

AALS: AFRICAN AMERICAN LEADERSHIP SOCIETY



Become a part of the solution toward improving African American lives.

The African American Leadership Society (AALS) is a network of motivated advocates, donors and volunteers who are eager to support and enhance educational opportunities for all Quad Cities African American kids.

Children who cannot read proficiently by the end of third grade are **four times more likely to drop out of high school**. They are also more likely to experience long-term behavioral and mental health issues.

Reading proficiently by third grade is the single greatest predictor of future success. This is because third grade is when children transition from learning to read to reading to learn.

Children are born ready to learn; it's on us to give them the right opportunities. Through investing our time as well as the right resources, we have the ability to make huge strides in narrowing the reading proficiency gap among our young Black learners. We invite you to join us.

OUR GOAL:
INCREASE BY 50%
THE NUMBER OF BLACK
3RD GRADERS READING
PROFICIENTLY BY 2030

CHALLENGE: 34%
OF BLACK 3RD GRADERS
READ AT OR ABOVE
PROFICIENCY LEVEL

**AFRICAN AMERICAN
LEADERSHIP SOCIETY**



UNITED WAY
Quad Cities

GIVE MONTHLY. CHANGE LIVES DAILY.

When you join AALS, you are supporting these FIVE STRATEGIES:

- 1** Enable tutors to read with children and those from economically disadvantaged backgrounds for at least 30 minutes per week.
- 2** Provide mentoring that includes emphasizing the value of education—not sports, not entertainment, not games—when Black children are 2 to 12 years old.
- 3** Give children books for their birthdays, holidays, during haircuts and to reward them for jobs well done.
- 4** Conduct vision screenings, eye exams and glasses for children in low-income communities, at no cost to the children or their families.
- 5** Offer free haircuts at school so kids feel good, are confident and are able to concentrate on learning.



AALS Giving Levels:

Early Career

- ▶ Individuals under 40 years old
- ▶ Recommend starting with a donation of \$30 per month or \$360 annually

Experienced Contributors

- ▶ Individuals over 40 years old
- ▶ Recommend starting with a donation of \$85 per month or \$1,000 annually*

*A step-up program is available with an initial investment of \$500.

Members receive these benefits:

- ▶ Recognition as an impactful leader and QC change-maker
- ▶ Receive monthly AALS updates regarding events, volunteer projects and philanthropic opportunities
- ▶ Grow personally and professionally through events, volunteering and exclusive committees
- ▶ Be empowered through an engaged and motivated community
- ▶ Make a life-changing difference in the lives of kids

Looking to learn more?

Get involved at UnitedWayQC.org/AALS.



» JOIN TODAY!

If you're fired up to make a lasting difference in the lives of our Black community, we welcome you.

For more information email us at aals@unitedwayqc.org.

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