



18% Increase!

OVER 10,000
Middle & High School
STUDENTS SERVED

UNDER
ARMOUR



ANNUAL REPORT 2024

CALL TO THE COMMUNITY

We value your support of Alignment as the organization works to prepare students to graduate academic and career ready. Through your commitments, we have partnered together to reach significant milestones in 2024:

- Surpassed serving more than 10,000 students across School Districts U-46, 300, and 301.
- Invested 10,212 volunteer hours in our partner school districts representing more than a \$600,000 return to the schools and the region.
- Grew the summer internship program working with Northern Kane County Region 110 to offer students from nine high schools paid opportunities aligned with their future career interests.
- Generated a 34% increase in donations and grants to support additional programming in the high schools.
- Expanded opportunities for students and families to access career readiness services through improved communication efforts and community engagement.

These milestones would not be possible without your human and financial investment. We share a commitment to bring schools and community partners together to positively impact the future workforce for the greater Elgin community and the surrounding region.

Thank you for the successes we have achieved and the positive difference we are making in the lives of students and their families.

Best regards,

Nancy Coleman
Executive Director



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Managing Director
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Chief of Police
Elgin Police Department

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Elgin State Bank

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Associated Equipment
Dealers

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School District U-46

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Hampton, Lenzeni and
Renwick Inc.

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Gail Borden Public Library

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Assistant Superintendent
for Equity and Innovation
School District U-46

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Superintendent
Community School
District 300

Sheri Taylor
Senior Manager
Cherry Bekaert Advisory,
LLC

Scott Weil
Director of Regional
Operations
NICOR

Bill Wright
Managing Director
The Overture Group

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Director of Technical
Underwriting
Zurich Insurance

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Central Community School
District 301

Michele Chapman

Director of Postsecondary
Success
School District U-46

Kathleen Cox

Director of Early Learners
School District U-46

Sean Fitzgerald

Senior Director of Workforce and
Industry Initiatives
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Dean of College Transitions and
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KCT Credit Union

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Executive Director
Kane County Health Department

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Director of School and
Community Relations
School District U-46

Rise' D. Jones

Executive Director
Hamilton Wings

Joan Kanute

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Population Health
Advocate Sherman Hospital

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Elgin Economic
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Co-Chair, Educational Pathways
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Community Volunteer
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Elgin Partnership for
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Chief Operating Officer
Taylor Family YMCA

Sara Sabo

Chief Operating Officer
Gail Borden Public Library

Joseph Sieczkowski

Director of CTE, Pathways, and
College & Career Readiness
Community School
District 300

Denise Tracy

Chaplin

EDUCATIONAL PATHWAYS A-TEAM

Jonathan Anderson

Coordinator of Career
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300

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Junior Achievement

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Streamwood Behavioral
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Human Resources Manager
Hampshire Farms

Rebecca Lapinski

Reference Librarian
Gail Borden Public Library

Cory Lemay

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Bound
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Community Volunteer

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Gail Borden Public Library

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Global Engagement
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and College and Career
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300

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Science and Engineering
Elgin Community College

Todd Stirn

Work-Based Learning
Specialist
Northern Kane County
Region 110

Terry Stroh

Director
Northern Kane County
Region 110

Tracy Vittone

Director of Transfer
Services
Elgin Community College

Kim Wagner

Director, Suburban K-8
Junior Achievement

Patricia Williams

YouthBuild Program
Director
Housing Authority of Elgin

TEACHER PIPELINE TEAM

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Coordinator of Career
and College Readiness
Community School District 300

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Educator's Rising Teacher
Community School District 300

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Central Community School District 301

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Director of Early Learners
School District U-46

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School District U-46

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Northern Illinois University

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School District 300

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Northern Illinois University

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Elgin Partnership for Early Learning

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Illinois Education Association-NEA

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Director of CTE, Pathways, and College
and Career Programs
Community School District 300

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Work-Based Learning Specialist
Northern Kane County Region 110

Kristin Stombres

Associate Professor of Education
Judson University

Terry Stroh

Director
Northern Kane County Region 110

Tracy Vittone

Director of Transfer Services
Elgin Community College

Kimerly Widerski

Early Childhood CTE Teacher
School District U-46



We are grateful for United Way of Metro Chicago and the Nicor Gas Foundation for believing in our work and joining our strong coalition of community leaders to ensure all people can thrive in Elgin, starting with crucial education and workforce development programming for our youth.



YOUTH, FAMILIES, AND FUTURE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

ELGIN NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK PRIORITIES

INFRASTRUCTURE: Partner with Elgin’s non-profit organizations to identify and prioritize community needs that impact quality of life for Elgin’s families.

PROGRAMMING: Expand the number of students and families with access to academic preparedness and career ready services combining and aligning resources across the community.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Expand current engagement practices of partner organizations to grow human and financial resources invested in Elgin.

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES: Implement shared initiatives across community organizations to address critical needs identified.

SUSTAINABILITY: Grow collaborative resources that address the current needs of families and their future self-sufficiency through robust workforce development and community engagement practices.

ELGIN NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK COMMITTEE

Aaron Cobbs
U-46 Teacher
Youth Empowerment Program

Pam Cumpata
Resource Development
Community Volunteer

Corey Dixon
Senior Assistant Director
Kane County Sheriff’s Office

Michelle Esquivel
Executive Director
Well Child Center

Karen Fox
Community Volunteer

Carol Geiske
President
Elgin Area Chamber of Commerce

Jim Griffin
Community Volunteer

Bill Hoffer
Chairman of the Board
Hoffer Plastics, Inc.

Bob Malm
Co-Chair
Educational Pathways A-Team

Rose Martinez
Councilwoman
City Of Elgin

Karina Nava
Assistant City Manager
City of Elgin

Amber Peters
Executive Director
Elgin Partnership for Early Learning

Joseph Russell
Chief Operating Officer
Taylor Family YMCA

Sara Sabo
Chief Operating Officer
Gail Borden Public Library

Scott Weil
Director of Regional Operations
NICOR

Bill Wright
Managing Director
The Overture Group

JANUARY – MARCH



A. Teacher Pipeline Education Day at **Elgin Community College** attracts 168 students from U-46 and District 300.

B. School District 300 rotational internships begin in partnership with **Advocate Sherman** and **Well Child Center**.

C. Over 1,990 students participate in Resume and Interview Skills Workshops.



D. Annual U-46 Counselor Day is hosted at **Nicor Gas** to learn about the region's apprenticeship programs including corporate, college, federal, and regional union apprenticeships.

E. Career and Technical panels at Larkin and Streamwood high schools reach 1,000 students.



F. Larkin students in the CTE Education Program receive awards at the Educator Rising State competition held at Illinois State University.



G. Alignment hosts an HBCU roundtable discussion with students and six HBCU institutions.



H. Sophomore and Junior Postsecondary Day benefits 2,200 **U-46** students with over 35 postsecondary, business, and military partners participating.



Investing in youth and families

APRIL - JUNE



I. Fourth annual Senior Job Fair hosts over 500 students in **Districts 300, 301 and U-46** at **Elgin Community College** with more than 50 employers represented.



J. Elgin Neighborhood Network Steering Committee meets to approve action plan for the 2024-2025 school year with support from **United Way Metro Chicago** and lead partner **Nicor Gas**.

K. Bartlett, Elgin, South Elgin and Streamwood high schools receive **AED Foundation** certification.

L. Parent and Student Internship Orientation Night for **Districts 300, 301 and U-46** kicks off the paid summer internship program.



M. **SEIGLE FOUNDATION** announces third year of support to Alignment.

N. Edgar Montes, Alignment's program manager, graduates from the **Elgin Area Leadership Academy, Class of 2024**.

O. First Responder Internship launches with ten high school students in partnership with the **Bartlett Police Department, Hanover Park Fire Department** and **Hanover Township Emergency Services**.



P. **Hampton, Lenzini and Renwick** and **Judson University** provide 12 summer interns with the opportunity to learn about career fields including civil, environmental and structural engineering; architecture, interior and exterior design, surveying, drone technology and more.

to ensure the future strength

JULY – SEPTEMBER



Q



R



S



T



U



V



W



X

Q. Over 30 students participate in paid health care internships. Thank you to **Advocate Sherman Hospital, Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital, VNA Healthcare, Diamond Physical Therapy, Orthollinois, and Well Child Center.**

R. **Bucher Hydraulics, Elgin Sweeper, Harting, Hoffer Plastics, ITW Shakeproof, and Lakeview Precision Machining** offer 21 students the amazing opportunity to intern at their manufacturing and precision machining companies, some of the most prominent businesses in the region.

S. **U-46, Bartlett Park District, District 300, Golden Corridor Family YMCA, Hanover Township Youth Services, Precious Angels, and South Elgin Parks and Recreation** come together to support the Teacher Pipeline Initiative preparing the Region's future teachers.

T. **Bartlett Hills Golf Club and Banquets** hosts three future culinary professionals for the summer season.

U. Students pursuing business, financial services and IT internships experience working for **Fox Valley Internet, KCT Credit Union, and Wintrust.**

V. **AED Foundation** and the **Youth Workforce Development Foundation** receive \$8 million grant to expand large equipment pre-apprenticeship programs.

W. Elgin Neighborhood Network Steering Committee expands to welcome representatives from **Elgin Partnership for Early Learning, Golden Corridor YMCA, Well Child Center, and Youth Empowerment Program.**

X. Explore 2024 serves over 2,300 students and more than 400 family members benefiting from 75 exhibits across five career pathways to include architecture, arts, automotive, business, culinary, digital communications, education, engineering, first responder, financial services, health care, human services, information technology, large equipment, manufacturing, and welding careers.

of the community and its workforce.

OCTOBER – DECEMBER



Y. Northern Illinois University Education Day hosts 225 future teachers spending the day on NIU's campus promoting the teaching profession.

Z. Automotive students (160) from Districts 300, 301 and U-46 visit Large Equipment Career Day at Johnsburg High School sponsored by the **AED Foundation, SkillsUSA, and the Youth Workforce Development Foundation.**

1. A record number of U-46 seniors (794) participate in Senior Postsecondary Day. Both students and parents benefit from postsecondary visits and receiving FAFSA application assistance from **Elgin Community College's Financial Aid Office.**

2. Northern Kane County Region 110 sponsors manufacturing tours for over 500 students in the region partnering with 21 companies to celebrate Manufacturing Month.

3. Zurich Insurance hosts more than 70 business career focused students from Bartlett, Larkin, and Streamwood to learn about the insurance industry and the company's premier apprenticeship program.

4. Advocate Sherman Hospital and VNA Health Care host medical rotation internships for six **District 300 students.**

5. Elgin and Larkin High Schools host career and technical panels featuring **Advocate Sherman, Altorfer CAT, AVID CNA School, Bob Loquercio Auto Group, Elgin Community College, Fox Valley Internet, First Mid Bank and Trust, GCamp, HARTING, Illinois Department of Employment Security, ITW Shakeproof, KCT Credit Union, Lincoln College of Technology, Nicor Gas, Rosati's Pizza, VNA Health Care, and Well Child Center.**

SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

41 ORGANIZATIONS

146 PAID INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

> \$150,000

BUSINESS, COMMUNITY & SCHOOL PARTNER INVESTMENT