



Power 250: The 50 most powerful businesspeople in Western New York

By Michelle Cioci Adams – Editor-in-Chief, Buffalo Business First – March 27, 2026

Welcome to the 14th annual Power 250 list of powerful people in Western New York.

Every year, Business First compiles this list of people who are making changes and improvements throughout Buffalo and Western New York. The list varies every year based on events, news and promotions.

Each day this week we've introduced you to another part of this year's illustrious group. Monday, we shared Nos. 250 to 201; Tuesday, Nos. 200 to 161; Wednesday, Nos. 160 to 116; Thursday, Nos. 115 to 51; and today, finally, the top 50. They are listed below in alphabetical order; to see where they rank, check out the slideshow above.

Elizabeth Woike, CEO, BestSelf Behavioral Health. At-large trustee, Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation; president, Value Network IPA; secretary, New York State Council for Community Behavioral Health Care; former boards, Buffalo Niagara Partnership, Hilbert College, Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus, Mental Health Advocates of Western New York.