



Buffalo Promise
NEIGHBORHOOD



Seeing promise through.

Strong families make strong students, strong students make strong schools, and strong schools make strong communities. At Buffalo Promise Neighborhood, this is our strongest belief, and every day we're working hard to lift up the students and families in our community. Read on to learn more about what's been happening throughout the neighborhood.

PROMISE SCHOOLS

Celebrating our graduates.

With the easing of social distancing mandates, we are happy to report that graduation season looked different at our promise schools this year!

At **Westminster Community Charter School**, 71 eighth graders graduated and will go on to attend some of the best public and private schools in the region. The same goes for **Highgate Heights**, where 40 eighth graders graduated at a drive-thru ceremony. Finally, our youngest scholars who attend our two Early Education **Children's Academies** celebrated with friends and family in a series of socially distanced outdoor ceremonies.

Congratulations to our graduates, their families, and our school staff for persevering through a global pandemic, holding steadfast to the promise they made to themselves and each other, and succeeding against all odds. Here's to the next chapter!



Welcome back, Westminster students and families!

The faculty and staff at **Westminster Community Charter School** are eagerly awaiting your return this fall. We look forward to continuing to grow and learn together throughout the 2021-2022 school year. See you in September!

PROMISE FAMILIES

Westminster parent launches Mami on a Mission.

Success begins with strong parents who have opportunities, drive, and a passion for achieving their goals. **Janira Carrasco** is one of those parents, and she has been part of Buffalo Promise Neighborhood for more than four years. In that time, she participated in individual coaching, took a first-time home buyer's seminar, and completed financial workshops, just to name a few of the many **two-generation programs** available through Buffalo Promise Neighborhood.

Through these experiences, Janira became a strong, career-focused woman—a version of herself that she says benefits both herself and her family. As part of the two-gen community, she has found opportunities to travel and meet like-minded people from all over the country who share similar stories and experiences.

Janira has always had a passion for art, drawing, and design, and when the pandemic hit, she turned her hobby into a career by launching **Mami on a Mission**. As an entrepreneur, Janira designs individualized notebooks, journals, and planners for the community.

Janira sells her beautiful designs on Amazon. To learn more about her business or to purchase one of her notebooks, meet her on Tuesdays at the Massachusetts Avenue Project Mobile Market on the corner of Bailey and Dartmouth from 3-5 p.m.



PROMISE TEACHERS



Honoring Mr. Miller.

A high-quality teacher makes education rewarding, enriching, and inspiring.

Mr. Miller, a speech pathologist at Highgate Heights, shines in these areas. As the child of a former teacher—his mother—he learned how to find **creative ways to connect with students** while still making learning intrinsically fun and rewarding.

At Highgate, he and his colleagues have been able to collaborate on various endeavors, and he attributes these successes to the **approachable and supportive mindset of the school's administration**. Mr. Miller finds inspiration in the students and families he works with, especially the time and energy devoted throughout the pandemic.

Through his work as a tutor and a classroom aide, Mr. Miller believes that no matter what role each of us plays in our schools, we all serve as role models for our students. **Thank you, Mr. Miller!**

PROMISE COMMUNITY



Fresh produce for all.

For the third year in a row, Buffalo Promise Neighborhood has partnered with the **Massachusetts Avenue Project** (MAP) to host a farmer's market at the corner of Bailey and Dartmouth on Tuesdays from June to October.

A produce stand on wheels, MAP's Mobile Market brings fresh produce to communities without adequate access to **reasonably priced and culturally appropriate food**. Through this partnership, the community receives access to an abundance of affordable, high-quality produce. Every week, we invite local business owners to showcase their wares. Additionally, a variety of social service agencies attend the market to provide relevant health and welfare information to our community members. **Join us!**



Buffalo Promise Neighborhood is a long-term collaboration between **M&T Bank** and its community to empower schools, students, and families. We understand that learning and opportunity are intrinsically connected, and that success is most meaningful when it's shared by everyone.