



College? YES!

October 26 – 28, 2012

College? YES! is a city-wide effort to make sure that all of Springfield's young people graduate from high school and get into college.

The Mission: Raising aspirations and expectations that Springfield's youth can graduate from high school and go to college and building our adult capacity to help them get there.

The Focus: A weekend in October that impacts adults and children, on every athletic field, in every school building, on television and social media sites, and in supermarkets, salons, places of worship and related gathering places.

We need your help, passion and insight!

On October 26-28, wear your college t-shirt to work, church or at any and all activities. Share your story about how you got to college with a young person.

For more information, contact:

Ingrid Solano

Springfield Parent Academy

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Add your name to the organizations already involved in College? YES!

ACCESS Springfield Promise Program
American International College
Bay Path College
Baystate Health Systems
City of Springfield
Dunbar Y Family & Community Center
Early Childhood Centers of Greater Springfield
Elms College
Financial Stability Network of Hampden County
HCS Head Start
Holyoke Community College
Home City Families
Huntington Learning Center
Irene E. & George A. Davis Foundation
MassMutual
MCDI
Mt. Calvary Baptist Church
New Hope Pentecostal Church

Regional Employment Board of Hampden County
Springfield City Library
Springfield College
Springfield Jewish Community Center
Springfield Parent Academy
Springfield Technical Community College
Springfield Public Schools
Square One
Stand For Children
United Way of Pioneer Valley
Westfield State University
Western New England University
WGBY
Women's Fund of Western MA
YMCA of Greater Springfield



College? YES!

Springfield Participate!

Every Educator

Every School

Every Supermarket

Every Athletic Field

Every Community Program

Every Faith-Based Group

Every Business

Everybody. Each Day.

A Weekend of Aspiration.

Unemployment rates by level of education completed*

4.3% Bachelor's degree
or higher

8.3% Some college or
Associate's degree

9.3% High school
graduate, no college

15.0% Didn't complete
high school

* Seasonally adjusted figures for July 2011.
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
(<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.104.htm>)

Educators

Create age/stage appropriate lesson plans.

Local Businesses

All staff wear Colleges? YES! T-shirts and exhibit in-store poster displays.

Sports/Recreation Coaches

All coaches wear College? YES! T-Shirts and share age appropriate (you can do it!) messages.

College Students and Staff

Host parent "How To" sessions, college tours and have student ambassadors participate.

After School and Youth Serving Programs

Create program focus for weekend and share your catalogue of "Learning Opportunities."

Faith Based Community Members and Staff

Integrate college/aspiration theme into sermons or educational programs for youth.

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