



Graduation. College. Career.

Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection

Outcomes Report | Class of 2016

Published 2017



30th ANNIVERSARY

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Founded in 1987, Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection (HW-SC) is dedicated to reversing the trend of low high-school graduation rates and breaking the cycle of multigenerational poverty. This public-private partnership empowers youth to unlock the power of their potential—and helps whole communities, one student at a time.

Youth success is enhanced further by the HW-SC Jobs Institute, whose **Youth Employment Training Academy (YETA)** provides participants with job-readiness skills training and part-time work with Hillside employment partners. YETA students gain valuable experience while earning money and enjoying even greater academic success.

Coordinated HW-SC Services include:

- Mentoring
- Academic Support
- Social and Life Skills Training
- Workforce Development
- College Preparation



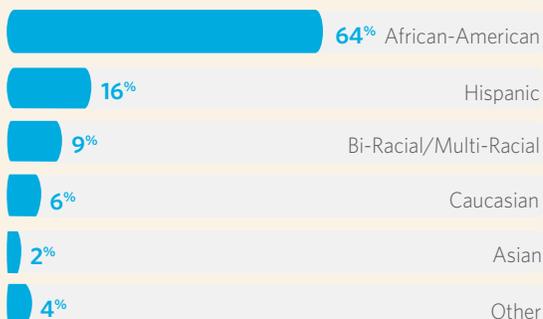
At a Glance

HW-SC Student Demographics Class of 2016

GENDER

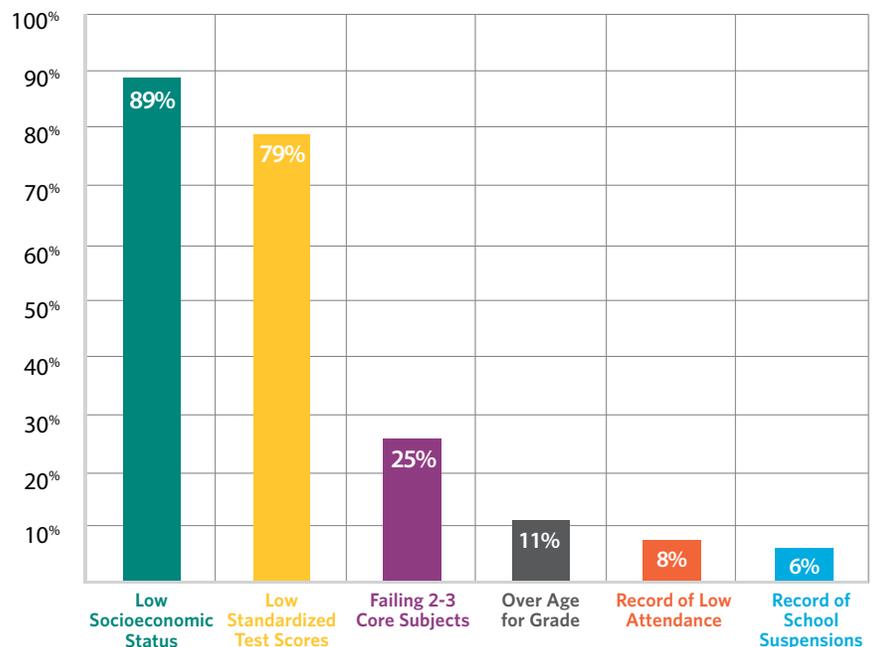


ETHNICITY



Risk Factors

Specific factors are known to correspond to a student's increased risk of not graduating from high school. **To join HW-SC, a youth must have at least two out of six risk factors.**



Risk factors among HW-SC students, Class of 2016
Average risk factors per student: 2.3

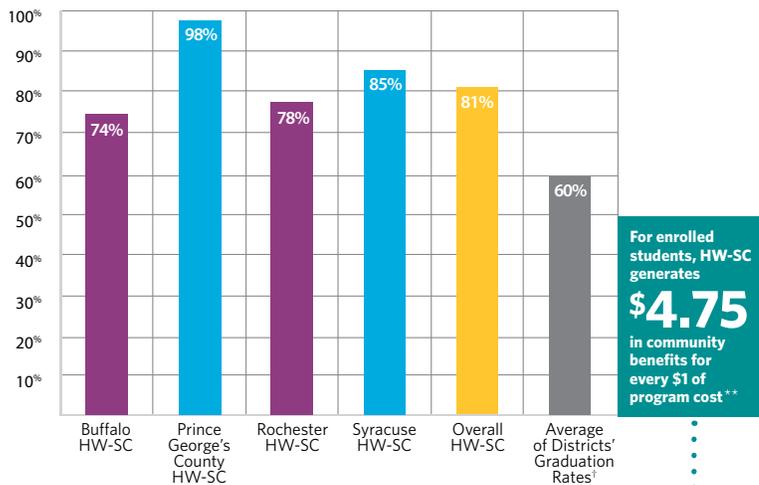
HW-SC Outcomes

Class of 2016

Students in HW-SC benefit from sustained partnerships with their Youth Advocates, as well as with their families, teachers, school staff and other community supports. The results can be seen each year in the extraordinary graduation rates relative to their home districts.

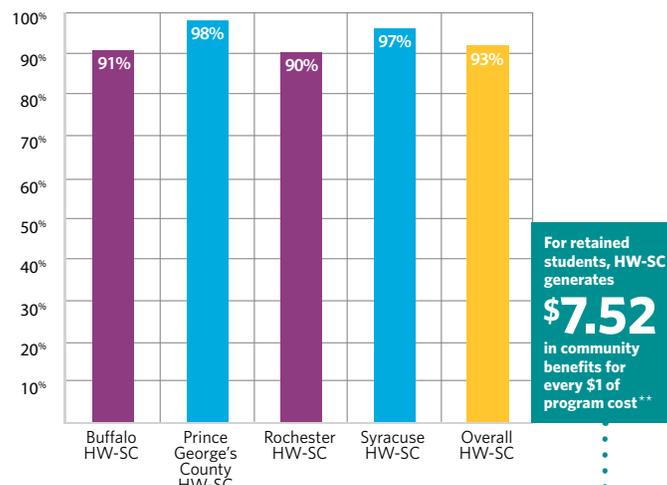
Enrolled Student Graduation Rates*

Joining HW-SC as a freshman sharply increases a student's likelihood of on-time graduation.



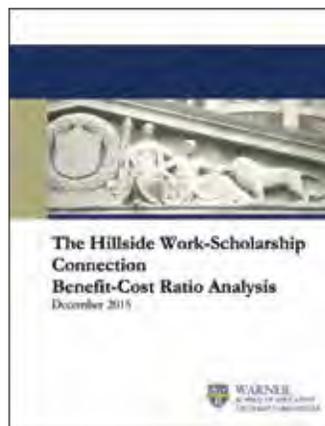
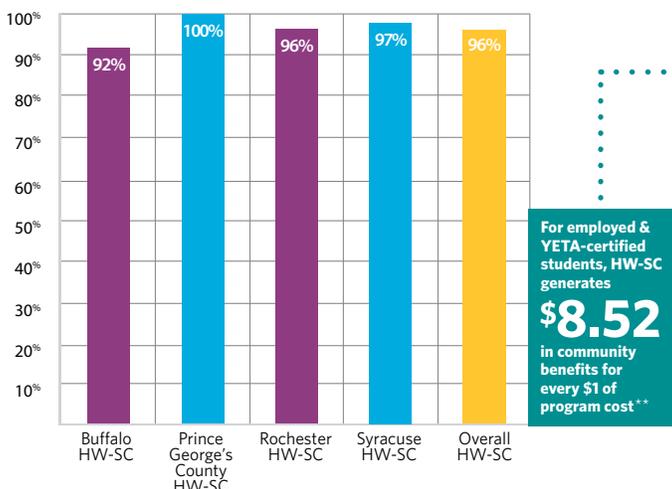
Retained Student Graduation Rates*

Students who remain in HW-SC throughout high school enjoy even greater results.



Employed & YETA-Certified Student Graduation Rates*

Students who are YETA-certified and employed by an HW-SC employment partner see the highest graduation rates of any segment of the program.



To review the complete **HW-SC Benefit-Cost Analysis** prepared by the University of Rochester Warner School of Education, visit hillside.com.

*Four-year data not yet available for HW-SC programs in Gates, Rome, Salamanca and Washington, DC.
 **Buffalo, Rochester and Syracuse districts only.

Success Story

Back to School—as a Teacher

Fifteen years ago, fourth-grader Brianna Alexander studied art in room B2 of Rochester’s School No. 4. Now B2’s shelves are stocked with science textbooks, the walls feature hand-drawn diagrams of the Earth’s core—and Alexander is back, teaching science to middle-school boys and girls.

“It’s crazy, being back here, but I love it,” says Alexander, a 2015 graduate of the University of Buffalo. “I did not think this would be my future when I was in school. I didn’t know what my future would be.”

In middle school, Alexander was not unlike many of her students today: “I didn’t challenge myself—I wasn’t really focused on the future,” she recalls. Because her risk factors aligned with the Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection model, Alexander was referred to HW-SC in the seventh grade.

Guidance from her Youth Advocate and other program staff made a real difference: “I started setting goals, and really coming up with a plan for how I would succeed. Hillside changed a lot of things for me.”

While keeping up with her studies, she pursued certification from HW-SC’s Youth Employment Training Academy, which led to a part-time job with Wegmans Food Markets, a relationship that Alexander maintained after her on-time graduation. She still works a few shifts at Wegmans today, when she’s not molding young minds at School No. 4. She’s also studying for a teaching certificate to complement her UB Chemistry degree, so the time-management techniques she learned through HW-SC and YETA are serving her well as an adult professional.

“I love being a teacher, and it’s great to have this opportunity,” Alexander says. “I did it myself, but Hillside really helped.”



Alexander, in her School No. 4 classroom.

HW-SC
has helped over
5,000 students
earn diplomas
since 1987



Community Impact

- **Improved Local Economies**—More than 600 HW-SC students earn **\$3 million annually** from employment partners, while maintaining good grades and school attendance.
- **Employer Benefits**—HW-SC employment partners who hire these skilled workers after graduation save **thousands of dollars per employee** in recruitment and training costs.
- **Continued Growth**—HW-SC has expanded in recent years to school districts in **Gates** and **Rome, NY**, and with 2016 pilot programs in **Salamanca, NY**, and **Washington, DC**.

National Recognition & Support

- **American Youth Policy Forum**—Included in “Success at Every Step: How 23 Programs Support Youth on the Path to College and Beyond,” funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation



Social Impact Exchange—Named to the S&I 100 index of top nonprofits creating social impact

- **Standards for Excellence**—Accredited for high standards of ethics and accountability
- **NYS Upstate Revitalization Initiative**—\$3 million in state funding for Rochester



My Brother's Keeper—\$1.76 million in federal funding designated by Syracuse City School District for HW-SC expansion

- **Venture Philanthropy Partners**—\$1.95 million investment for Prince George's County, MD

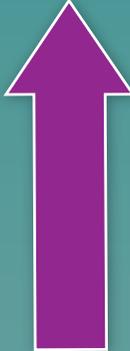
“Many say that urban graduation rates cannot rise. This is not true. Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection can raise any urban graduation rate to at least 80%. Here's how.”

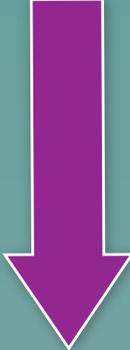
—**Danny Wegman**
CEO, Wegmans Food Markets



Breaking the Cycle of Entrenched Poverty

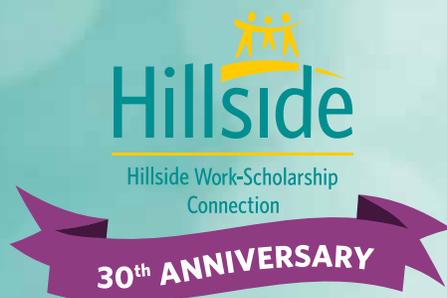
As urban graduation rates increase...

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- Post-secondary education success
 - Rewarding career opportunities
 - Lifetime personal earnings
 - Community tax revenues

- 
- Adult rates of unemployment
 - Costs related to public/assistance programs
 - Involvement in the criminal justice system

"HW-SC's results speak for themselves. Imagine the benefits if more districts participated—for students, families and neighborhoods. Now let's stop imagining and connect our youth to mentors, academic success and employment. Their future and ours depends on it."

—Anne Kress
President, Monroe Community College



Your Support Makes the Difference

You can help Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection achieve even greater success.
Find out more today: (888) 514-4455 | hillside.com