



Hillside Work Scholarship Connection (HWSC)

Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection

Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection is a nationally-recognized youth development program helping at-risk youth stay in school and graduate from high school with the skills and confidence necessary to enter college or the workforce.

ABOUT THE SERVICE

Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection (HW-SC) identifies students in grades 7-12 in the Buffalo City School District, Rochester City School District, Syracuse City School District and Prince George's County Public Schools who are capable of success but are in danger of dropping out of school and pairs them with a professional Youth Advocate (YA) through graduation and until up to two years post-high school. School-based Youth Advocates serve as mentors and role models, working with a caseload of 30 students at a time to address their individual needs and the obstacles impeding their success. Applying a case management approach, YA's are on-call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They partner with the students, parents and guardians, and other adults to benefit the student, and with this team, they create an Individual Graduation Plan with targeted goals to support high school graduation, job placement, career planning, college advancement, and other personal goals.

Program services include

- long-term mentoring from Youth Advocates
- weekly after school enrichment activities and summer enrichment programs
- youth employment training and placement through HW-SC's Jobs Institute
- workplace mentoring at partner worksites
- supplemental education services including summer programming, tutoring, and access to other support services
- post-secondary preparation and support

After-school and weekend enrichment activities include career exploration, job-readiness, social and life skills, sports, arts, recreation, and visits to college campuses. The enrichment curriculum uses the evidence-based Teen Outreach Program (TOP), a school-based pregnancy and drop-out prevention program that has demonstrated impacts of reduced rates of pregnancy, school suspensions, class failure, and dropouts over several decades in more than 400 schools nationwide. A key component of the TOP curriculum requires students to complete 20 hours of community service each year. Service projects help students understand and appreciate their role in shaping the future, and emphasize the importance of giving back to their community.

HW-SC prepares students for entry into the workforce through its Jobs Institute and Youth Employment Training Academy (YETA), a 25-hour training module that helps youth develop interviewing and entry-level job skills. Students with sufficient attendance, grades and positive attitudes are recommended for entry-level jobs with local employer partners. Employment exposes students to career opportunities and enables them to develop marketable job skills while earning money toward college tuition. While employed, students are supported by regular coaching from a mentor/supervisor at their place of employment, by their Youth Advocate, and by HW-SC's staff specializing in youth workforce development.

Supplemental education services include tutoring, academic assistance and other specialized interventions during the school year and through summer academies. HW-SC partners with local universities and other academic partners for tutoring support. After graduation the program provides continuing support services including access to financial aid, resolution of college issues and employment counseling for post-graduate employment.

Contact Information:

Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection Rochester
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Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection Syracuse
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Hillside - Work Scholarship Connection Buffalo
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Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection Prince George's County, Maryland
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CONTACT INFORMATION

Hillside Family of Agencies

585-256-7500
info@hillside.com
24 hours / day

FACILITY

Prince George's County
6305 Ivy Ln, Greenbelt

HWSC
1 Mustard St, Rochester



HWSC
Phoenix Center, Syracuse

HWSC
70 Jewett Parkway, Buffalo

SUPPORTED BY

*NYS Office of Mental Health
NYS Education Department
Local School Districts
United Way
Rochester City School District
Syracuse City School District
Buffalo City School District
Prince George's County
Public Private Foundations
New York State Office of Children and Family Services
Community Optional Preventative Services
Funding Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency
Prevention Workforce Investment Act*

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Gender: Male and female
Age Range: 7th grade - 12th grade

RESIDENTS OF

Erie County, Monroe County, Niagara County, Onondaga County, Prince George's County

Updated on April 21, 2016