What does your organization do? Who does it serve?
Working through our diversity, racial equity and inclusion lens, Reading Results works to accelerate reading skills for early-grade students who are most likely to experience the opportunity gap associated with race and poverty. Successful third grade reading is a significant indicator of a student’s likelihood to graduate from high school and falling behind in school chips away at student esteem and confidence. Working toward our vision that all children have the right to read and succeed, Reading Results serves first, second and third graders who are behind in reading. Students work with paid, trained tutors 1:1 or 1:2 during the school day 30 minutes, three times each week throughout the school year. We follow a responsive, student-centered, data-driven model, and students in our program generally make 16 months of gains in reading skills over an eight-month period.

How has being an NAO member helped you succeed in furthering your organization’s mission?
Reading Results values our membership with NAO. We are a people-business, our staff is our greatest asset and who works to make a transformational impact in the lives of students. The professional development trainings and resources provided by NAO have helped us continue to grow and learn, as individuals, as an employer, and as an organization. We expect a growth mindset from students, so it makes sense to model that in our own learning! Knowing this statewide resource connects Reading Results to the work of nonprofits across our state is important to our team.

Anything else you’d like to share?
In the spring of 2019, only 47% of Oregon’s 36,094 third-graders met ‘proficiency’ on our statewide reading assessment, and our students of color and students who are low-income experienced disproportionately lower scores. Of the more than 19,130 third-graders who did not score ‘proficient’, 10,830 were students of color and 17,227 were students who live at or below the poverty line. Reading Results addresses this need. In the words of one of our tutors, “Pairing kids up with the ideal reading partner takes careful analysis of skills, personality and helping one another succeed. This is rewarding in many ways – the weekly growth, the students themselves set their own goal and continue to build confidence but nailing an ‘I can do it’ attitude.”

Special thanks to Jill Murray,
Development Director, Reading Results