




COUPER-OWENS CENTER FOR
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY

UACS Student Engagement Opportunities & Activities

Luann Kida, LMSW

Senior Director of Capacity Building and Implementation

RECRUITMENT & PLACEMENT PROCESS

Intern Recruitment & Placement

- Couper-Owen Center/BUCS is Binghamton University's largest field placement site, serving partner school districts across the Southern Tier on NYS
- Interns must apply for our school-based internships. The application gathers information about transportation, desired population (primary, middle, high school) and previous experience
Application
- Every applicant is granted an interview - first step in building relationships and gaining insight on strengths, skills, and experience

ONBOARDING

- Interns begin with 3 day Prep Academy
 - Introduced to UACS
 - Understanding school systems
 - Review NYSED data for assigned site
- Setting the stage for learning:
 - Reminding everyone that this is about learning and we are there to teach
 - We encourage them to step outside their comfort zone
 - We work to build a culture of trusting relationships
- On site onboarding:
 - Interns complete a windshield assessment for the school district they are serving
 - Looking for resources in the community
 - Understand lack of resources
 - Explore neighborhoods and bus routes

BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY UACS STUDENTS

Students who are civically engaged are more likely to finish their degrees, pursue further higher education and become community leaders.

2024 / 2025

Center for Civic Engagement & Binghamton University Center for Community Schools Students

343
BU students



serving
28,981
hours

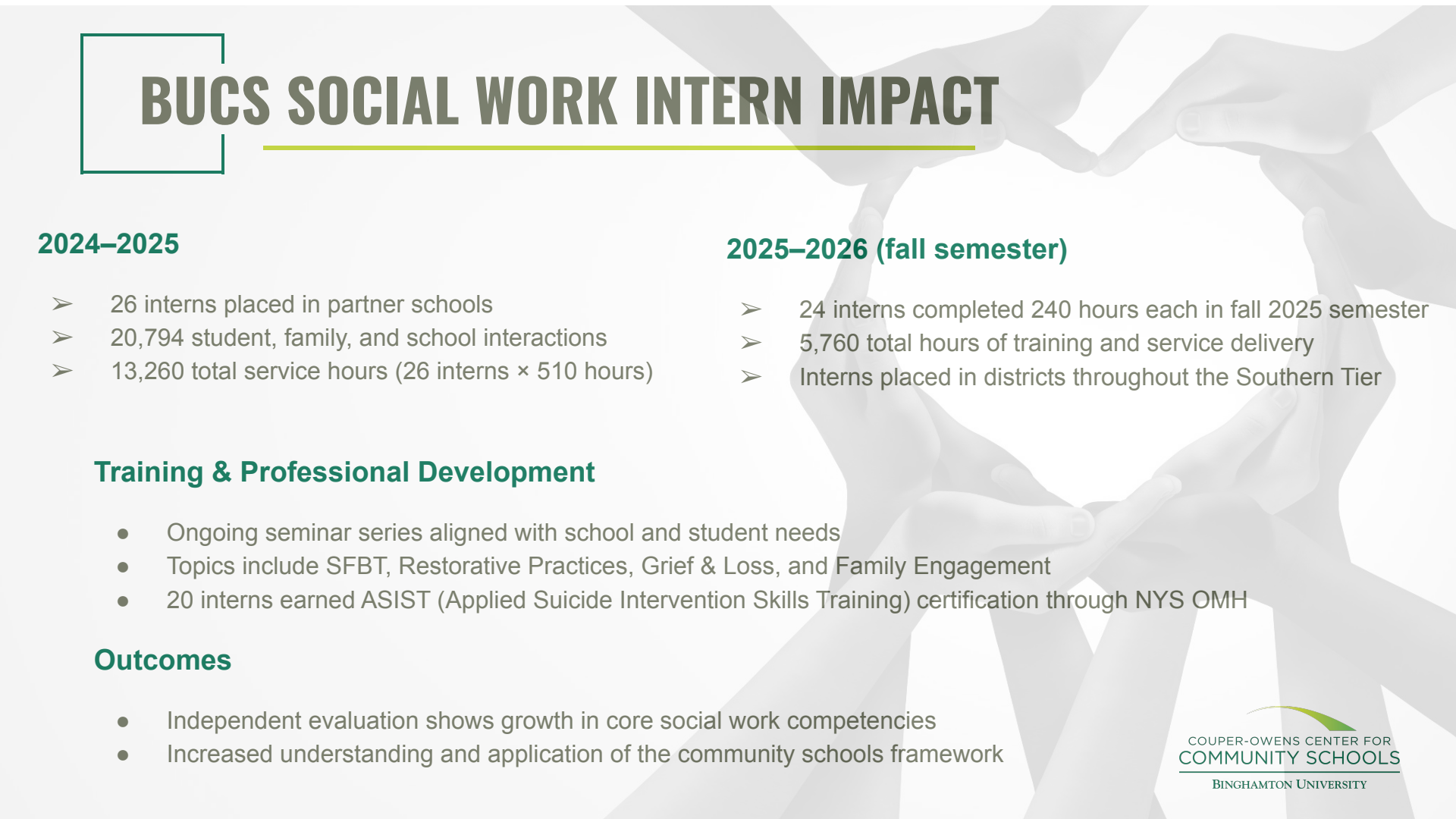


PK - 12 youth
69,872
Interactions

College Students from all academic disciplines expand resources and connections through:

- Drop in centers
- Classroom/academic support
- Family engagement and outreach
- Counseling & mentoring
- Diabetes and asthma education and support
- Financial literacy

Thank you Center for Civic Engagement (CCE) for providing their Youth Initiative Program data.
BUCCS Social Work Intern data merged with CCE data to produce 24/25 totals.



BUCS SOCIAL WORK INTERN IMPACT

2024–2025

- 26 interns placed in partner schools
- 20,794 student, family, and school interactions
- 13,260 total service hours (26 interns × 510 hours)

2025–2026 (fall semester)

- 24 interns completed 240 hours each in fall 2025 semester
- 5,760 total hours of training and service delivery
- Interns placed in districts throughout the Southern Tier

Training & Professional Development

- Ongoing seminar series aligned with school and student needs
- Topics include SFBT, Restorative Practices, Grief & Loss, and Family Engagement
- 20 interns earned ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) certification through NYS OMH

Outcomes

- Independent evaluation shows growth in core social work competencies
- Increased understanding and application of the community schools framework

REIMAGINING SCHOOLS COURSE & RESEARCH LAB

Undergraduate Course

- 4 credit course
- Community Engaged Learning designation
- Partnered with Johnson City High School and (newly) Windsor High School
- Students use UACS lens and problem solving learning framework to address community issues
 - Schools in food deserts; hygiene products in schools; mandated reporting in schools

Research Lab

- Undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students
- Connect to research in schools
- Qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods research opportunities
 - School mental health, makers spaces, family engagement for math

ADDITIONAL UNIVERSITY STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Graduate Assistants (GA)

- **Team:** 3 GAs supporting BUCS initiatives including: Mental Health Service Project Grants, Central/Western Community Schools Technical Assistance Center, 21st Century Technical Assistance Resource Center
- **Backgrounds:** Current social work majors; recruitment open to Public Admin, Student Affairs, etc.
- **Key Responsibilities:**
 - **Data & Reporting:** Collect, clean, analyze data; compile survey/registration feedback; support reporting
 - **Presentations & Events:** Develop presentations, support Zoom/meetings, assist with event planning, outreach, and professional development evaluation
 - **Administrative:** Prepare packets, manage supplies, attend team meetings, assist with van maintenance
- **Impact:** Support micro, macro, and mezzo-level BUCS initiatives

BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY INTERNS HARD AT WORK

