

Building a better Buffalo for all

AT A GLANCE GUIDE

The **mission** of the Say Yes Buffalo partnership is to remove barriers to educational attainment, workforce participation and economic mobility for students in public and charter schools in Buffalo, NY. Our collective impact partnership, centered on racial equity and inclusion, provides a postsecondary tuition promise and cradle-to-career comprehensive support to increase the rates of high school and postsecondary completion and the achievement of fulfilling professional employment.

What is Say Yes Buffalo?

Say Yes Buffalo is an **economic development engine** committed to creating a healthier, more inclusive economy through direct investment in our youth. Driven by unprecedented collaboration with public and private partners, our innovative cradle-to-career programs have increased access to educational opportunities and economic mobility across Buffalo. Our impact is demonstrated through increasing high school graduation rates, postsecondary educational participation, and career opportunities.

Key Data

High School Graduation Rate

2012:

2023: 79%

going Rate up 25%

College-2012: 890 Students 2013-23 avg: 1,122 Students

Persistence Rate up 21% (vear 1 - vear 2)

2013-23 avg: 787 Students

Postsecondary Completion Rate up 18%

2012: 401 Students 2013-23 avg: 473 Students

3,500+ College Completers to date!

\$61 Million Endowment Fund has been raised

Over \$30 million in scholarships disbursed since 2013!

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES CRADLE TO CAREER

EARLY CHILDHOOD

Developmental Screenings and Service Linkages: Identifies 0-3-year-olds across Buffalo who would benefit from Early Intervention services and connect families to resources.

Say Yes Little Scholars: Delivers pre-school program for three-year-olds in Buffalo Public School (BPS) buildings. Uses an innovative blend of Erie County Day Care subsidy and BPS funding. Currently operating eight classrooms.

SCHOOL AGE YEARS

School-based Services: Family Support Specialists work directly with youth and families to connect with healthcare. behavioral health, afterschool programs, and basic needs services.

Community Schools: Provides dynamic afterschool, weekend, and summer programming across 21 BPS buildings, free and open to the whole community.

Mental Health Services: Facilitates clinics in BPS buildings and professional development for clinicians of color.

Breaking Barriers: Provides mentoring and leadership program for boys and young men of color.

COLLEGE AND BEYOND

Promise Scholarship: Awards \$3M+ every year to graduates of BPS and charter schools. Over \$25M awarded to-date!

College Access Program: Assists our scholars to plan for college and complete financial aid applications.

CareerWise Greater Buffalo:

Provides career training and direct job placements in careers with family-sustaining wages for recent high school graduates.

Internships: Offers paid internship opportunities at local employers for current Say Yes college students.

SAY YES BUFFALO SCHOLARSHIP, INC EST. 2012



