The John H. Boner Community Center,
PR#U215J190091

For ten years Indianapolis's Near Eastside neighborhood has worked to become a place of opportunity after years of disinvestment. With an ambitious collective impact initiative known as the IndyEast Achievement Zone Initiative (IEAZI), the John Boner Neighborhood Centers (JBNC) and its partners have organized residents and leveraged investments like the IndyEast Promise Zone to improve educational opportunity.

The IEAZI's Full-Service Community Schools program builds on this work and will serve 1,562 students and their families, a majority of whom are impoverished and show low educational achievement. The Full-Service Community Schools program uses a two-generation community schools model to integrate evidence-based solutions along a comprehensive, cradle-to-career service pipeline in order to improve outcomes for students and families. With the provision of these service at community schools, family homes and community-based organization sites, the IEAZI will work with families to improve student academic achievement, family stability and engagement, and health and wellness while creating an overarching culture that fosters systems and policy change. To achieve these goals, the IEAZI has designed its Full-Service Community Schools program to include severable measurable outcomes. These include but are not limited to, improvements in: kindergarten readiness; academic performance; physical, mental and emotional health; relationships and social support; and successful transitions. These outcomes also include improvements in financial stability, employment rates, and social support for parents.

The IEAZI will serve three community schools: Thomas Gregg Neighborhood School, a neighborhood-led Innovation Network School operating under a community school model, Brookside Elementary School, and Harshman Middle School, to which Thomas Gregg Neighborhood School and Brookside Elementary School feed. All these schools are part of the Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) district.