

SAY YES BUFFALO

Investment Opportunities

We invite donors to invest in a comprehensive ecosystem that drives economic mobility, whether through targeted program support or the broader model as a whole.

Invest in Systems-Level Impact

Say Yes Buffalo Operational Fund. Invest in the team and infrastructure that stewards scholarships in perpetuity and delivers cradle-to-career programming. All gifts to the Operational Fund receive a 1:1 match from the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation.

Opportunity Grants. Directly support students pursuing postsecondary education dreams, with enhanced awards for those with the highest financial need. These scholarships serve as the “North Star” driving our broader system of student and family supports.

Say Yes Niagara Falls Scholarship Endowment. Help extend the promise of Say Yes to Niagara Falls and build a permanent regional commitment to student success.

Invest in Whole-Child and Whole-Family Supports

Programmatic Investments. Support a specific area of Say Yes Buffalo’s work aligned with your interests—such as early childhood education, school-based services, community schools, summer camps, Boys and Men of Color programming, workforce development, or postsecondary access and scholarships. These investments strengthen the systems and supports that drive long-term educational and economic outcomes.

Corporate Partnerships. Partner with Say Yes Buffalo through Community Schools to support early career exploration and deliver workshops for students and families in areas such as economic empowerment, health and wellness, and other aligned areas of expertise. Partners may also participate in our annual Adopt-a-Family holiday initiative, supporting families enrolled in school-based services.

Event Sponsorships. Sponsor signature events like the annual Say Yes Forever Breakfast, which brings together 300+ community stakeholders to celebrate impact and raise funds for students with the greatest postsecondary need, or support reoccurring program-led events such as our Financial Empowerment Summit, Mental Health and Wellness Summit, and Family Day.

Planned Giving. Create a lasting legacy of opportunity. By including Say Yes Buffalo in your planned giving, you help sustain long-term access to education and support for future generations of students and families.

KEY DATA

High School Graduation Rate

2012:
49%



2025
71%



College-going Rate up 12%

2012: 899 Students

2013-25 avg: 1,122 Students

Postsecondary Completion Rate up 26%

2012: 401 Students

2013-25 avg: 473 Students

Persistence Rate up 21%
(year 1 – year 2)

2012: 651 Students

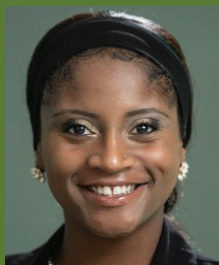
2013-23 avg: 787 Students

**\$26 million invested directly
in youth to date!**

**3,700+ college completers
to date!**

What is the impact of the Say Yes scholarship? Hear from some alumni:

Being a recipient of the Say Yes Scholarship comes with more than just the tuition support. Aside from the fact I would not have been able to pursue higher education without the financial support (tuition scholarship and opportunity grants), I have been graced with numerous opportunities for personal/professional development and growth, opportunities to expand my network both locally and nationally, and opportunities to be exposed to and surrounded by like-minded, motivated individuals effecting change in their respective spaces. I am forever grateful to be a Say Yes Scholar alumni and to be connected to limitless resources, opportunities, and compassionate & supportive people. -Temara Cross



This holds tremendous significance for me. It instills the confidence I need to wholeheartedly pursue my dreams. It signifies that someone truly believes in my potential to achieve greatness. Moreover, it reminds me of the immense responsibility I have to make a positive impact and give back to others. -Nyles Moore

