

MEDIA ALERT

Oct. 24, 2019

- **Contact:**
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United Way
of Greater Toledo

Reading Mentorship Program for African American Boys Kicks Off

- WHO:** Dr. Romules Durant, Superintendent, Toledo Public Schools
Jason Kucsma, Director, Toledo Lucas Co. Public Library
Dr. Patrice McClellan, Co-Chair, *African American Leadership Council* of United Way
Rhonda Sewell, Member, *African American Leadership Council* of United Way
Willie Ward, Principal, Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy for Boys
- WHAT:** *African American Leadership Council* of United Way (AALC) is excited to kickoff their "Real Men READ-y" program at Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy for Boys, which formally runs from mid-October to May.
- Real Men READ-y is a signature program of AALC, coordinated by Read for Literacy. Real Men READ-y pairs African American male professionals with African American boys in kindergarten through first grade.
- Currently, Real Men READ-y operates in two Toledo Public Schools: Leverette Elementary and Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy for Boys.
- There are 33 mentors and 47 mentees enrolled. In the '18-'19 schoolyear, Real Men READ-y distributed a total of 282 books to mentees in a six-month period.
- WHEN:** **Tuesday, October 29, 2019 (NEWS CONFERENCE)**
9:30 a.m.
- WHERE:** Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy for Boys
School Library
1300 Forest Ave.
Toledo, OH, 43607

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United Way of Greater Toledo, serving Lucas, Wood and Ottawa counties, unites the caring power of people to improve lives. Together, we're on a mission to change lives forever in our community by investing in programs focused on education, financial stability, and healthy lifestyles. We tackle the tough problems in these areas by funding and partnering with the most effective local organizations who create real opportunities and get results. LIVE UNITED by visiting www.unitedwaytoledo.org.