Our student opportunity mandate: Teach Plus is driven by our belief that all students should have the opportunity to achieve their potential in an education system defined by its commitment to equity, its responsiveness to individual needs, and its ability to prepare students for postsecondary success.

Through our programs, we ensure that Teach Plus Teacher Leaders are well-informed, ready with solutions, and prepared to lead. This combination is essential if teachers are to shape systemic change in education that yields greater opportunity for students. This year, Teach Plus Teacher Leaders have achieved the following:

**CALIFORNIA:**
- Ensured equity and access for English learner students’ to a full academic curriculum. Teach Plus Teacher Leaders worked with Assemblmymember Anna Caballero on legislation that would extend the exemptions from district-specific graduation requirements to refugee and newcomer students.
- Established college and career readiness goals for all students, partnering to influence a resolution passed by the Los Angeles Unified School District to ensure that all students have the opportunity to prepare for postsecondary success, and to enhance professional development for teachers serving emergent bilingual students.

**COLORADO:**
- Promoted effective teacher retention strategies by shaping legislation that funds and supports high-quality teacher retention and effective distributed leadership models across the state.
ILLINOIS:
Grew the pipeline for preschool teachers in the state, successfully advocating for legislation to allow for an alternative certification process for teachers under the state’s Preschool for All initiative. Teach Plus Teacher Leaders contributed recommendations to ensure effective professional development for these beginning teachers.

Supported access to early learning opportunities by influencing a bill which lengthened the period of time parents are eligible for child care from 6-12 months, reducing the likelihood of students losing services mid-year.

NEW MEXICO:
Established rigorous science standards for students by successfully advocating alongside key stakeholders to influence the state’s adoption of the Next Generation Science Standards.

"The Next Generation Science Standards will allow us to prepare our future scientists and engineers in the best manner possible. We’re proud that the state is moving ahead with NGSS. It’s the right thing to do." — Teach Plus Teacher Leader Shelbi Simeone-Montoya in the Los Alamos Daily Post.

TEXAS:
Ensured success for beginning teachers by advocating to increase the effectiveness of mentors for new teachers. The policy proposal of Teach Plus Teacher Leaders was adopted by the State Board of Educator Certification.

INDIANA:
Addressed teacher shortages in the state by shaping and supporting the passage of the Teachers Permits, Examinations, and Salaries bill, which gives schools more flexibility to offer competitive raises to teachers in high-need subjects such as STEM and special education, and streamlines the process for professionals with strong backgrounds to earn a teaching license.

"I have always wanted to help guide the future of education, but I have not wanted to leave the classroom to do it. Now, I have a chance to do both." — Teach Plus teacher Leader Karen Dannenhauer in the Illinois Daily Journal.