WNY WOMEN'S FOUNDATION

Strong Women. Stronger Communit



### Buffalo Women's Economic Mobility Hub Launches!

This autumn, we are proud to announce the official launch of our new regional <u>Women's Economic Mobility Hub</u>, funded by a prestigious grant from the <u>Women's Funding Network</u>.

#### What It Is

The Women's Economic Mobility Hub expands our **successful MOMs: From Education to Employment® model** to incorporate existing workforce development training programs.

The Women's Economic Mobility Hub includes partnership with two respected nonprofits on the east side of the city, <u>Harvest House</u> and <u>Buffalo Center for Arts & Technology (BCAT)</u>.

At BCAT alone, 72% of students are African-American, 95% are female, and 55% have children while almost all of Harvest House's students are single mothers with incomes below the federal poverty level.



Photo of 2019 BCAT graduates courtesy of BCAT. The new <u>Women's Economic Mobility Hub</u> will help even more parents like these graduate and find family-sustaining jobs.

#### What It Does

The Hub features experiences that support economic mobility for single mothers, including emergency grants, financial literacy training, and mentoring as well as achievement coaching.

The Hub is part of a national cohort of nine women's foundations across the United States. It is not a physical location, but a powerful tool for systems change that creates a sustainable pathway to work.

### Why It's Important

The Hub will focus on Buffalo's East Side, a historically segregated and economically depressed area with high employment potential. The Hub will uplift thousands of women and their families using our successful twogeneration model.

This project is being launched at a pivotal time when economic mobility is essential to surviving the financial uncertainties resulting from the COVID-19 crisis.

We look forward to sharing stories from the women participating in this program with you in the coming months.

Join our efforts to ensure that single mothers have the resources they need to complete their education.

Every dollar donated joins our one-year grant from the Women's Funding Network to strengthen supports for mothers pursuing their education.



# **Fall in Fashion Success**

Thanks to everyone who participated in our *Fall in Fashion* week in October!

It was an exciting week dedicated to lifting up the women-owned businesses in our community during these difficult times. Plus, thanks to your support, we raised \$10,000 through our Golden Ticket raffle to support the critical work of the WNY Women's Foundation!

As the holiday season begins, we encourage you to **shop local and support women!** 

We have put together our <u>WNY Women-Owned Business Directory</u> to help get you started. These businesses are the backbone of our community and they are more deserving of our support than ever.

Shop local this holiday season!

# **Thanks to Our Virtual Volunteers**

This November, we are especially thankful for our virtual volunteers who have stepped up to help the WNY Women's Foundation in new ways during this unusual year!

Our very heartfelt thanks go out to Martha Rogers from Evans Bank, Laura Mandel from Athenex, Natalie Fischer from Columbus McKinnon Corporation, and Bonnie Weinbach via Catchafire.

Thank you to the WNY Women's Foundation 2020 Sponsors:





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