



2026 ANNUAL COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT



Buffalo
Urban League

Empowering Communities.
Changing Lives.

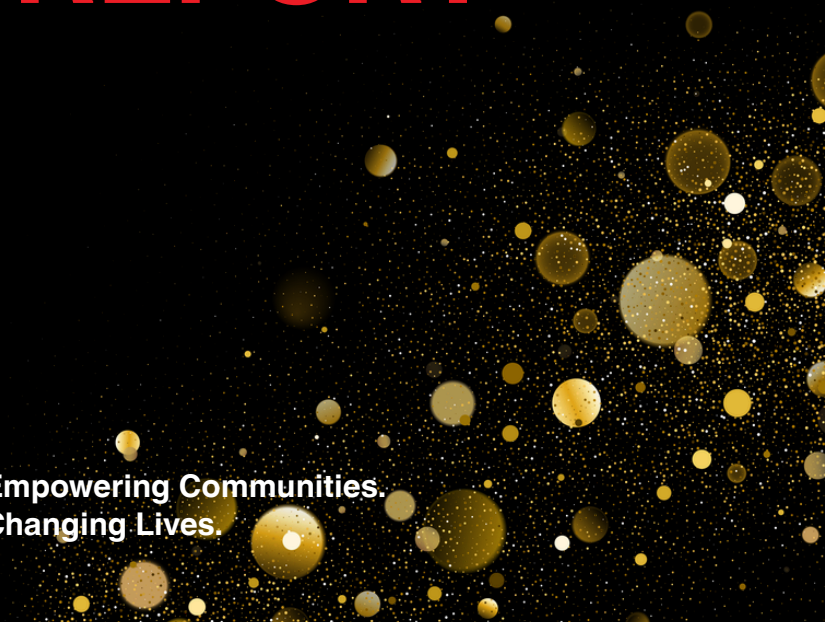


TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 3 MISSION & HISTORY**
- 4 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**
- 5 C.E.O'S MESSAGE**
- 6 JOIN THE MOVEMENT**
- 7 FINACIALS**
- 8 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**
- 9 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
- 10 FAMILIES & COMMUNITY**
- 11 EDUCATION & SCHOLARSHIP**
- 12 HEALTH EQUITY**
- 13 YOUNG PROFESSIONALS**
- 14 COLLECTIVE STRENGTH GALA**



MISSION & HISTORY

Our Mission

To help African Americans and others in underserved communities achieve their highest true social parity, economic self-reliance, power, and civil rights.

The League promotes economic empowerment through education and job training, housing and community development, workforce development, entrepreneurship, health, and quality of life.

Brief History

For many years, Buffalo's Ellicott District welcomed immigrant families. During the Great Depression, new challenges led the National Urban League to turn its attention to Buffalo. Dr. Charles Johnson of Fisk University was appointed to conduct a study and recommended the establishment of an affiliate office to serve Buffalo's African American population, which had reached 9,000. With the generous funding of Mrs. Alfred Schoellkopf, the Buffalo Urban League was founded and operated out of a four-room office suite located at 357 William Street. William L. Evans, Executive Director, and Teresa Green were among the early administrators providing services from the offices housed above a clothing store.

In the fall of 1927, the first Urban League Guild was formed under the leadership of Mrs. Schoellkopf, Ms. Clara L. Payne, Mrs. William H. Bethel, and Mrs. John Montgomery. The Guild served as the publicity arm of the League, with membership spanning the city. In 1963, Nelson H. Nichols Jr. was appointed Executive Director, succeeding William L. Evans, who had served for 37 years. In the fall of 1972, Leroy R. Coles, Executive Director of the Union County Urban League in New Jersey, was appointed to lead the Buffalo Urban League. Following Coles' retirement in 1998, after 26 years of service, Brenda W. McDuffie became the first woman to be appointed President and CEO of the Buffalo Urban League.

In the fall of 2020, amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, widespread protests for racial justice, crucial political moments, and economic uncertainty, Thomas Beauford Jr. was appointed President and CEO of the Buffalo Urban League.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



EUNICE A. LEWIN
BOARD CHAIR



BRIAN M. WELSCH, CPA
VICE CHAIR



BRAD DOSSINGER
DIRECTOR



CHIWUIKE OWUNWANNE
DIRECTOR



MICHAEL BALL
SECRETARY



JAMES GIBSON
DIRECTOR



DR. J'LEISE SOSA
DIRECTOR



C. MICHAEL OSBORNE
TREASURER



JAMES HARRINGTON, ESQ.
DIRECTOR



MATTHEW VANVESSEM
DIRECTOR



THOMAS BEAUFORD, JR.
PRESIDENT AND CEO



DARNELL HAYWOOD JR
DIRECTOR



DR. X. CHRISTINE WANG
DIRECTOR



KENNETH AFRICANO, ESQ.
DIRECTOR



MATT LOW
DIRECTOR



DR. KIMBERLY WOOTEN
DIRECTOR



AMINA BROGAN, CPA
DIRECTOR



BRENDAN MEHAFFY, ESQ
DIRECTOR

C.E.O'S MESSAGE



Dear Community Partners,

As we move forward in 2026, the Buffalo Urban League is filled with gratitude, determination, and a renewed sense of purpose. Every life touched, every opportunity created, and every barrier challenged is made possible through the extraordinary commitment of our staff, volunteers, Board Members, sponsors, partners and supporters like you.

Together, we are not simply responding to the needs of our community. We are helping shape its future. Your support empowers the Buffalo Urban League to meet evolving challenges with bold, innovative, and sustainable solutions. We are expanding workforce development programs that connect individuals and families to family-sustaining careers. We are bringing mobile services directly into neighborhoods, meeting people where they are and removing barriers to opportunity. And through our Shared Services platform, we are strengthening smaller nonprofits so they can increase their capacity, deepen their impact, and better serve the communities that depend on them.

At the heart of this work are our empowerment pillars; Youth, Education, Housing, Health, and Justice & Civic Engagement. These pillars guide our commitment to creating pathways to opportunity and strengthening the people, families, and organizations that make Buffalo stronger. But we cannot do this work alone. Our progress is powered by partnership. Our impact is strengthened by community. And our future depends on people who believe, as we do, that every person deserves the opportunity to thrive. In 2026, we are committed to reaching further, serving more people, opening new pathways to success, and advancing equity throughout Buffalo. Your continued engagement will help turn that commitment into meaningful and lasting change.

We invite you to stand with the Buffalo Urban League to become a member, support our annual appeal, volunteer your time, or partner with us in creating opportunities that can transform lives for generations to come.

Together, we can build more than programs. We can build possibilities. We can strengthen families. We can empower neighborhoods. And we can help create a Buffalo where opportunity is within reach for everyone.

Thank you for believing in this mission, investing in our community, and standing with us as we continue this important work.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Thomas Beauford Jr.

Past Executive Directors



**William L.
Evans**
(1927-1963)



**Nelson H.
Nichols Jr.,**
(1963-1972)



**Leroy R.
Coles**
(1972-1998)



**Brenda W.
McDuffie**
(1998- 2020)

JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Take action. Make an impact. Join the movement today.

The Buffalo Urban League invites you to be part of a new generation of advocates, changemakers and community leaders committed to advancing economic and educational equity.

Membership is more than a donation—it is a call to action. It means using your voice, engaging your community and helping shape a more just future. Through your support, we:

- Equip individuals with the skills needed for economic independence.
- Work to close opportunity gaps across education and employment.
- Amplify voices for justice, equality, and equity.

Your investment fuels programs in education, workforce development, housing, and entrepreneurship—creating real and lasting change.

Become an empowered leader at the forefront of building generational impact. Together, we can transform lives, strengthen communities and create a future where equity and opportunity thrive.



FINANCIALS

Statement of Financial Position

Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	1,243,683
Investments	3,979,544
Prepaid expenses and other assets	97,275
Accounts receivable, net	2,108,108
Deferred compensation plan	39,431
Property and Equipment, net	950,692

Total assets \$ 8,418,733

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	104,912
Accrued expenses	370,118
Deferred revenue	889,481
Lease obligation	27,122
Funds held for others	34,931
Deferred compensation	39,431

Total liabilities \$ 1,465,995

Net assets

Without donor restrictions	5,951,911
With donor restrictions	1,000,827

Total net assets \$ 6,952,738

Total liabilities and net assets \$ 8,418,733

Statement of Activities

Revenue

Contract and service revenue	\$6,003,391
Public support, including noncash contributions	1,750,414
Rental income	57,068
Investment income	143,937
Special events	286,595
Other revenue sources	331,899

Total revenue 8,573,304

Expenses

Education and Workforce Development	1,467,838
Family Preservation and Support	4,251,295
Housing and Community Development	550,777
Management and general (including fundraising)	2,181,976

Total expenses 8,451,886

Increase in net assets 121,418

Net assets, beginning of year 6,831,320

Net assets, end of year \$6,952,738

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



Summer Youth Employment Program

Lead agency to provide a summer youth employment program serving eligible youth throughout Erie County. \$1.84 M paid in salaries at \$16.00 per hr

639
YOUTH

YOLO

Provides GED/HSE and work experience to youth 16-24

OUT OF SCHOOL YOUTH

39

Green Jobs

Serve justice involved youth 18-24, providing education, training and employment. \$54,080 paid in stipends and incentives

93
YOUTH

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Housing

Education workshops

65 CLIENTS

Foreclosures Prevented

15 CLIENTS

1st Time Home Buyers

81 CLIENTS

Financial Empowerment

Helping Individuals repair their credit

191 CLIENTS

Housing & Community Dev.

Helping Individuals facing eviction and rental assistance

170 CLIENTS



Western New York Integrated Care Collaborative

Through a comprehensive network of community-based supports, eligible participants receive services designed to address social needs, improve health outcomes and promote greater stability and independence.

Based on individual needs and availability, services include:

Housing and Utilities Support to improve home safety and accessibility, address environmental concerns and connect participants to stable housing.

Nutrition and Food Supports including nutrition education, healthy meals, groceries, fresh produce and essential cooking supplies.

Transportation Assistance to help participants access employment opportunities, community resources, government services and other essential non-medical destinations.

Care Management to connect participants with employment and training, public benefits, financial resources, childcare, counseling and other supportive services.

Together, these services help reduce barriers to essential resources and empower participants to achieve healthier, more stable and self-sufficient lives.

FAMILIES & COMMUNITIES

Adoption and Foster Care

34 Children with our foster families . And 8 Adopted

Preventive

Traditional

410 FAMILIES

Wraparound services

458 CLIENTS

Crucial Community Center

Open Weekdays and Special Events.
Safety net and resource center

548
YOUTH



Multiservice Center

Open April 1 to September 30, 2024. Closed for renovations from October 2024 to April 2025

FOOD PANTRY

1,805
FAMILIES

MEALS

14,668

DINERS

1,585

EDUCATION & SCHOLARSHIP



Advantage Afterschool Program

Open to at-risk youth grades 9-12, 3pm to 6pm

94 YOUTH

Project Ready Mentor

Connects students with caring adult mentors to support their academic achievement, personal growth and college and career readiness

48 YOUTH

Summer Primetime

Provides earn and learn support and case work services for youth 14 -20

33 YOUTH

WIOA

Provides evidence-based model to ensure youth graduate from High School

39 YOUTH

Buffalo Urban League Scholarships

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TOTALING \$36,000

67 YOUTH

HEALTH EQUITY



Buffalo C.O.M.H.P.S
(Community Mental Health Promotion & Support)
Wraparound/Direct Services

128,741 COMMUNITY CONTACTS

ReCAST

Supporting youth and families impacted by the May 14th tragedy through trauma-informed care, healing, resilience, and youth empowerment.

141

Participants

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

April 2025 | Black Maternal Health

Organized a community conversation on Black maternal health and healthcare disparities.

May 2025 | Youth Literacy & Advocacy

Volunteered with 100+ students and represented Buffalo at a national policy conference.

June 2025 | Healthcare Advocacy

Joined community partners in advocating for equitable healthcare access.

July 2025 | National Conference

Attended national leadership trainings and workshops, with several members receiving recognition.

August 2025 | Black Restaurant Week 716

Organized Black Restaurant Week 716 to support Black-owned restaurants and entrepreneurs.

September 2025 | Leadership Legacy

Hosted past and present chapter Presidents to discuss the organization's history and future.

October 2025 | Civic Leadership

Attended the Empowerment Civic Conference for leadership and advocacy training.

November 2025 | Recognition & Service

Celebrated members receiving 40 Under 40 honors and volunteered through a community food drive.

December 2025 | Holiday Giving

Sponsored 11 foster care families with gifts and essential items.

February 2026 | Black History & Civic Engagement

Helped host Vision & Verse and organized a fireside chat on civic leadership.

March 2026 | Voices of Influence

Organized a discussion with local leaders on civic engagement and community advocacy.

ANNUAL GALA



OCTOBER 30 AT 6PM
THE POWERHOUSE
140 LEE STREET  BUFFALO, NY

HARLEM RENAISSANCE

Headquarters
15 Genesee St.
Buffalo, NY 14203
716-250-2400



www.bulny.org

