

## COLLEGE SUCCESS

### Access to Higher Education Breaks the Cycle of Poverty

In Greater Hartford, women of color and low-income women struggle to complete post-secondary education. Lack of a degree locks women in the cycle of poverty, since they lack the qualifications required for jobs with greater earning potential.



### We Need to Close the Educational Gap

Bachelor's Degrees Earned by Women in Hartford County Institutions by Race/Ethnicity (2017)



Asian



Latina



African American



White

### Women Often to Earn Degrees in Low-Paying Fields, Increased Support for STEM and Manufacturing Degrees Needed to Boost Women's Earning Power

Percentage of Degrees by Area of Study Earned by Women at Hartford County Institutions (2016)

Precision Production/Manufacturing	4.8%
Engineering	17.9%
Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services	24.7%
Education	78.9%
Health Professions and Related Programs	81.4%
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	81.8%

### Education Has a Significant Impact on Women's Earning Power

Average earnings for women in Hartford County based on education level

\$19,785

No high school diploma



\$29,290

High school diploma, GED



\$35,466

Some college, or an Associate's Degree



\$50,380

Bachelor's Degree



\$66,118

Master's Degree and Above



## Aurora Funds Programs that Promote Women's College Success

Aurora's goal is to have more women, particularly women of color, economically disadvantaged women, and first generation women college students, graduate from college and go on to financially stable careers.

Since 2014:

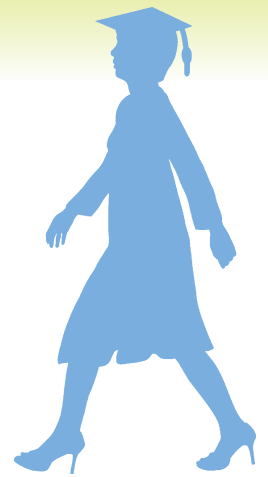
**775** women have participated in an Aurora-funded college success program

**23** college success programs have been funded by Aurora

**\$406,500** in grant awards have been made by Aurora for College Success programs

## Best Practices in College Completion Programs for Women

- ▶ **Addressing survival-level needs**, including needs for safety, shelter, childcare, food
- ▶ **Increasing student exposure** to new fields of study, new career paths, new resources on and off campus
- ▶ **Promoting self-advocacy**, helping women students to find and use their voices
- ▶ **Building community** so that students support each other and foster peer-to-peer mentoring
- ▶ **Providing role models** who show students what success looks like



## Aurora Funded Programs and Partner Institutions

*Women Investing in Securing an Education,*  
Goodwin College

*Women in STEM (WiSTEM),*  
Manchester Community College

*Success to Graduation,*  
University of Saint Joseph

*YW Career Women,*  
YWCA Greater Hartford and  
Capital Community College

*Launch Your Leadership Journey,*  
Women's Leadership Institute, Asnuntuck  
Community College and Tunxis Community  
College

*Pathways to College,*  
Grace Academy

*Women in Transition,*  
Charter Oak State College

*Prison Seminar Series,*  
Trinity College and York Correctional Institution

*Free to Succeed,*  
Trinity College, Manchester Community College,  
Capital Community College, Community Partners  
in Action

*WELCorps Leaders Program,*  
University of Hartford

*Inspiring College Readiness & Increasing College Retention  
for Minority Women in the Greater Hartford Area,*  
University of Saint Joseph

*Center for Academic Excellence LEAP program,*  
University of Saint Joseph