United for Youth Network

April 27, 2021

THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE



United for Youth Network

Multigenerational, cross-sector, cradle to career partnership built on the foundational principle that equity and educational excellence are inseparable.

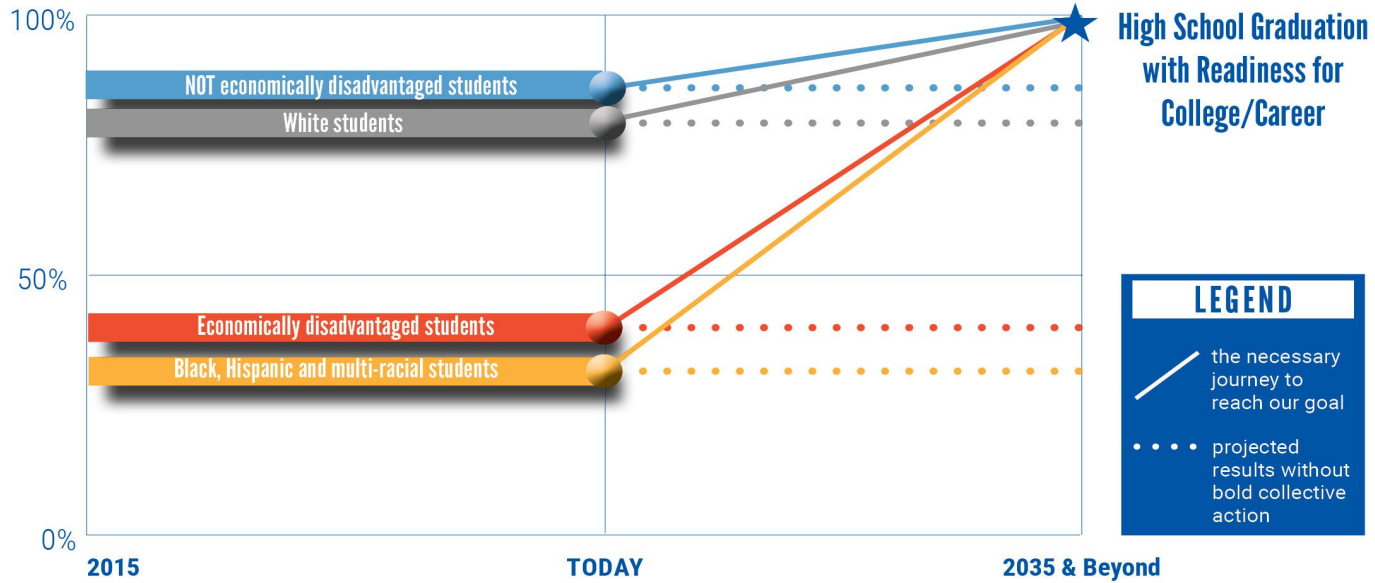
- **Vision:** All children and youth learn, grow and thrive in a vibrant, healthy and connected community

- **Mission:** To actively identify and remove barriers to opportunity and co-create solutions that support student success

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Community Goal

By 2035, all Asheville City and Buncombe County students graduate from high school ready and fully prepared to pursue their goals and dreams.



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Theory of Action & Change:

- By committing to working more boldly as individual organizations and by aligning and leveraging community resources as a network, we will improve systems for equitable student learning and educational excellence.
- By committing to a results-based accountability framework, we will support one another and hold one another accountable through continuous learning and course corrections along our path towards our shared vision, mission and bold community goal.

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Why Now?

- While overall high school graduation rates have risen over the years, disparities are worsening
- Not all students are prepared with the skills and experience for postsecondary education and/or living wage jobs (college, career, community ready)
- COVID-19 pandemic has exposed long-standing inequities in education
- There is strong momentum and a clear call for cross-sector collective impact approaches

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Network Partners include...

AB Tech, Asheville City Schools, ACS Foundation, Buncombe County, Buncombe County Schools, Buncombe Partnership for Children, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Chamber of Commerce, Children First/Communities in Schools, My Daddy Taught Me That / My Sistah Taught Me That, Racial Justice Coalition, UNC Asheville, YMCA of WNC, YWCA of Asheville, United Way ABC

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City of Asheville Commitments

- The City agrees to continue to provide community learning centers or Positive Opportunities to Develop Success (PODS) at our recreation centers.
- The City will continue and potentially expand Asheville Parks & Recreation programs in a safe environment for everyone in our community to include:
  - Summer Youth Programs
  - Teen Summer Camp Program
  - Summer Camp at Malvern Hills
  - Therapeutic Recreation Summer Camp
  - WNC Nature Center Wild Weeks Camp
- The City will continue to
  - Reimagine role of Resource Officers to include support of United for Youth Partnership.
  - Evaluate affordable housing needs to align with the United for Youth Program.
  - Continue to grow the City of Asheville Youth Leadership Academy, also known as CAYLA as well as other opportunities for workforce development.
  - Continue to enhance and expand affordable housing
  - Continue to improve and expand transit access to those who rely on it most
  - Fully participate in data sharing and mutual accountability with partners.

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Discussion

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