African American Leadership Society

It Takes a Village

United Way’s African American Leadership Society (AALS) embodies a culture of caring and giving. We are defining and building the future we want for our community. We empower our members to lift up one another and answer the call to be a part of creating the conditions for every African American Quad Citizen to live their best possible life.

Our Society focuses on fostering the next generation of African American leaders all while helping to make an impact in the Quad Cities region. Within our Society, members are invited to volunteer, attend annual events and gatherings where we have fellowship, celebrate one another’s successes, and mentor and learn from each other.

As an AALS member, you’ll enjoy these benefits:

- **Be a Community Impact Leader.** Share your ideas and build relationships with group members.
- **Lead Change:** Be a part of United Way’s movement to create the conditions for every Quad Citizen to live their best possible life. You have an opportunity to support a generational change.
- **Be Recognized as a Leadership Donor.** Receive philanthropic recognition as a United Way Leadership Donor.
- **Be an Unsung Hero.** Participate in at least two African American Leadership-exclusive volunteer opportunities throughout the year.
- **ENGAGE Events.** Socialize and network at fun events that help you connect and give back to our community.
INITIATIVES
AFRICAN AMERICAN LEADERSHIP SOCIETY

WELL SUITED
AALS proudly funds Well Suited, a mentoring program that pairs male African American professionals with African American boys in grades 1 – 9, in an effort to build relationships, promote confidence and inspire pride. Mentors not only serve as role models, but life instructors; providing educational and emotional support for their mentees.

TARGETED IMPACT GRANT
United Way’s AALS will partner with an elementary school in Scott or Rock Island County to address the disparities in education; more specifically in the areas of kindergarten readiness and third grade reading proficiency of African American students.

SPEAKERS BUREAU
AALS members help advance the community awareness of the disparities in our region’s African American community. Members may participate in public speaking opportunities that might include how to improve diversity and inclusion practices, facts about local academic and economic achievement within the African American community or details about an upcoming AALS program or event.

EMBRACE RACE LUNCHEON
Hosted by AALS, this is an annual gathering of Quad Cities business leaders and young African American boys to encourage and honor these young men.

Ready to join and make a difference?
The annual membership commitment for the African American Leadership Society is a $1,000 donation to help African American youth in the Quad Cities region live their best possible lives.

Step-Up Program
You can become an AALS member through the Step-Up program. Start with a step-up gift amount that incrementally increases over a three-year period while you enjoy membership benefits starting year one.