

# Overview

## ABOUT US

**READY (Rochester Education and Development for Youth) exists to ensure all schools thrive.** As a 501(c)(3) organization, we are committed to increasing access to high-quality education for Rochester's K-12 public school students through community-driven approaches and strategies. Beyond supporting the design and development of schools, we are cultivating a strong ecosystem—where families are informed and engaged, educators reflect the diversity of the community, and policies create the conditions for success. **Our goal is to increase the number of students in quality schools from nearly 3,000 to 10,000 by 2035.**

## OUR WORK

**READY increases access to quality schools in Rochester by expanding, launching and supporting high-performing school models.** We create the conditions for great schools to thrive by addressing talent, policy, and parent engagement. Through strategic alignment and coordination, we work to sustain the schools that families, students, and business leaders want, ensuring that every child has access to an excellent education.

Unlike other organizations that focus on school readiness and student support, READY is dedicated to increasing the number of quality public schools. **We do this by leveraging local partnerships, bringing national resources into the community, and investing in bold, community-driven solutions.**

## OUR APPROACH

At READY, we believe that every student deserves access to a high-quality education in a school that responds to their needs. **Our approach is rooted in strategic investments and evidence-based solutions that create lasting impact.** Our core activities include:

- **Investing in existing high-performing schools:** We provide strategic funding and resources to schools with a proven track record of success, helping them expand their reach and maintain excellence.
- **Empowering educators to shape responsive learning environments:** We provide educators with the resources and support to create learning environments that reflect the needs and aspirations of the communities they serve. Through leadership development, strategic planning, and innovative school design, we help educators implement student-centered models that promote equity and academic excellence.
- **Implementing proven best practices in education:** We research and advance evidence-based strategies and programs that have a proven impact on student success. By empowering families, educators, and communities with the tools to advocate, innovate, and strengthen educator pathways, we create lasting, systemic change in education.

## SIGNATURE INITIATIVES

**READY School Finder:** designed by Rochester parents for Rochester parents, the School Finder is an accessible, online tool to help caregivers select the best school for their child.

**READY Liberation Teaching Academy:** a “homegrown” educator pipeline in partnership with the Center for Black Educator Development, high school students explore teaching as a career while deepening their cultural identity.

**READY Parent ACTION Academy:** a program for parents to examine the current state of education in Rochester, gain insight into student achievement trends, build advocacy skills, and pursue community-driven solutions to public education challenges.

**READY School Incubator:** a fellowship for local educators to design and pilot new, innovative school models aligned to the community's vision for the future of education in Rochester.

