



BPN CHILDREN’S ACADEMY @ GERARD PLACE

On July 12, 2017, Buffalo Promise Neighborhood (BPN) announced plans to open a second educationally focused pre-school for children six-weeks to school-age in the Gerard Place Community Center. We anticipate the facility opening in the Spring of 2018.

Approximately 100 children will be able to attend the new Children’s Academy, including those who live within the BPN footprint, have siblings who attend one of the BPN schools or if their parents are residents of Gerard Place.

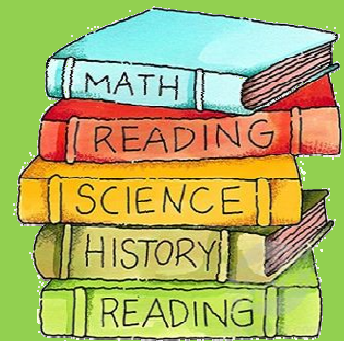
The original Buffalo Promise Neighborhood Children’s Academy, which opened in late 2013 at 3149 Bailey Avenue, currently serves 130 children and has a waitlist of 250+ children. Both facilities will offer educational programming managed by EduKids.

As you can see, our work never stops and we look forward to making further progress in the coming year. Our mission continues to be to provide children and families with solutions supporting academic achievement, healthy development and neighborhood stability. Together we are making a difference!



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ABOUT BPN

- Public/ private partnership seeking to improve academic performance at the neighborhood’s three schools while revitalizing the surrounding community
- In Partnership with M&T Bank
- Non-profit organization managed by M&T Bank



SATURDAY ACADEMY 2017-18

For the second year, Highgate Heights Elementary and Westminster Community Charter Schools are proud to be a part of the Community School Initiative in partnership with Buffalo Public Schools. What this means for **YOU** is a wide array of events on select Saturdays from September 2017 through June 2018.



Please look for the flyers at your school and we look forward to seeing all of you at these educational, fun-filled family events!



UNITED WAY DAY OF CARING



On August 16, 2017 we participated in another United Way of Buffalo & Erie County Day of Caring! M&T Bank volunteers and BPN staff made a huge difference at the Bailey Dartmouth Garden and Saint's Home Church of God. At the end of the day the garden and church were completely transformed!

A shout out to our partners that helped make all of this possible – The University Heights Collaborative, the University Heights Tool Library, ABC Hardware & Rental on Bailey, Officers Threats and Floyd of the Buffalo Police Department, the City of Buffalo Deputy Commissioner, the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County, and all of the community members who participated in the event. It was a perfect day!



M&T'S MDP'S GIVE BACK

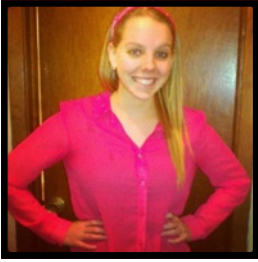
The Management Development Program (MDP) through M&T Bank brings recent college graduates in for an intense year of training and placement throughout the bank. Buffalo Promise Neighborhood has been partnering with the program for 4 years, with the new recruits volunteering a full-day to our three schools to get them ready for the new school year!



This year 102 volunteers cleaned, moved books, decorated bulletin boards, and read to our youngest students at the Buffalo Promise Neighborhood Children's Academy. It was a wonderful day, and we thank the newest MDP class for all of their incredible hard work and dedication to Buffalo Promise Neighborhood!



MEET THE PAZ TEAM

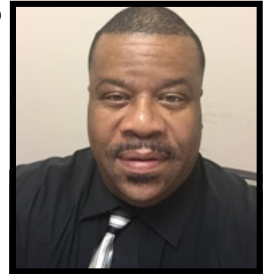


Courtney Bauer, Job Developer, ECC One-Stop

Courtney has been a Job Developer for Buffalo Promise Neighborhood's Parent Achievement Zone for almost 2 years. Courtney supports Parent Achievement Zone parents and adult family members in determining their workforce and/or educational needs, in order to assist them in achieving their ideal career, or pursuing higher education and/or training.

Booker Piper, Job Developer, ECC One-Stop

Booker Piper is a Job Developer at Erie Community College serving the PAZ Community in providing career development and job referral services, labor market information, linkages to hiring employers, assistance with apply to college, filling for federal student aid, and providing help with resolving student loans in default.



Art Taggart Jr.: Housing Counselor/Financial Coach, Belmont

Art Taggart is a Housing Counselor/Financial Coach in the Buffalo Promise Neighborhood, Parent Achievement Zone, where he works with parents and students from Westminster Community Charter School, Highgate Heights Elementary School, and Children's Academy by EduKids.

Pamela Jackson: Housing Counselor/Financial Coach, Belmont

Pamela Jackson is a Housing Counselor/Financial Coach in the Buffalo Promise Neighborhood, Parent Achievement Zone, where she works with parents and students from Westminster Community Charter School, Highgate Heights Elementary School, and Children's Academy by EduKids.



Shai Arnold, Parents As Teachers (PAT), Buffalo Promise Neighborhood

Shai is a Parents-as-Teachers Specialist for BPN's Parent Achievement Zone. In this role, Shai acts as a parent advocate and coach to support parents in building their confidence and success in areas such as parent-child communication and establishing routines with your child. Shai works alongside with Early Learning Specialist Mary McNally to establish a plan of academic success for children at home and at school.

Shai is an actively engaged BPN parent and community resident; her career highlights include mentoring new mothers and developing a community health work program for Transitional Services INC. She also holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration and a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Hilbert College.

Kenya Peoples, PAZ Program Coordinator, Buffalo Promise Neighborhood

Kenya Peoples is the Program Coordinator for Parent Achievement Zone. In this role, Kenya links parents to PAZ programs and resources focused on financial education, career attainment, and healthy child development.

Prior to joining Buffalo Promise Neighborhood, Kenya worked as a Family Partner for Bethel Head Start and as a mentor for at-risk youth at the Father Belle Community Center.

Kenya is a lifelong Buffalo native with a Bachelor's in Political Science Buffalo State College. In his free time, Kenya is engaged with youth sports in the city Buffalo as Vice-President of the Beast Elite Ducks Football and Cheer Organization.





We're on Facebook and we think you are too! Like our page, **Buffalo Promise Neighborhood**, to stay up to date with all footprint news!

Only have a Twitter? Not a problem! We're there too! Follow us @**BuffaloPN**



Buffalo Promise
NEIGHBORHOOD

FARM FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Buffalo Promise Neighborhood in partnership with the African Heritage Food Co-op will be selling farm fresh fruits & vegetables from September through December. Produce is seasonal but past boxes have included: red cabbage, apples, cauliflower, grapes, collard greens, broccoli, kale, mustard greens and sweet potatoes to name a few. A full box is \$30 and a half box is \$15. If you are interested in hearing more please contact Beverly David-Lewis at (716) 536-9395.



Date	Time	Location
September 23	9:00am-Noon	Highgate
October 21	9:00am-Noon	Westminster
November 4	9:00am-Noon	Highgate
November 18	9:00am-Noon	Westminster
December 2	9:00am-Noon	Highgate

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS CORNER

Buffalo Promise Neighborhood Office of Community Affairs has been extremely busy over the past few months.

Mrs. David-Lewis' tenure began with the redevelopment of the Buffalo Promise Neighborhood Community Council, and the election of a new Community Council.

We would like to welcome our Community Council leaders Kenneth Simmons, Reverend Melvin Taylor Jr., Reverend Gentry Garmon, and Mrs. Bernice Prince.

These community leaders worked alongside community members, stakeholders, and community businesses to help residents take ownership of their neighborhood. They assist residents become more organized through block clubs to help build healthy, safe communities to live, work and play.

Our Community Council is working with existing block clubs and encouraging neighbors to develop new block clubs. We understand how important it is to look out for each other, and if we see something we need to say something.

Lastly we are asking all community members to complete our Safety Perception Survey which will provide us with insight into what residents would like to see in their neighborhood.

Buffalo Promise Neighborhood Community Council continues to grow and we are invested in building an army of residents who want to help us build a healthy safe community with quality schools and businesses.

If you would like to join us please contact Beverly David-Lewis at 716-536-9375 or follow us on Facebook: @**buffalopromiseneighborhood** or on Twitter: @**BUFFALOPN**

**“Mark Your Calendar” Upcoming Events
September to December 2017**

September

September 14	Back to School Night	Highgate	5:30pm-7:30pm
September 16	Saturday Academy Back to School Block Party	WCCS Green Space	9:00am-Noon 10:00am-3:00pm
September 19	Dad’s Walk to School Day	Highgate	9:00am-11:00am
September 21	Taste of Curriculum	WCCS	6:00pm-7:30pm
September 23	Saturday Academy	Highgate	9:00am-Noon

October

October 6	Saturday Academy	The Buffalo Zoo	5:00pm
October 21	Saturday Academy	Highgate & WCCS	9:00am-Noon
October 25	Independent Health Good for the Neighborhood	WCCS	5:00pm-6:30pm
October 26	Family Bingo Night	WCCS	6:00pm

November

November 4	Saturday Academy	Highgate & WCCS	9:00am-Noon
November 18	Saturday Academy	Highgate & WCCS	9:00am-Noon
November 30	Parent Teacher Night	WCCS	3:45pm-7:00pm

December

December 2	Saturday Academy	Highgate & WCCS	9:00am-Noon
December 16	Saturday Academy	Highgate & WCCS	9:00am-Noon
December 20	Winter Concert	Highgate	6:00pm
December 22	Winter Showcase	WCCS	9:00am