

Improving Educational Opportunities for Black Youth in Pittsburgh

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Motivation

We aim to improve inequities in Pittsburgh through the enhancement of educational opportunities that support post-secondary success for Black youth from low-income communities.

Project Description

- Expand Justice Scholars Institute to two additional schools
- Understand existing post-secondary pathways for Black youth in Pittsburgh
- Develop and evaluate program features
- Design a professional network for justice--focused teachers

Context

- Black youth in Pittsburgh are often being underprepared for post-secondary success
- Dual enrollment is an evidence-based practice that can facilitate the college transition
- Universities can support schools to enhance college preparation and improve post-secondary success

Issues of Educational Inequity

16% 
% of Black Students from PPS Earned a College Degree

42% 
% of White Students from PPS Earned a College Degree



The Justice Scholars Institute is enhancing post-secondary success for Black youth in Pittsburgh, through an equity-focused research practice partnership.



Project Deliverables

- A robust evaluation, in collaboration with the school district and an advocacy-focused community partner
- A scalable curriculum for college readiness and a youth participatory action collective
- A collective of justice--focused teacher leaders to support post-secondary success
- Research related to post-secondary success, teacher training, research practice partnerships, and educational context.

Potential Impact

- Improved post-secondary outcomes for Black youth in Pittsburgh
- Increased critical consciousness and purpose for youth in communities of color
- Enhanced teacher preparation, grounded in evidence-based, culturally relevant practices for post-secondary transitions



References

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