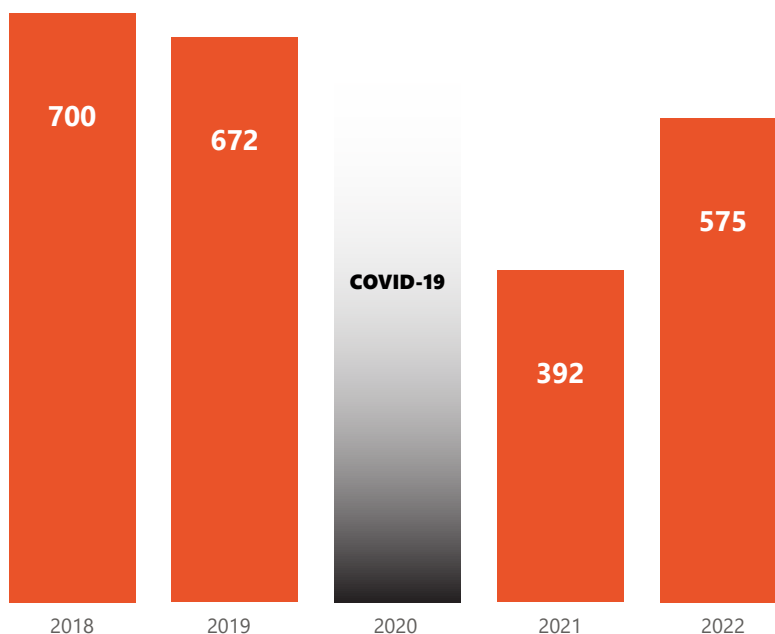
**149** Youth aged 0-18

## Sense of Belonging

Providing opportunities to gather and build community helps create a sense of belonging and connection to one another and the neighborhood. Events, such as the Logan Block Party, address this goal of belonging. After taking two years off due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Gonzaga staff worked with community partners to bring back the Logan Block Party in both spring and fall of 2022. The block party provides a space for Gonzaga students, staff, faculty, and Logan neighborhood residents to come together, strengthening campus-community relationships, building community cohesion, and enhancing social capital.

Missing two consecutive block party events caused a dip in attendance from pre-pandemic levels, but the steady growth in numbers over the two post-pandemic events speaks to the strength of our community partnerships and the importance of providing a space for gathering together and celebrating community.

**Sum of Total Logan Block Party Attendees**  
BY ACADEMIC YEAR



## Food Security

Access to healthy food contributes to the whole health of individuals and communities. Gonzaga's Campus Kitchen program has long partnered with ZagDining by Sodexo to recover and repurpose food from on-campus dining into meals for the community, addressing food insecurity and providing opportunities to build a sense of belonging among residents.

COVID-19 required a pivot in how these meals were distributed – moving from a community meal model to a take-away model – and caused a spike in demand for meals as community members dealt with the economic impact of the pandemic. Additionally, Gonzaga (and other partners) helped start the Bite 2 Go program at Shaw Middle School in February of 2020 and continue to support the program, which provides take-home food for youth on the weekends.

**41.6%** Increase in number of meals provided by Campus Kitchens in response to the pandemic from Spring '20 - Spring '21

**50** NE Spokane youth who received Nutritional Education by Campus Kitchens in partnership with Summer in the ZoNE

## Health and Wellness Services

To address community-identified challenges around lack of access to health and wellness services in Northeast Spokane, the Gonzaga School of Nursing and Human Physiology (SNHP) has committed to increasing the number of nursing practicum students placed in Northeast Spokane. Expanded partnerships with Spokane Public Schools and Catholic Charities Eastern Washington, among others, have allowed SNHP to steadily increase their Northeast Spokane placements since the 2018-2019 academic year, bringing additional services to community members who may not have previously had easy access.

In addition to increasing the number of practicum students serving across the neighborhood, SNHP has partnered with campus and community organizations, including the Foley Library, Logan Elementary School, Logan Block Party, and the Gonzaga Family Haven to offer health education, vaccination clinics, and free sports physicals.

**260** Students at Logan Elementary School experienced in-person programming related to health literacy and nutrition.

**16%** Increase in nursing practicum students in NE Spokane since '19

**11** Number of Gonzaga Family Haven youth who received free sports physicals

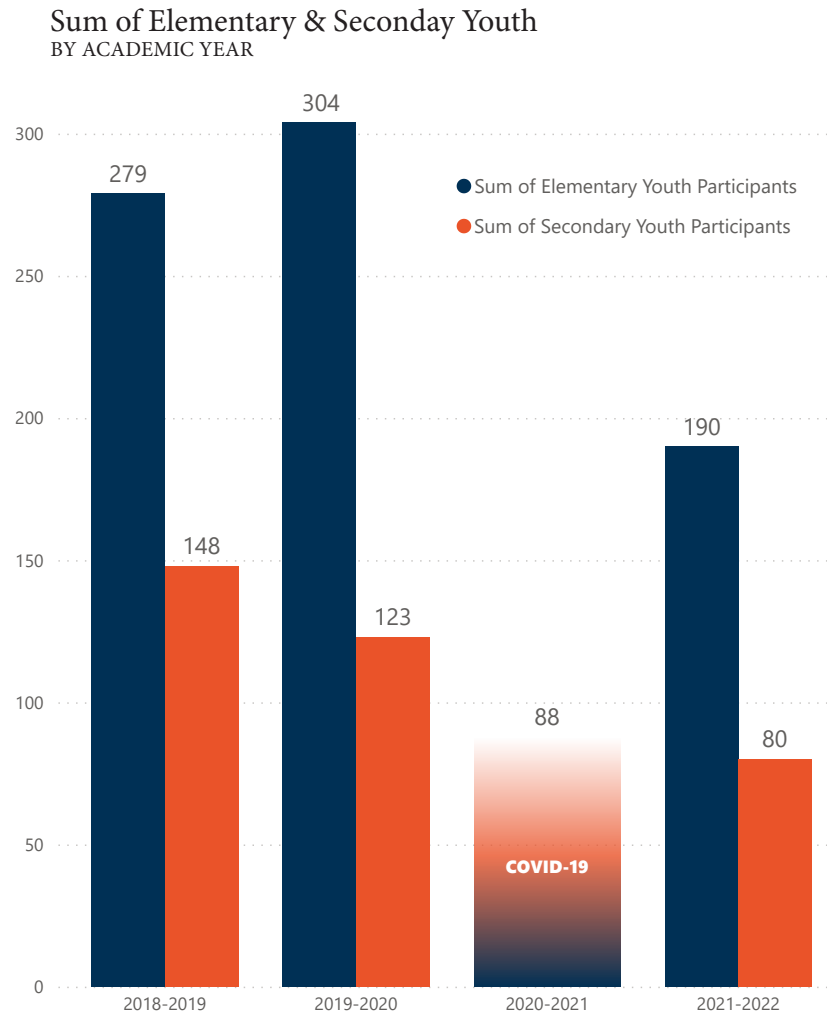




## After-School Enrichment

Many areas across campus provide support to youth in Northeast Spokane, through tutoring, community-engaged learning courses, after-school and summer programs, practicums, and more. The Center for Community Engagement’s Youth Programs and Initiatives have been a backbone of this community engagement work for nearly 30 years, currently providing mentoring and after-school programs across 10 Spokane Public Schools.

The COVID-19 pandemic had a huge impact on the ability of Gonzaga student volunteers to meet with their youth mentees, and the number of youth supported decreased as compared to the usual in-person programs. Student volunteers showed tremendous resiliency and creativity keeping programs going virtually and were still able to connect with 88 youth during the period of lockdown and isolation. As programming has returned to in-person, we have seen the numbers of youth attendees start to return to pre-pandemic levels. Two sites have been added for youth programming for Fall 2022 as well – the new Yasuhara Middle School and the Gonzaga Family Haven.





## College Readiness

**Summer engagement** and **college readiness** for youth were two priorities identified by residents in the 2019 Northeast Listening Project. Launched in July 2021, the Catalyst College Immersion offers John R. Rogers High School students an opportunity to experience college in this week-long summer program. Catalyst participants spend a week at Gonzaga exploring what it means to go to college. Students participate in classes that engage them in themes of identity and becoming, build community and increase college awareness and preparedness, while also enjoying fun activities like a rafting excursion on the Spokane River.

**30** Number of youth enrolled in Catalyst since '21

**1,194** Hours of college readiness provided to catalyst youth

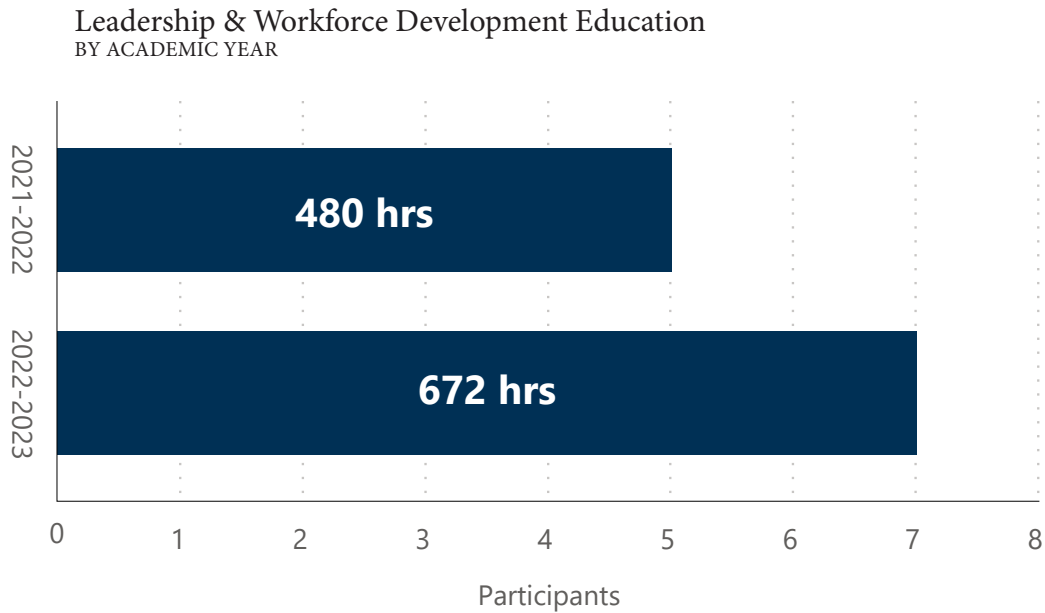
*“I learned more about financial aid. I am more convinced that college is for me and is a good idea. I am considering Gonzaga as a possible college choice because of this college immersion program.”*

-Catalyst Youth Participant

## **Leadership & Workforce Development for Adults**

Gonzaga's partnerships with the ZoNE, Northeast Community Center, and the Catholic Charities Eastern Washington Gonzaga Family Haven support community leadership and workforce development for adults. One example is the ZoNE Essential Skills Program. This unique partnership between the ZoNE and Gonzaga provides unemployed and underemployed women in Northeast Spokane a six-week career development series that offers opportunities for career exploration, professional skill development, exposure to different industries, leadership development, personal financial management skills, and more.

Women completing the six-week series have the opportunity to engage in a three-week paid externship for a total of 60 hours that is supported through Work Source Spokane. This program strives to prepare women to enter into the workforce with knowledge of career opportunities, basic business skills, and personal confidence. Two cohorts have completed the program so far. Gonzaga has been able to provide an externship experience to a member of each cohort to date.



- 40** Participants in leadership education programs
- 12** Women enrolled in the Essential Skills program
- 2** Essential Skills externships at Gonzaga University
- 1** Essential Skills participant hired by Gonzaga University

# Engaged Campus and Community

Build campus and community capacity to engage in and sustain community change efforts through innovative programs and partnerships that build community leadership capacity and engage the whole institution in providing transformative learning and engagement opportunities for Gonzaga students, faculty, and staff.

Student Engagement

Faculty Engagement

Staff Engagement



## Engaged Learning

The expansion of engagement opportunities for students is a priority of Opportunity Northeast – both inside and outside of the classroom. We are seeing a return to pre-pandemic levels of student involvement, including increased interest of faculty in developing new community-engaged learning (CEL) courses.

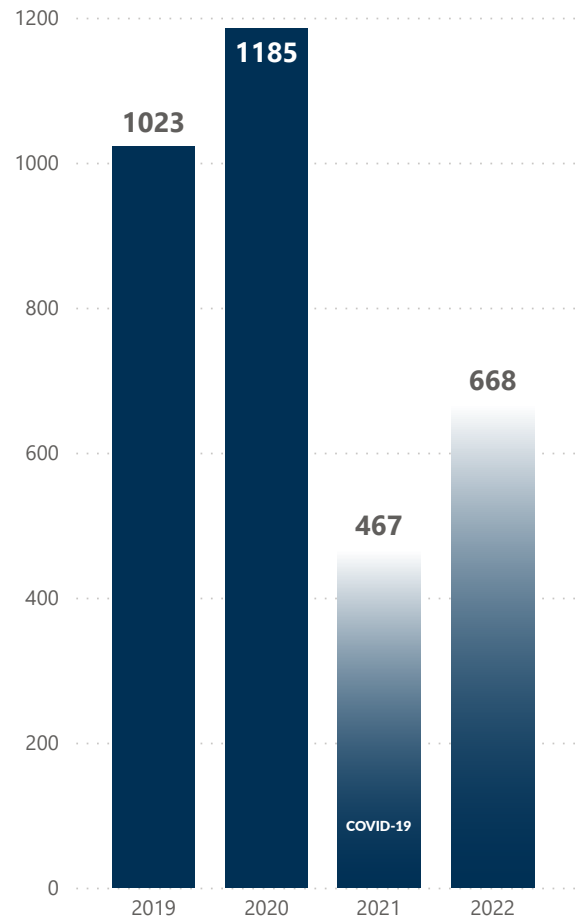
44 courses offered in 20-21 involved students in community-engaged learning projects or community immersions in Northeast Spokane. This has resulted in an important increase in the proportion of CEL students serving at sites in Northeast Spokane. It is a testament to faculty commitment and long-term partnerships that CEL and place-based courses have bounced back to near pre-pandemic levels.

GU’s CEL courses and community outreach programs partner with over 30 schools and community-based organizations in the neighborhood.

**38%** of Gonzaga’s Community Engaged Learning (CEL) students served in Northeast placements in 21-22

**13,770** hours of service were completed in NE Spokane during 21-22

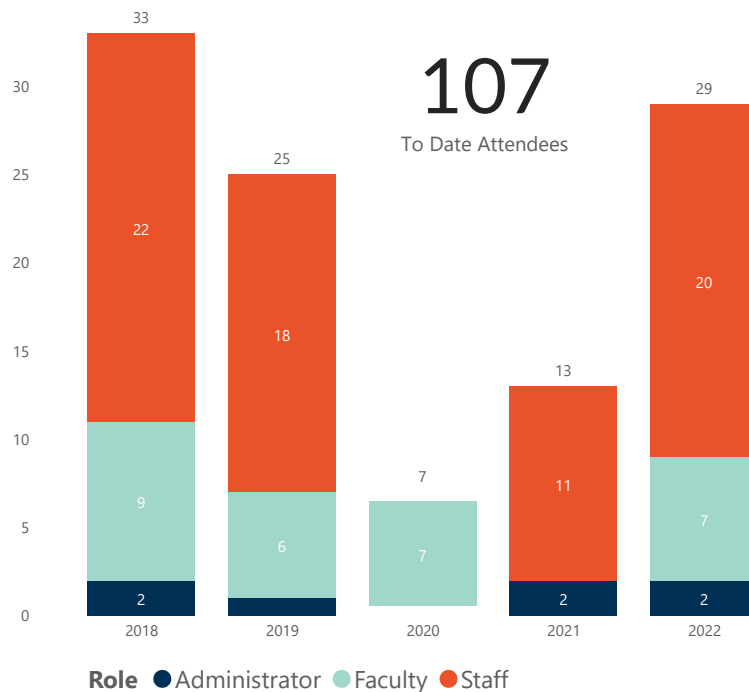
**Total # of Students Serving in NE Spokane  
BY ACADEMIC YEAR**



## Institutional Awareness

Opportunity Northeast seeks to engage students, faculty, and staff across campus and promote innovative cross-campus collaboration. Since 2018, Northeast Immersions have provided an opportunity for Gonzaga to engage with our neighboring communities. Immersions offer the opportunity to visit the neighborhoods, meet community partners, see key neighborhood landmarks, and learn more about the history and current context of Northeast Spokane. These immersions have seen strong participation over the past several years with numbers returning to near pre-pandemic levels in 2022.

**Total # of NE Immersion Attendees**  
BY ACADEMIC YEAR





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Gonzaga University & Northeast Spokane  
Thriving Together