



Community Impact

Here are just some of the things that community center directors have to say about Science Firsthand's impact on the community. With your help, the Collaborative can continue to promote hands-on science throughout Buffalo.

"There's a huge interest. [Children are] asking more questions about why this and why that, or one kid will tell another, 'Save that question for [the mentor].' It's turned around. Having the hands-on science has done it."

"One thing I like about your program is you make no apologies about keeping things small, with a powerful focus on the individuals involved."

"The Science Firsthand program has morphed into small groups of youth with common interests and questions. They inspire each other... This has helped develop team efforts, which so many of our kids are grossly lacking. It's great to hear the kids say that they gave [their] journal[s] to teachers, parents, and family members. This has promoted [our] center and has been useful to us when searching for sustainability in our lab and its extensions."

For more information on how you can get involved with the Science Firsthand Collaborative of Buffalo, visit:

www.firsthandlearning.org/SFCB

Or contact Bill Rogers, Science Firsthand director, at 716-831-8722 or inquiries@firsthandlearning.org

Collaborative Members

Boys & Girls Club of Buffalo
282 Babcock St., Buffalo, NY 14210

Elmwood Village Charter School
124 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo, NY 14201

The Belle Center
104 Maryland St., Buffalo, NY 14201

Gloria Parks Community Center
3242 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14214

Grover International Prep MS & HS
110 14th St. Buffalo, NY 14213-2595

HOPE Refugee Services
318 Breckenridge St., Buffalo, NY 14213

Polonia Hall
385 Paderewski Dr., Buffalo, NY 14212

St. Augustine's Scholars
21 Davidson St., Buffalo, NY 14215

St. Monica's Scholars
1955 Genesee St., Buffalo, NY 14211

Seneca Babcock Community Center
1168 Seneca St, Buffalo, NY

Seneca Street United Methodist Church
1218 Seneca St., Buffalo, NY 14210

TJ Dulski Center
129 Lewis St., Buffalo, NY 14206

Valley Community Association
93 Leddy St., Buffalo, NY 14210

SCIENCE FIRSTHAND Collaborative of Buffalo



CONNECT WITH KIDS. CONNECT WITH SCIENCE.

Help Buffalo's community centers make science a regular part of kids' lives after school.

The Science Firsthand Collaborative of Buffalo has all the tools for connecting youth to science everyday: lab space, science equipment, program managers, and volunteer mentors.

The Collaborative needs your support to continue to do this special kind of youth development in the lowest income neighborhoods in the city.



The Science Firsthand Program

Science Firsthand is an afterschool mentoring program that connects urban youth with adult mentors to do hands-on science investigations. One-on-one and small group interactions allow participants to engage in active, personal science explorations that develop key critical thinking skills, build self-confidence, and offer opportunities for collaboration and individual support.

Science Firsthand was developed by First Hand Learning, a non-profit organization based in Buffalo that promotes inquiry-based teaching, learning from direct experience, and closer ties between cultural institutions and schools. Science Firsthand is currently running at 13 community-based organizations throughout Buffalo.

For more information visit
www.firsthandlearning.org



The Science Firsthand Collaborative of Buffalo

The thirteen centers that have Science Firsthand as part of their after school enrichment program have banded together as the Science Firsthand Collaborative of Buffalo. Their goal as a collaborative is to build a capacity for hands-on science at every after school center in Buffalo and to find the resources to sustain Science Firsthand over the years ahead.

What does the Collaborative do?

- Develops indoor and outdoor spaces for youth to explore
- Recruits and trains mentors to investigate alongside youth
- Partners with the Western New York Service Learning Coalition to recruit and train mentors to be co-investigators with the youth
- Gathers and shares community resources for science
- Organizes joint community science events and field trips
- Provides pathways for community centers looking to adopt the Science Firsthand program
- Supports SF program managers and mentors with professional development opportunities
- Write grant proposals to obtain new resources.

Get Involved

Here are just some of the roles that you can play in helping the Science Firsthand Collaborative of Buffalo:

- Become a Science Firsthand mentor
- Host a Taste of Science Firsthand event at your corporation or professional association
- Donate materials or science equipment to the SF labs
- Sponsor a Science Firsthand team for a year
- Introduce Science Firsthand to your local community center, church, or clubhouse
- Share your expertise in areas such as youth development, marketing, and grant writing
- Involve your college and high school students in mentoring and community service with Science Firsthand
- Participate in SF's annual Young Investigators Conference at the Buffalo Zoo

