### MBK Buffalo Convening: Moving Forward the Hopes, Goals, and Dreams of Males of Color

**“From Cradle to Career”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-Kindergarten Readiness</th>
<th>Male Academy &amp; Our Story Programs</th>
<th>Access to College Courses</th>
<th>Career Readiness and Internships</th>
<th>Teacher Opportunity Corp</th>
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<td>301 middle and high school students (2017-2018)</td>
<td>60 students enrolled in Medgar Evers College online courses (2017-2018)</td>
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#### Program Highlights
- **What to Expect Parenting Workshops:** Promote health and wellness, provide realistic approaches to parenting, and give practical advice on pregnancy.
- **Raising a Reader Program:** Empowering families with knowledge and resources in early reading practices and routines to support family engagement and increased early academic achievement.
- **Help Me Grow:** Parents screen their children for developmental milestones using the Ages and Stages Questionnaire. Additional support is provided through referrals to community services, such as early intervention services, family therapy, parenting classes, and literacy support.
- **Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Teaching (CLRTP)**: Scholars learn about their history, social justice, and see themselves in the curriculum.
- **Culturally Relevant Field Trips and HBCU College Tours:** Opportunities for scholars to experience outside of the local community.
- **Leadership Development:** Scholars are engaged in mentoring, community service, and learning civic responsibilities.
- **Technology Integration:** Scholars learn using a variety of technological resources, including application development.
- **Free Online College Courses:** Courses are embedded within students’ schedules and students are provided the support of a certified teacher.
- **Career Exploration:** Job shadowing site visits at local businesses and organizations.
- **Guest Speakers**
- **Afterschool Career Skill Development Program:** Highlighted presentation from Dress for Success.
- **Partnership with Medgar Evers College**
- **Supervised Field-Based Experiences:** One semester in Buffalo and one semester in Brooklyn.
- **Financial Support:** 50% paid tuition over 5 years; subsidies for housing, travel, and state certification fees.

#### Program Impact
- **Strengthening family bonding through positive routines and community literacy connections:** While expanding young children’s vocabulary base and increasing their readiness for pre-kindergarten.
- **78% of the programs’ students received either zero suspensions or reduced their number of suspensions (2017-2018).**
- **93% of enrolled students earned 3-6 college credits (2017-2018).**
- **All students who passed the courses graduated and were accepted to college (2017-2018).**
- **46 students were employed in a five-week summer internship program (Summer 2018).**
- **Increased participation rate of historically underrepresented and economically disadvantaged individuals in teaching careers.**
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<th>Mentoring Projects: MBK Challenge Grant &amp; MBK Fellows</th>
<th>Mentoring Programs: Knights of Pythagoras Save Our-Selves In-School (#59)</th>
<th>Family and Community Education Grant</th>
<th>Say Yes Buffalo School-Based Preventative Services</th>
<th>Say Yes Buffalo Boys &amp; Men of Color Breaking Barriers Youth Leadership Council</th>
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<td><strong>Number of Students and Families Served</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• 733 students in grades 5-8</td>
<td>• KOP: 52 students</td>
<td>• Available to all interested BPS families, particularly those with young men of color</td>
<td>Youth enrolled in services (2017-2018): 1056 preventative services, 1709 short-term services</td>
<td>• 45 young men of color ages 12-24</td>
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<td>• 28 students in grade 12</td>
<td>• SOS: 100 students</td>
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**Program Highlights**

- **Mentor Meetings with Students and Parents:** Students learn about academic expectations, high school programs, job opportunities, and the Mayor’s Summer Youth Job Program
- **MBK Sponsored Events and Field Trips:** 2018 MBK Symposium in Albany, NY, Mentoring Kick-Off Community Event at East High School, College tour at St. Bonaventure University
- **Madd Truth Book Study**
- **Promotion of Family Values**
- **Support for Young Men:** Workshops on peer pressure, bullying, self-control, and community building
- **Core Values:** Tolerance, Courtesy, Friendship, Consistency, Patriotism, Righteous Thinking, Purity, Love and Honor of One’s Parents, and Reverence for God
- **College 101:** Sessions and college tours to support parents and students in promoting a college-going mindset
- **Nurturing Fathers:** Sessions to empower and engage fathers (and father figures) in parent-child engagement
- **Parent and Student Empowerment Training:** Positive self-development with controlling one’s life and enhancing success
- **Family Support:** Casework activities, service planning, and referrals to supportive service providers
- **Short-Term Support Available:** Quick referrals to resources such as food pantries, clothing resources, and mental health counseling
- **School-Based Family Support Specialists:** Work with families through the school, home, and community
- **Leadership Development Program:** Young men participate in a year-long program
- **Increasing Youth’s Voices:** Address policies and provide strategies for youth to voice their opinions on an issue and improve the overall outcomes of young men of color

**Program Impact**

- Increased readiness for post-secondary college and career experiences
- Improved GPA and attendance
- Each student has become more involved in other youth programs and has shown a growth in his overall attitude
- Improved academic and social-emotional support through increased support from parents and caregivers
- Over 1900 linkages made to supportive services (2017-2018)
- Current average increase in attendance for youth enrolled in services is 4%
- 45 young men from 21 zip codes in the Greater Buffalo area participated in the Leadership Development Program