



# Results NAZ: Collaboration

## *Key Findings*

Survey results show that NAZ collaborative participation is high, is generally satisfactory to those who participate in collaborative teams and groups, and is helping as intended to drive change in services in many of the participating organization. Nearly three-quarters of respondents report that these efforts are having broader impacts in the Northside community. Opportunities for improvement in collaboration are mainly in clarity of roles, decision-making processes, communication, and the use of the shared data system.

### Overall positive levels of satisfaction with the NAZ collaborative experience

- 91 percent of respondents are very satisfied, satisfied, or somewhat satisfied with the NAZ collaboration experience overall
- Areas of highest assessment and/or satisfaction include the perception that NAZ membership is beneficial to the member organizations (94% agree or strongly agree), and that the level of commitment among collaboration participants is high (74% agree)

### Participation in NAZ is leading to changes in how organizations do their work

- The NAZ partnership is helping organizations and individual representatives focus on a shared vision of better outcomes for Northside children and families (73% agree or strongly agree) and has led to changes in how participating organizations work (58% agree or strongly agree)

### A majority of respondents feel NAZ's work is leading to improvements in the Northside community

- Examples of the kinds of changes people report include greater success among families and youth who are supported; an increase in engagement and involvement among parents; a shift in how parents and scholars think about education and their futures

- Other changes cited by many include systemic changes such as increased funding opportunities and increased capacity for problem-solving

### **Areas with the greatest room for improvement are related to clarity of roles, decision-making processes, and communication**

- While differences exist across kinds of collaborative teams and groups, in general the scale and comprehensiveness of NAZ continues to make it difficult to establish clarity of roles across the many different kinds of participants (54% agree or strongly agree that people in their group have a clear sense of their roles and responsibilities) and clarity in decision-making processes (43% agree or strongly agree that there is a clear process for making decisions among the partners in their group)
- Communication has many positive aspects, including generally open communications (68% agreement) and a process that helps to move meetings and communications from talk to action (64% agreement); however, there is still a need to increase these ratings and especially to find ways to simplify communications and increase their transparency

### **Partners are committed to using data to drive decisions, but the NAZ Connect data system could be more consistently used**

- Respondents are generally confident in their organizations' capacity to use and learn from data (91% agreement), but less confident in their ability to use the NAZ Connect database for this purpose (46% agreement), or the extent to which their staff are entering data regularly (23% agreement)

### **Partners continue to be interested in increased connections with other partner organizations**

- Respondents not only feel the partnership is currently beneficial; in open-ended suggestions about ways to increase the effectiveness of the NAZ partnership, many express a desire to connect more with other partners, to share understanding of the community and its needs, of best practices, and of funding opportunities (including potential for collaboration on funding)

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#### **For more information**

This summary presents highlights of the *Results NAZ Collaboration report*. For more information about this report, contact Ellen Shelton at Wilder Research, 651-280-2689.

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