

# NEWSLETTER

May 2024



## *Congratulations to the Class of 2024!*

We are thrilled to extend our heartfelt congratulations to our graduating seniors and their families, mentors, educators, and advocates. Your unwavering support and dedication have been instrumental in helping these students reach this significant milestone.

To our graduates, your hard work and perseverance have led you to this proud moment in your life. You have navigated challenges with resilience and determination, and your success is a testament to your commitment to your education.

As you embark on your next adventure, we wish you all the best. May your future be filled with opportunities and achievements that reflect the same passion and dedication you have shown throughout your educational journey.

Congratulations once again to the Class of 2024! The future is bright, and we are excited to see all that you will accomplish.

*Psccn team x*

## Highlights

---

**PSCCN  
Updates**

---

**Postsecondary  
Resources &  
Opportunities**

---

**Partner  
Content**

---

**Regional  
Events**

---

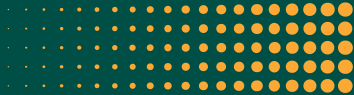
**College &  
Career News**

---

# KING COUNTY PROMISE

## Spotlight!

This month, we celebrate the exceptional dedication and warmth of Adolphine Kapanga, the KCP Youth Navigator at the Congolese Integration Network (CIN). Her unwavering commitment to the youth is recognized by her community and partners. She embodies the spirit of care and mentorship, treating each young person as family.



Adolphine's maternal instincts and tireless efforts extend beyond her official job description. From arranging transportation for dance classes to providing homework assistance and supporting after-school projects, she ensures that the youth receive the guidance and support they need to thrive. Her peers describe her as the heart and soul of the CIN Youth Department.

***Whether it's organizing enriching activities, facilitating workshops, or simply lending a listening ear, Adolphine goes above and beyond to ensure every youth feels seen, heard, and valued."***

Having embarked on her own journey of immigration to America and navigating postsecondary education, she brings a unique perspective to her role.

Drawing from her own life lessons, she skillfully supports KCP youth in navigating career pathways, helping them chart a course toward success and fulfillment.

***"Adolphine is more than just a mentor; she's a big sister figure, radiating compassion and care in everything she does. Her nurturing presence creates a safe and supportive environment where the youth can thrive and flourish."***

We are immensely impressed with Adolphine's unwavering dedication and commitment. She truly embodies the spirit of service and leadership, leaving an indelible impact on the lives of all who have the privilege of knowing her.





# EMPOWERING JOY

## Street Data Lens

Joy is a fundamental drive for what we choose to do. Whether it is in our in the moment choices or delayed gratification, humans gravitate towards the actions and events that bring joy.

**College persistence is waning, but is improved by things like joy.**

## Our Mission

We want the data we collect to tell a narrative that celebrates and uplifts joy's role in the academic journey for Black and Brown males and opportunity youth.

How does joy manifest and grow? How are advocates and advisors cultivating joy in opportunity youth? What are the conditions to help it thrive? How does joy contribute to someone's perseverance and sense of purpose? Preliminary themes from NWEA survey data is pictured to the right.

## Academic Resilience & Joy

Youth are learning to survive and thrive, in spite of an education system designed to perpetuate colonialist ideals and support only some students. Black male resiliency is the counternarrative to deficit perspectives (Kim & Hargrove, 2013). Gap-gazing at group differences in satellite data can perpetuate deficit thinking and stereotypes on groups in a way that is harmful and dehumanizing (Gutiérrez, 2008).

**The dialogue around joy gives communities, families, and students agency in a system that was not built for them.**



**Personal Well-being**



**Academic Achievements**



**Supportive Relationships**



**Career and Employment**



**Financial Stability**





## PARTNER CONTENT

### Paid Data & Research Fellowships

CCER will host three Fellows from communities of color within the Road Map Project region who desire to gain data and/or research skills.

If you are interested in learning more, please [click here](#).

---

### RTC Foundation Scholarships

The deadline for Fall 2024 scholarship applications is Monday, June 3rd, 2024. Scholarships range from \$1,000 to \$2,500. For more information, please [click here](#).

### FAFSA: Completion rates in WA

Through May 13, 2024, 36% of the total number of high school seniors expected to graduate in the class of 2024 have completed a FAFSA. These figures are from WSAC's new FAFSA Completion Tracker, which you can access [here](#). Encourage the students in your network to fill out their financial aid applications.

### STEM Signing Day 2024: Last chance to apply!

Time is running out to apply to this year's STEM Signing Day! STEM Signing Day celebrates high school seniors who choose to pursue STEM. Just like signing days for athletes, STEM Signing Day honorees sign a letter of intent to pursue their STEM goals. If you know any high school seniors who will be pursuing STEM after high school, encourage them to apply to STEM Signing Day 2024 [here!](#)

# College and Career News in Washington State

- [The Seattle Times Education Lab](#)
- [K-12 parental 'bill of rights' set to become law in Washington State](#)
- [From controversial to life-saving, these WA school bills are headed to Inslee to sign](#)
- [Online learning keeps rising among Washington's K-12 students](#)
- [WA State Wants School Districts To Keep Better Track Of Truant Students](#)
- [Funding for WA schools is actually falling](#)
- [Education levels among Washington workforce falling short of labor market demand](#)



**Thank you for your continued support.  
Contact us at [pscnc@psed.org](mailto:pscnc@psed.org)**