



THE PLEDGE FOR HEALTHY TEENS

ABOUT THE PROJECT

HOPE Buffalo is the community-wide movement for optimal teen health and wellbeing—a youth and community-led collaborative of diverse stakeholders, teens and adults working together to reduce teen pregnancy and STI rates and increase optimal teen health. It is a project of Cicatelli Associates Inc (CAI), funded by the Office of Population Affairs (OPA).

Optimal teen health means ensuring youth have a dynamic balance of physical, emotional, social, spiritual, and intellectual health, and have access to comprehensive sexuality education and reproductive health services, as well as mentoring and workforce development programs.

HOPE Buffalo is a vehicle of the collaboration between community partnerships” which enables the community “to bridge the gap between youth and their needs.” CAT members feel that things are different in the community because now they “can work collaboratively to achieve goals versus competition.” This has led to new and innovative approaches being developed and explored by the community. There was a feeling of reduced competitiveness between organizations because HOPE was able to break down silos, leverage relationships, and transcend individual agendas.



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THE TEAM

STAN MARTIN



Stan Martin is a Buffalo native and has served as a project director and senior trainer at CAI since 2011. Mr. Martin attended Buffalo Public Schools and graduated from Seneca Vocational High School. Prior to joining CAI, he worked internationally in Toronto, Ontario on Smoke Free Ontario and as the Western Region Area Manager for the New York State Department of Health Tobacco Control Program. Mr. Martin has a Master's in Management and received his B.A. in Liberal Studies from the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

"HOPE Buffalo is important to me because our greatest asset is the children of this community. By investing in them, children will have a sense of purpose and future that is prosperous, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, gender and/or sexual orientation."

LOUIS DANGELO

Project Manager Louis Dangelo Jr, a WNY native has worked as a Master Certified Health Education Specialist® for over 7 years. He has focused his work on training fellow health professionals and addressing health equity among various communities including a focus on positive youth development and digital learning. Prior to joining CAI, Louis facilitated individual behavior coaching and community-based programs delivered in schools, community centers, churches, and detention facilities. Mr. Dangelo is a graduate of SUNY Niagara County Community with an AA in Liberal Arts, SUNY Buffalo State with a BA in Psychology and a BS in Health & Wellness, and Texas A&M University with an MS in Health Education.



THE TEAM

LAUREN NITECKI

Lauren A Nitecki, MPH is the evaluation specialist for HOPE Buffalo and has experience working in non-profit, business, philanthropic and academic organizations to evaluate and support community-based initiatives. She believes that creating a more diverse and equitable society requires us to all listen to each other and uplift the voices of traditionally underrepresented populations.



ANDREA HAMILTON

Youth development lead Andrea N. Hamilton from Buffalo has extensive professional experience ranging from mental health, community education and advocacy, higher education and as a Marriage and Family Therapist. Andrea serves on various community initiatives/coalitions. Andrea has a M.A. in Marriage and Family Therapy from Medaille College and a B.A. in Sociology with a minor in Psychology from D'Youville College.



THE TEAM

BERNADETTE GILES



Bernadette Giles is the manager of Community and Youth Engagement to Promote Health Equity, supporting the inclusion and amplification of community voice across CAI's HOPE Buffalo and REACH Buffalo projects. She is an experienced non-profit professional with an eclectic career path that reflects her passion to create positive change. Ms. Giles is a member of the Buffalo Living Wage Commission, WNY Committee on Equity and Disproportionality in Schools and Coalition for Economic Justice (CEJ). Bernadette is a WNY native who desires to use her experience, knowledge, and skills to eradicate unjust systemic barriers and build an equitable community for all.

Join Us Today

As a member of the community, your support and participation will have a lasting impact on teens in Buffalo and our city as a whole.

We are partnering with parents, community-based organizations, high schools, community- and school-based clinics, faith-based organizations, government agencies, healthcare providers and other youth-serving organizations to help ensure that teens receive the support and resources they need to make healthy decisions.

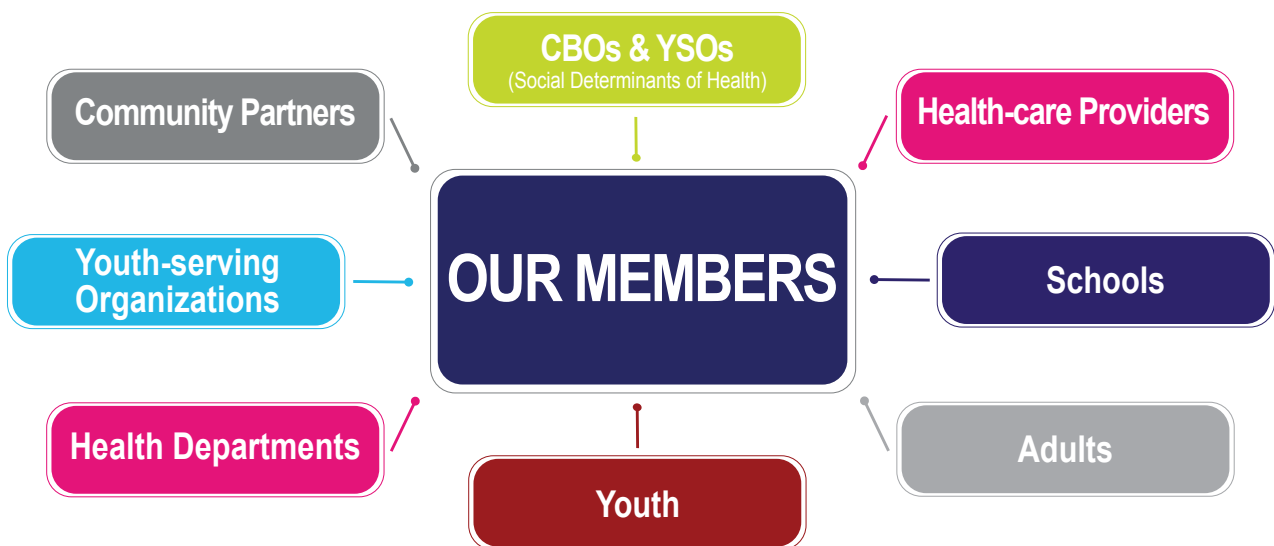
WANT TO BE PART OF THE EFFORT?

Please contact our team at hopebuf@caiglobal.org
or call (716) 246- 3006

The project was supported by Grant Number 1 TP1AH000213-01-00 from the HHS Office of Population Affairs. Contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Department of Health and Human Services or the Office of Population Affairs.

Our Community Action Team Members

Our Community Action Team (CAT) is a group of over 40 local Buffalo community influencers, highly respected community members and community-based organizations working together to make a difference in the lives of Buffalo's youth.



FOR MORE INFORMATION: For a full list of CAT members, please visit www.hopebuffalo.org

We Are Teens. We Are Parents. We Are Leaders.



We Are Buffalo



What Is HOPE Buffalo?

HOPE Buffalo is a community-driven initiative that aims to mobilize the Buffalo community to reduce teen pregnancy, STIs and promote optimal teen health among youth ages 15 to 19 living in the 14215, 14211, and 14206 zipcodes.

CAI in partnership with the Erie County Department of Health received a grant from the Office of Population Affairs (OPA) to focus on improving the lives and opportunities for adolescents by facilitating and resourcing a community-driven response to reduce teen pregnancy and STIs in three selected zipcodes in Buffalo.

The Hope Buffalo Team

Anchor Organization (AO):

- CAI (Cicatelli Associates Inc)
- Erie County Department of Health

Community Action Team (CAT):

- Local influencers, highly respected community members and community-based organizations

Youth Leadership Team (YLT):

- Youth from the target community

Core Partner Leadership Team (CPLT):

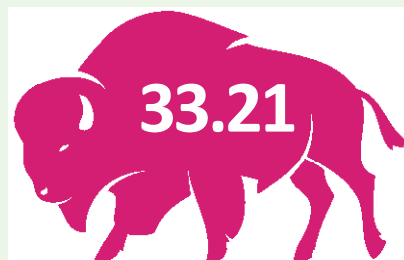
- Decision makers at the local, county and state level
- ...and you!

The Facts: Teen Birth Rates 2019

New York



Buffalo



Three Selected Zip Codes



PER 1,000 FEMALE POPULATION AGED 15-19

The Plan

HOPE Buffalo plans to implement a set of coordinated interventions that include:

- **Evidence-based Interventions** that reach up to 2,779 teens annually in school, community-based and healthcare provider settings to ensure teens have the knowledge, information and skills necessary to make healthy decisions about relationships and sex, and stay engaged in school
- **Referral and Linkage System** to identify teens in need of reproductive, behavioral and support services and linking them to “teen affirming” community-based providers
- **Social Media and Social Marketing** to promote community awareness and social norms associated with positive youth outcomes
- **Youth and Community-driven** approach that empowers and promotes ownership of the Plan by the Buffalo community
- **Supportive Services** including Workforce development and Mentorship