



APRIL 27, 2024
MEMORIAL ART GALLERY

2024
COHORT 11
GRADUATION
CEREMONY

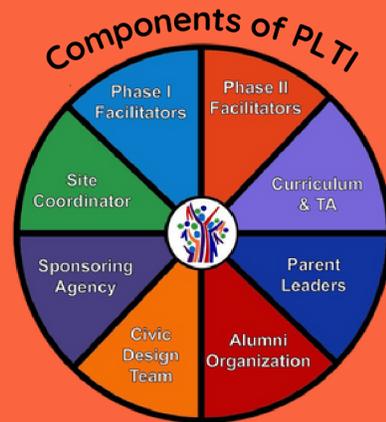
PLTI MISSION

The mission of the Greater Rochester Parent Leadership Training Institute is to build bridges and advocacy skills to support parents becoming leading advocates for children. PLTI differentiates itself by embracing a cross-race, cross-class, and parent-informed, pro-social educational approach.

PLTI Program At-A-Glance

Parents complete 21 weeks of training built on interactive adult-learning practices:

- Retreat to develop group and define mission.
- 10 weeks of parent leadership coursework focused on voice, difference, values, and problem definition.
- 10 weeks of parent leadership coursework focused on how change occurs for children including best practice, data analysis, model policy.
- A community project that highlights skills honed from PLTI involvement.
- Over 200 PLTI alumni continue to do the important advocacy work they honed with their cohort.



VALUES AND BELIEFS

1

We trust parents.

Parent voice has impact. Parental expertise and insight add a powerful perspective to decision-making

2

Civil discourse promotes understanding.

We encourage and create environments for respectful discussions that support the common good.

3

There is a place for everyone at the PLTI table.

We are intentionally diverse by race, income, geography, gender, religion, and political ideology. Diversity adds value.

4

Continual learning drives change.

Learning is essential for making change for our children and for the health of our democracy. We are curious, we listen well, and we ask good questions.

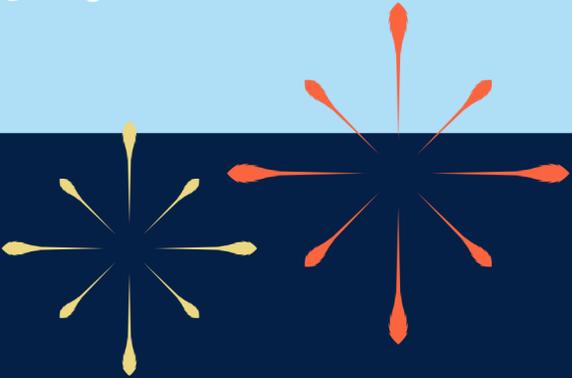
5

Public institutions should work for all people.

Informed, engaged civic leaders drive change for the good of everyone in the community.



Congratulations!
¡Felicidades!



FROM THE DIRECTOR

On behalf of Greater Rochester PLTI, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to each and every one of you on your graduation! This moment marks the culmination of your hard work, dedication, and perseverance throughout your journey with us.

Thank you for taking on the important role of ambassadors of change for the children in our community - your children. Your commitment to learning and growth has not only enriched your lives but has also contributed to the betterment of our community.

Know that your achievements do not end here; they are merely the beginning of a new chapter filled with endless opportunities and possibilities. Embrace the journey ahead with courage, curiosity, and an unwavering belief in your abilities.

As you embark on this new chapter, remember that PLTI is always here to support you. In fact, we look forward to remaining a part of your family and your continued growth.

Once again, congratulations on this remarkable achievement! May your future be filled with success, happiness, and fulfillment.



LUVA ALVAREZ
INTERIM DIRECTOR

PLTI'S NATIONAL HISTORY

The Greater Rochester Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI) is a local initiative of the National Parent Leadership Institute (NPLI), an evidence-based program designed to increase parent involvement in community issues. Since PLTI began in Connecticut in 1992, the program has grown nationally. The Monroe County-based Early Childhood Development Initiative worked to bring PLTI to the Rochester community, which began as Greater Rochester PLTI in 2012.

Many thanks to NPLI for their collaboration with towns and regions across the country to implement quality parent leadership for good child outcomes.

2023-2024 PLTI CLASS FACILITATORS

Kirstin Pryor

Russell Nordquist

Lydia Riveria

Matt Wagstaff

THE CHILDREN'S LEADERSHIP TRAINING INSTITUTE

The Children's Leadership Training Institute (CLTI) is an organic bridge for parents and children that focuses on family, empowerment, and improving the community. It runs as a parallel course to PLTI for the children of cohort participants. Anchored in literacy, the Children's Leadership Cohort creates a full spectrum of activities to encompass multiple intelligences.

2023 - 2024 CLTI TEAM

Alexandra Addis - CLTI Teacher

Silas Alvarez - Youth Leader

Soraya Alvarez - Youth Leader

Tyler Benson - CLTI Teacher

Kayshawna Evans - Youth Leader

Julia Gonzalez - CLTI Teacher

Destiny Dalmau Gonzalez - Youth Leader

Mildrena Vega - CLTI Coordinator



PROGRAM

PROCESSIONAL - COHORT 11 CLASS OF 2024

WELCOME

Elizabeth Maxwell | Monica Graham

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Josie McClary

NPLI GREETINGS

Katherine Tucker

GREETINGS & CONGRATULATIONS

Sen. Samra Brouk, NYS Assembly

Michael Burns, Deputy Mayor of Rochester

David Scott, Monroe County Chief Diversity Officer

GUEST SPEAKER

Neville Morris, PASS Program Manager at CCSI
introduced by Matt Wagstaff

CLTI PRESENTATION

Mildrena Vega, CLTI Coordinator & CLTI Team

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES

Kirstin Pryor | Alexandra Addis

ALUMNI GREETINGS

Elizabeth Maxwell | Dave Long

COHORT 11 CLASS SPEAKERS

Tamara Wall | Willie Williams

STAFF RECOGNITION

Luva Alvarez

SENIOR RECOGNITION

Mildrena Vega

SONG TRIBUTE

Ashley Smith

DIRECTOR MESSAGE

Luva Alvarez

CLOSING & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Elizabeth Maxwell | Monica Graham

2024 PARENT LEADER GRADUATES



**LANCEY ALEXANDER
CHARTER SCHOOL**



**URSULA BUTLER
RCSD**



**MERCEDES DENNIS
RCSD**



**ANNISSA HINES
RCSD**



**LYNN MORDENGA
RCSD**



**ROBERT RODGERS, SR.
RCSD**

Each Cohort selects a name that represents who they are and how they want to be remembered. Cohort 11 selected IMPACT 11, and we know they will be a change force in the community!

COHORT 11



**ASHLEY SMITH
HOMESCHOOL**



**TIMNA FRANK-SPOCK
GATES-CHILI**



**TAMARA WALL
WEST IRONDEQUOIT**



**CHERYL WEAREN
RCSD**



**JAMIA WILLIAMS
GATES-CHILI**



**WILLIE WILLIAMS
GATES-CHILI**



**CYNSHEI WILSON
RCSD**

2024 PARENT LEADER GRADUATES' PROJECTS

- **Lancey Alexander** "ROC Renaissance Project"
- **Ursula Butler** "HomeBridge: Empowering Renters, Building Futures"
- **Mercedes Dennis** "Northeast Side Civic Engagement Project"
- **Timna Frank-Spock** "Backpacks, Headphones, and Earbuds for Gates Chili Students"
- **Annissa Hines** "Leaving a Legacy Behind for Special Ed Students & Parents - a book for parents and students about our family's experience"
- **Lynn Mordenga** "Bridging the Gap, Creating Connections for families of preschool students with disabilities within RCSD"
- **Robert Rodgers Sr.** "The Roc Media Literacy Project: building a web platform and community for media literacy educators and advocates in Greater Rochester"
- **Ashley Smith** "Bee Crowned Blossom: Black Women Growing The Future"
- **Tamara Wall** "Operation A.C.E.S. - Actions to Cease in-Equitable Suspensions- addressing disparities with suspensions and discipline impacting BIPOC students within the West Irondequoit School District"
- **Cheryl Wearen** "Jaqueline's Village: Where All Are Welcomed"
- **Jamia Williams** "Reaching Our Community (ROC) with the Library: highlighting the great work of the ten Rochester city library branches"
- **Willie Williams** "Sound Counsel: forming a nonprofit that offers youth a creative outlet while supporting mental health"
- **Cynshei Wilson** "Reading Right: ensuring that educators in the RCSD utilize curriculum grounded in the science of reading to teach literacy to every student in grades K-5. "

2024 CLTI YOUTH LEADER GRADUATES

Laila Alexander
Reyanna Crosbourne
Ryan Crosbourne
Jhered Dalmau
Ryver Jones
Timothy Mordenga
La'Shawn Rodgers
Nala Rodgers

Aniya Shelton
Alyxander Smith
Miracle Stephens
Allison Tew
Eliana-Renee Wall
Sonjai Wearen
Jeremiah Williams
Elijah Williams



Congratulations to this cohort of child leaders! Today is graduation day and as CLTI comes to an end, your journey as a child leader is just beginning. You now have the skills and knowledge needed to navigate and change the world.

BELIEVE THAT YOU CAN.

BELIEVE THAT YOU WILL.

BELIEVE THAT YOUR POWER IS UNSTOPPABLE.





NOTES FROM THE COMMUNITY

Congratulations
to the inspiring leaders of

Greater Rochester PLTI
11th Cohort

Together, we stand **READY** to secure a bright future for our children.



ALL means ALL

WELCOME. NURTURE. INSPIRE.



Congratulations
Ms. Tamara Wall!

Parents are an essential partner to ensuring every child has the tools and resources needed for success.
Thank you for your dedication to this vital mission!

Congratulations
to the Greater Rochester
PLTI Cohort 11

Together, we are building bridges to support parents becoming leaders of change!



Congratulations, PLTI and CLTI
Cohort 11, the **IMPACT Cohort**,
on your graduation!

Your work in the community is
inspiring and has deep and lasting **IMPACT**.

The Margaret and Dave Burns Family

HATS OFF

TO THE
GRADUATES OF

COHORT 11!

PLTI and the Greece Central School District
are united in a common mission to
increase parent voice in education.

We Are *Better Together*



Congratulations to the parents and youth leaders on your outstanding accomplishments. **Your advocacy is an inspiration for all.**



Assemblyman Demond L. Meeks

137th Assembly District
614 W. Main St
Rochester, NY 14611
585-454-3670



Congratulations to the 2024 graduates of the Greater Rochester Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI)

D.L. Meeks

Congratulations PLTI Cohort 11 Graduates!



is proud to support Rochester's Parent Leaders!



Congratulations

to 11th cohort of the Parent Leadership Training Institute

"Your dedication to leadership, advocacy, and community empowerment is truly inspiring. Here's to the impact you'll continue to make in shaping a brighter future for families and communities. Well done!"



Senator Samra
Brouk

Address: 274 N. Goodman St.
Rochester, NY 14607
Phone Number: 585-223-1800
Email: brouk@nysenate.gov

Congratulations

Greater Rochester Parent Leadership Training Institute Cohort Graduates!

The City of Rochester is proud to support PLTI and the Rochester Parent Leaders!



Malik D. Evans, Mayor
City of Rochester, NY • Rochester City Council



Congratulations

to our Greater Rochester PLTI Cohort 11 Graduates.

Adam Bello
ADAM J. BELLO
MORRIS COUNTY EXECUTIVE



Congratulations to members of PLTI's Cohort 11 for making the choice to make change in our community as leaders and advocates for children!

TAKE CHARGE OF CHANGE



You are braver than you feel.
You are stronger than you think.
Do good.
Make a difference.

20 YEARS

TheChildren'sAgenda

Smart Choices. Bold Voices.



Congratulations, Graduates!

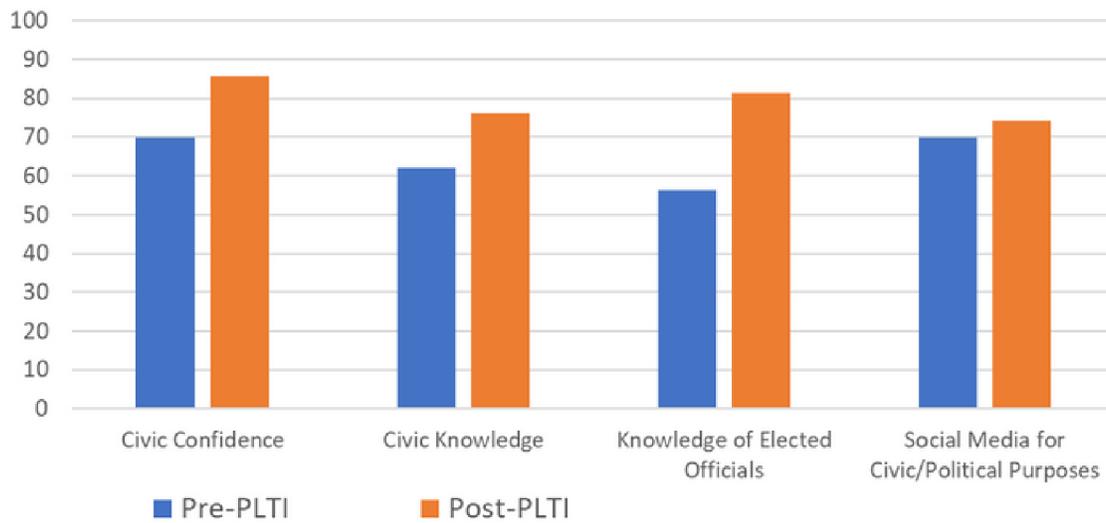


FULL MEASURE

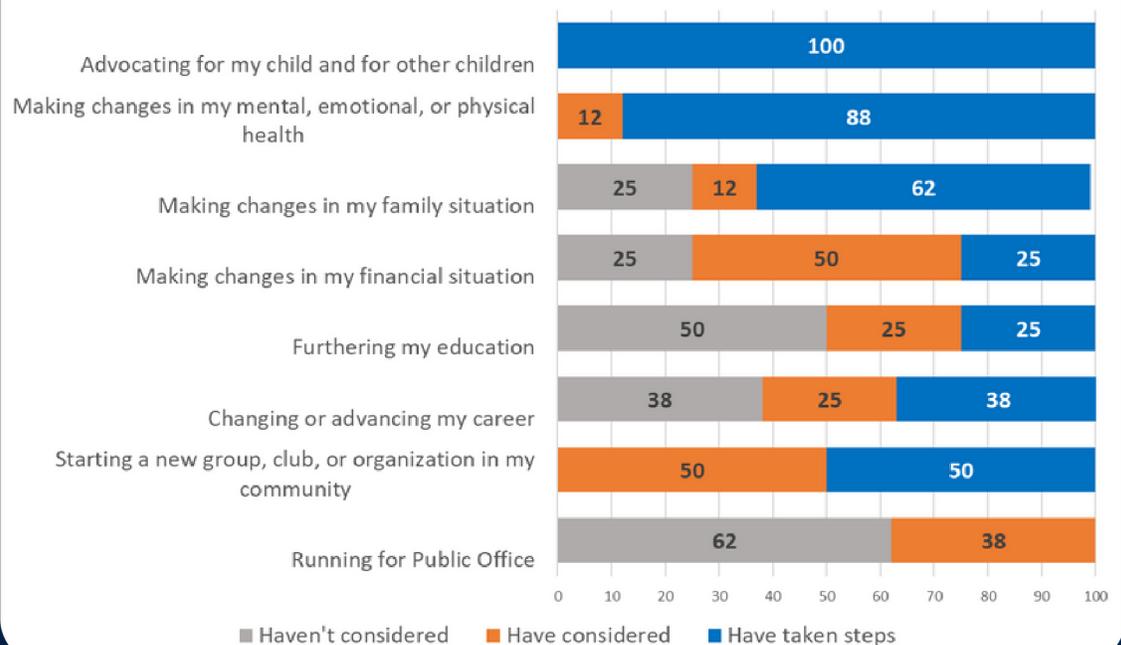
HOW PLTI IMPACTS PARENT LEADERS

NYU Metro Center was hired by NPLI as an independent, outside evaluator to assess outcomes of the PLTI program, including conducting a parent survey. The survey measures the impact of the initiative on parents' civic skills, engagement, and knowledge, as well as their experiences with the initiative. Pre-surveys were completed at the beginning and the end of the program. Here are a few of the outcomes. For more information, visit greaterrochesterplti.org

Cohort 11 - Civic Outcomes



Cohort 11 - Personal and Civic Action



Change Starts With You



**Cohort 12 Applications
will be available on
Monday, May 6.**

Classes begin October 2024.
www.greaterrochesterplti.org

Free to Parents & Caregivers in Monroe County

THANK YOU TO OUR 2023-24 PLTI FUNDERS

- Sen. Samra Brouk & NYS OCFS
- City of Rochester
- ESL Foundation
- Greater Rochester Health Foundation
- FULL MEASURE
- Konar Foundation
- New York University, Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity and the Transformation of Schools
- Rochester Area Community Foundation African American Giving Initiative
- True Insights Consulting

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF OUR FUNDERS AND THE MANY INDIVIDUAL DONORS WHO HAVE SUPPORTED PLTI THIS YEAR.

Thank you to the following organizations for their donations to our graduates' gift bags:

READY, Inc. | Sensational Inclusion | Starbridge | The Children's Agenda
City of Rochester DRHS | Monroe County Youth Bureau

THANK YOU TO OUR GRADUATION VOLUNTEERS

Pam Ayers
Dawn Breitung
Kate Copeland
Heather Dulisse
Kayshawna Evans

Kilolo Moyo-White
Jim Payne
Erika Rosenberg
McKayla Wolf
Photographer: Maria Dalmau

Thanks to:

Kimberly Jones (Alumna, Cohort 1) & the MAG Events Team
Christina Mancini for assistance with the program
Printing Plus for their printing assistance

THANK YOU TO OUR CIVIC DESIGN TEAM

Silas Alvarez, CLTI Alumnus, Cohort 6; Youth Leader
Toyin Anderson-Willis, PLTI Alumna, Cohort 1; Action for a Better Community
Pamela Ayers, Empreinte Consulting
Gail Berkes, PLTI Alumna, Cohort 10
Dawn M Breitung, The Children's Institute
Tyler Brown, Monroe County
Kathryn Copeland, PLTI Alumna, Cohort 10
Melanie Funchess, Umbuntu Village Works
Monica Graham, PLTI Alumna, Cohort 9
Clayton H Osborne, True Insights Consulting LLC
James Payne, PLTI Alumnus, Cohort 9; BOCES 2
Erika Rosenberg, PLTI Alumna, Cohort 2; Center for Governmental Research
Lisa Singletary, PLTI Alumna, Cohort 8; Student Success Project
Tomicka Wagstaff, College of the Holy Cross
Rahimah Wynn, PLTI Alumna, Cohort 6; RCSD

PLTI's Civic Design Team (CDT) is an advisory board composed of PLTI alumni and community leaders that helps to sustain the PLTI mission and programs.