

# BUILDING EQUITABLE PATHWAYS

## POSTSECONDARY PREPARATION & PERSISTENCE

**The Problem:** Despite efforts by Minneapolis College and Saint Paul College to create equitable and inclusive learning environments, significant challenges persist in transitioning high school graduates to postsecondary education and achieving successful outcomes. There's a need to identify and implement strategies to improve postsecondary enrollment, persistence, and attainment, particularly for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) students.

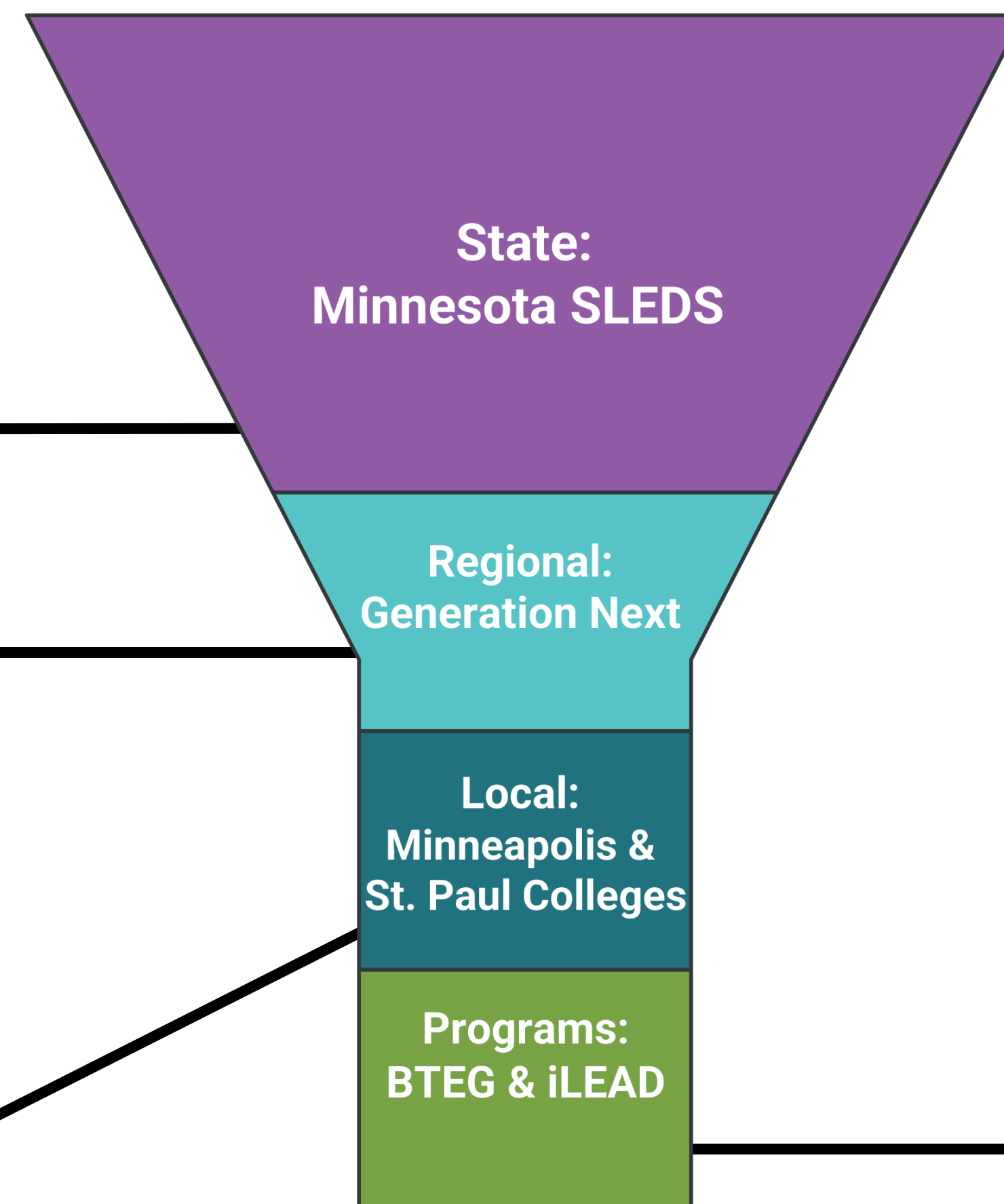


### MINNESOTA CONTEXT: ASSETS

- Minnesota created a system called SLEDS (Minnesota Statewide Longitudinal Education Data System) that tracks students from pre-K through college and into their careers.
- This allows the state to see how well education programs are working and how students move between different stages of learning and employment.

- Works to improve education for all students in Minneapolis and Saint Paul.
- Focused on closing achievement gaps and opportunity gaps between different racial and economic groups.
- Uses data and community input to decide what works best to make sure all students are prepared for college completion.

- Community Colleges
- Anti Racist & Trauma-Informed



### BTEG & iLEAD PROGRAMS

These culturally sustaining practices are being used across the colleges' strategies

#### BTEG (Bridging the Equity Gap) Scholarship Program *Minneapolis College*

BTEG is an opportunity for Black and Indigenous male students to be a part of a community engaged in experiential learning, mentorship and leadership. Through academic, social and cultural support, students will be equipped with a quality education and the tools to see greatness in themselves, others and the greater community.

#### iLEAD (Identity, Leadership, Excellence, Accountability, and Dedication) Fellowship Program *Saint Paul College*

iLEAD is a dynamic community-building initiative designed to provide comprehensive support and empower BIPOC male students on their educational journey. iLEAD is committed to enhancing retention, persistence, and completion rates, ultimately paving the way for successful careers and thriving wages.



### BTEG & iLEAD STUDENT ROLES

#### Co-creation of solutions:

Provide invaluable feedback on program design and implementation.

#### Living examples of equity:

Share their experiences to inform program improvements and advocacy efforts.

#### Beneficiaries of change:

Ultimately drive the impact of equity-minded programs.

