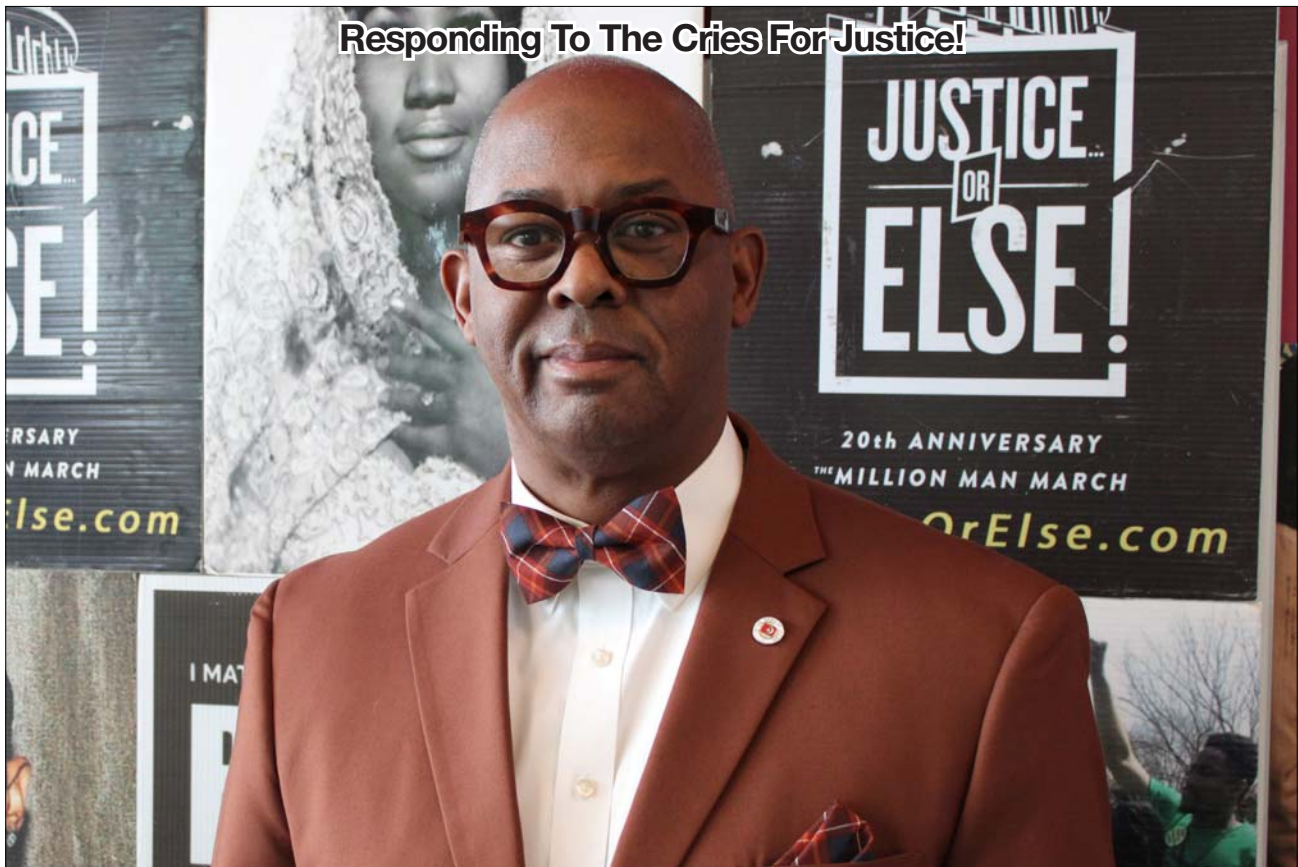


# The Sojourner's Truth

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Volume 83 No. 4 "And Ye Shall Know The Truth..." April 10, 2024



Brother Washington Muhammad, Community Solidarity Response Network

## WHAT'S YOUR VACATION FLAVOR?

EUGENE F. KRANZ  
TOLEDO EXPRESS AIRPORT  
allegiant.com

# The Dawn of Sky Nation: A Grassroots Revival

By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, Ph.D.

The Truth Contributor



*The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new.*

- Socrates (as quoted by Dan Millman)

When the Lucas County Democratic Party elects Schuyler Beckwith as its new Party Chair at its Central Committee Reorganization Meeting scheduled for **April 17**, the transition will be more than a mere changing of the guard.



Schuyler Beckwith

Instead, the passing of the baton from outgoing chair Paula Hicks-Hudson to Beckwith marks the onset of a new era, a new vision, and potentially a significant transformation in Party ethos and strategy.

Schuyler Beckwith was, quite literally, born into community organizing and political activism. So, her new Sky Nation Movement and its "reach out and rally" mantra isn't just about changing faces or refreshing the Dems' slogans. It's about fundamentally rethinking and reinvigorating how the Party engages with its base and beyond. It is a pledge to spread the Dem's influence through a more distributed power base, a commitment to not only listen but to act on the voices of the people, and a strategy to rejuvenate wards and precincts that have slipped into apathy.

Under Beckwith's stewardship, we are on the cusp of what promises to be a rejuvenating chapter in the Party's history. A key Party figure describes the dawn of Sky Nation as "a seismic shift towards a younger, more vibrant, and

inclusively welcoming political entity."

I caught up with Beckwith to explore the contours of this transition, examining how her leadership could redefine the Party's identity, strategy, and approach to our local politics.

**Perryman:** Did Paula Hicks-Hudson inform you she's not running for Lucas County Democratic Party Chair again?

**Beckwith:** Yes, she called me. I've previously shown interest in the chair role, and we've discussed it. A couple of weeks ago, she confirmed she wouldn't seek re-election and offered her support.

**Perryman:** Talk about your history and the journey from a child to presumed Party Chair.

**Beckwith:** I was an infant born when my mom, Lindsay Potts, was running one of Representative Marcy Kaptur's earliest campaigns. I was on the table in my little bassinet at Democratic headquarters, where everybody was sitting around doing mailers. And, my dad, Dave Beckwith, was a community organizer and an activist through and through and did a lot of organizing work. That's what brought him to Toledo. Peter Ujvagi convinced him to come to town and run the East Toledo Community Organizing Network. That kind of awareness of activism and politics has been in my blood.

**Perryman:** Please share your organizing experience with our readers.

... continued on page 3



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# The Devil Lunches at Mar-A-Lago

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq

Guest Column

"He who belongs to God, hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God." John 8:47. (NIV version).

The abomination of too many in the White evangelical churches implicitly assenting or outright supporting the blasphemies of Donald Trump is on full display. Donald Trump is blatant with his posturing of wrapping himself in the Christian dogmas of being a Messiah like figure to his MAGA base.

At recent political rallies, Donald Trump is beginning to conflate Christian religious statements and his vainglorious appeal of being a god-like figure with his standard political strategies of obfuscation and downright deceit.

No longer does Donald Trump politely correct anyone who refers to him as the "other" Messiah or when they state in gross hyperbole that he is sent by God for these times, but rather he softly demurs and graciously accepts their political crown of softly braided thorns.

When the crowd cried out to Pilate that they did not want Jesus but Barrabas instead, Donald Trump quickly morphed into the incarnation of the rebel Barrabas who is fighting for them and their country not to be overtaken by those "others."

By any means possible, Donald Trump is inching himself towards finding space in the extant Holy Trinity and thus shape-shift himself into the MAGA Messiah and, by sheer force of will, re-make it into a Holy Quartet.

The Pharisees and Sadducees of this modern age (a/k/a: spineless GOP politicians and sold-out evangelists) have dutifully thrown in their religious garb and have uttered pious sounding phrases to give the false patina that God has sent a devil in a blue suit and extended red tie to be both the redeemer and political sin bearer of this country.

Shame? Sadly, there is no shame for the many charlatans or religiously ignorant dupes that occupy too many White evangelical pulpits, that they are not ready to risk their ministries, income or status to stand in the gap and pronounce an "ICHABOD!" on this political/religious fleecing of America.

When you watch the Trump rallies and notice that he is more and more assuming the mantle of a quasi-savior and is beginning to utter words that speak in near Messianic terms, you come to realize that Elmer Gantry and P.T. Barnum have cohabited and have birthed a spawn worthy of the devil.

Why is this important? Because if allowed to prosper and flourish, it is only a matter of time until we would need in all honesty to take the phrase, "In God We Trust" off our coinage and simply allow a host of corrupted men and women to desecrate all things sacred and holy.

What should be troubling to all is that in too many White evangelical churches, speaking the Word in truth and authority is on the decline for fear of being ostracized by your congregants who want to hear soft and soothing sounds in their ears about America becoming great again.

For too many have shifted their allegiance to a raconteur like Donald Trump in return for a few morsels of emotional and mental thrills that allow them to believe that it is just a matter of time before Messiah Trump will restore all things to their proper order and usher in a new era of America (the country it used to be (remember: MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN!)?

Satan, who is called the father of lies, is a kind and patient parent to his offspring who mimic and model their behavior after him; and he is able to empower his spawn to do those acts that propagate a sense amongst his believers that Trump is their last hope for national restoration.

Chaos, confusion, division, hatred and lies are the stock in trade for Satan; and he gives the same liberally and copiously to his devotees including to those who believe that they are doing God's work.

Such is the nature of false religious confusion, a confusion that is borne of woeful ignorance of the Word of God and from that ignorance, Trump is amply fed and nourished and prowls around not being confronted by those who know better.

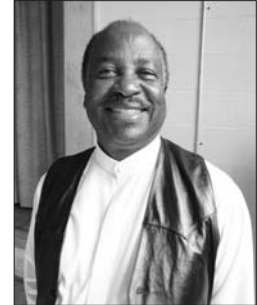
Understand that Donald Trump, who is amoral as they come, has no qualms about "pimping" off the evangelical community or exploiting their fears if it will result in votes for him.

He welcomes the adoration of certain church leaders who have gone a'whoring after other gods, because he has led them to wrongly believe that by he somehow surviving all his personal chaos and boasting about overturning Roe v. Wade, that he must be God ordained and approved!

So, the devil goes to lunch at Mar-A-Lago and over plates of yellowfin tuna, broccolini, potatoes au gratin, and buttery crescent rolls, he tutors and coaches his ace student on the finer points of victimhood, fascism and deflection.

For any Christian leader of whatever background or denomination who exhorts from his or her pulpit a mealy mouth message that is devoid of scripture regarding the perils of a Donald Trump; and who extols, champions or condones Donald Trump in derogation of Scripture warnings, I say "May the Lord rebuke you!"

Contact Lafe Tolliver at tolliver@juno.com



Perryman... continued from page 2

**Beckwith:** The first campaign I worked on was a special election in the Cincinnati area for a man named Paul Hackett. Then, I got a job working for Senator Sherrod Brown on his first Senate race in 2006. It really lit a fire under me and let me know I could make a real difference. That was the start of my campaign political experience, and I haven't stopped since.

I've run campaigns locally for Nick Komives, Carrie Hartman and Katie Moline, which gives me some unique experience to take over as chair. That on-the-ground grassroots experience is something we need to get the vote out in Lucas County this year.

**Perryman:** What type of platform are you bringing to the Party?

**Beckwith:** I'm zeroing in on three critical areas: structure, support and

... continued on page 6

## Community Calendar

**April 11**  
Toledo Lucas County Health Department Presents Black Motherhood: Tackling Postpartum Depression Thursday: 11:00am to 2:00pm; Kent Branch Library

**April 12**  
Cherry Legacy Meeting: Wayman Palmer YMCA; 10:30 am

**April 20**  
Toledo Lucas County Health Department Presents Black Motherhood: Tackling Postpartum Depression: In collaboration with Cribs 4 Kids and CareSource. Healthy You/Healthy Kids Saturday; 11:00am to 2:00 pm; Wayman Palmer YMCA

9th Annual Ode to the Zip Code Winners Announced: Main Branch Library; 2-4 pm; youth, young adult and adult categories winners announces

**April 24**  
Warren Sherman Area Council Community Meeting: 6 pm; Wayman Palmer YMCA; A reorganization of the council is the main agenda point

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# Trump, Allies Seek to Bolster Anti-racism Protections for White People

By Stacy Brown, NNPA Newswire  
Special to The Truth

Donald Trump's history is riddled with instances of racism and racially charged remarks, which have only intensified as he faces legal challenges and seeks a return to the White House. Despite his claims to the contrary, Trump's language and actions consistently reveal deep-seated bigotry.

In response to his four criminal indictments and 91 felony charges, Trump has attacked prosecutors and judges, often resorting to explicitly racist language. He's labeled Black prosecutors handling his cases as "animals," "criminals," and "racists," using language that resonates with his supporters and incites further division.

Trump's past is marred by accusations of discrimination, including a lawsuit alleging he refused to rent apartments to Black tenants in the 1970s. He infamously called for the execution of the Central Park Five, despite their subsequent exoneration, and has made derogatory remarks about Native Americans, Latinos, Asians, and other minority groups.

During his presidency, the twice-impeached Trump promoted racist narratives, such as suggesting immigrants from certain countries were undesirable and pushing the debunked "birther" conspiracy theory against Barack Obama. He enacted policies like the Muslim ban and targeted fair housing rules, all while using inflammatory language to sow fear and hatred.

Trump's rhetoric has encouraged his supporters, and despite facing legal scrutiny and condemnation, Trump's influence on far-right movements and conspiracy theories persists, posing a threat to democracy and exacerbating racial tensions.

According to a report from Axios, Trump and his allies are plotting anti-racism protections for white people. The report said the proposed shift would see a redirection of focus from combating discrimination against people of color to what they term "anti-white racism."

Underpinning the push is a flurry of legal actions orchestrated by Trump-aligned groups, notably America First Legal, founded by former Trump aide Stephen Miller. Leveraging the language of civil rights, these groups have challenged existing policies and norms, with some cases achieving notable success.

For example, contemporary legal disputes have focused on discriminatory practices within the entertainment and professional sports sectors, alleging that affirmative action-like initiatives put white people at a disadvantage.

The Heritage Foundation's "Project 2025," which envisions a Trump administration dismantling what they perceive to be "affirmative discrimination," is one organization that has articulated a larger agenda. Central is the assertion that policies designed to uplift marginalized communities come at the expense of others.

As Axios reported, America First cited the Civil Rights Act of 1964 in a lawsuit against CBS and Paramount Global for what the group argued was discrimination against a white, straight man who was a writer for the show "Seal Team" in 2017. The group also filed a civil rights complaint against the NFL over its "Rooney Rule," which was instituted in 2003 and expanded in 2022.

American First argued that "given the limited time frame to hire executives and coaches after the season, this results in fewer opportunities for similarly situated, well-qualified candidates who are not minorities."

In 2021, Miller's group successfully sued to block the implementation of a \$29 billion pandemic-era program for women- and minority-owned restaurants, saying it discriminated against white-owned businesses.

"This ruling is the first, but crucial, step towards ending government-sponsored racial discrimination," Miller said then. Axios also highlighted that Trump-aligned groups have gained momentum with the Supreme Court's turn to the right — most notably its recent rejection of affirmative action in college admissions.

The court ruled that programs designed to benefit people of color and address past injustices discriminate against white and Asian Americans. A federal judge blocked a \$4 billion program to help Black farmers in 2021. Last month, another federal judge ruled that the Commerce Department's Minority Business Development Agency discriminated against white people and that the program must be open to everyone.

Most recently, The Legal Insurrection Foundation filed the legal complaint with the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights. The conservative nonprofit says its mission is devoted to advancing free expression and academic freedom on campuses.

The foundation claims that a George Floyd Memorial Scholarship, offered at North Central University in Minneapolis, violates Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which "prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color and national origin in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance."

"Every institution in America is under attack from this Marxist concept of 'equity,'" Trump said in 2023. "I will get this extremism out of the White House, out of the military, out of the Justice Department, and out of our government."

Stacy M. Brown is the NNPA Newswire senior national correspondent.

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# Brother Washington Muhammad and The Rise of CSRN

By Asia Nail

The Truth Reporter

In the heart of Toledo, Ohio, a beacon of hope shines brightly amidst the challenges faced by the Black community. Founded in 2014 by **Brother Washington Muhammad**, the Community Solidarity Response Network of Toledo (**CSRN**) emerged as a response to the cries for justice echoing after the tragic events surrounding Michael Brown's death in Missouri, in which the police officer was not prosecuted. CSRN is more than just a reaction; it's a proactive force for positive change, a guiding light in the fight for social justice.

Here in the Glass City, CSRN stands at the gateway, diligently crafting a narrative of empowerment for the Black community. Through peaceful protests following the murder of George Floyd in 2020, they showcased the power of collective action, transforming pain into purpose.

"I'm a proud born and bred Ohioan through and through," says Brother Washington.

"CSRN of Toledo strives to be a grassroots, boots on the ground organization, embodying the spirit of action and solidarity."

Their network's impact extends beyond our city streets. With podcast programming, community events and awards ceremonies, CSRN celebrates the unsung heroes within our midst. Like shining stars in the night sky, these ordinary individuals illuminate the path towards un-ordinary progress, reminding us that positivity thrives even in the darkest of times.

At the heart of the Community Solidarity Response Network lies a commitment to intergenerational continuity. They nurture the seeds of change, encouraging the next generation to embrace their responsibility in shaping a brighter future. In a world often overshadowed by negativity, they offer a sanctuary of hope, where the voices of the marginalized are not just heard but amplified.

Jodie Summers is not just the treasurer for CSRN; he's a passionate poet and spoken word artist whose words resonate with the heartbeats of the community. With each verse, he weaves a tapestry of resilience and empowerment, inspiring others to rise up and claim their voices. As a vital member of CSRN, Jodie brings his creative energy to the forefront, using poetry as a tool for social change and collective healing

Julian Mack is another dedicated member of CSRN, with a fiery commitment to the Black Lives Matter movement. For Julian, activism isn't just a choice; it's a necessity—a vital component of survival in a world rife with systemic injustices. Believing in the power of collective action, he tirelessly advocates for equality and justice, urging others to join the fight for liberation.

At the heart of CSRN's mission lies a commitment to nurturing self-esteem, particularly within our underserved communities. In a recent podcast episode, Mack read an excerpt by feminist author Bell Hooks. In her insightful work, *We Real Cool: Black Men & Masculinity*, Hooks challenges the notion that salvation for Black men lies solely in external achievements. Instead, she urges readers all to look within, recognizing ourselves as the source of their own well-being.

"We must take ownership of our destiny and rely on ourselves, rather than waiting for others to care for the Black community," shares Brother Muhammad.

In a world where fear and frustration often silence marginalized voices, CSRN provides a platform for expression and empowerment. Through poetry, music, and dance, they celebrate Black life, cultivating spaces where children can play without fear and youth can express themselves without judgment.

In today's world, mental health is increasingly recognized as a revolutionary frontier for Black people, yet CSRN's emphasis on self-esteem is more crucial than ever. CSRN fosters an environment where individuals can cultivate personal integrity and self-acceptance, serving as a foundation upon

...continued on page 8



Washington Muhammad



Washington Muhammad, Anika Fields, Kawana Hunter questioning the criminal justice system in Swanton

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*Perryman...continued from page 3*

strategy. To navigate the needs of our time, I need to raise money; I need to bring folks together to raise money so we can support candidates and make sure we have a robust, coordinated campaign this year, but also build that structure for campaign management for future candidates.

We're facing a pivotal year and have several candidates that we need to get elected, from Dr. Brittany Jones for Toledo City Council up to Marcy Kaptur's significant congressional run. We say this every year, but this is truly the most important election of our lifetime. Democracy is at stake. Therefore, my focus is going to be on fundraising and candidate support.

**Perryman:** Please tell me more about the theme I'm hearing out in the community called Sky Nation.

**Beckwith:** Sky Nation is a spreadsheet kind of conversation. How do I address the brain trust? I think it speaks to the community that I've built around me.

I learned from my dad in the early days of organizing and when I first got involved in campaigns that a good organizer knows how to organize themselves out of a job. You surround yourself with people who are really good at this work and give them the space, support and resources to do that work.

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I've been good at cultivating a community around me that is really good at what they do.

**Perryman:** Let's delve into details. Please share who's on your leadership slate and the key figures forming your advisory circle.

**Beckwith:** My team features me as chair, with Commissioner Pete Gerken stepping in as the first vice chair. Raina Dawson, an attorney at ABLE, will be the second vice chair. David Zovac, a long-time friend and current staffer for Representative Kaptur, will serve as secretary, while Daniel Ortiz continues his crucial role as treasurer. Daniel was pivotal in last year's issue campaigns and his decision to stay on is a significant asset to us.

Also, my closest allies, Nick Komives and Carrie Hartman, with whom I've shared a long professional journey, lend their support, enhancing our team's strength and cohesion.

**Perryman:** What distinguishes Sky Nation from the previous leadership eras of Hicks-Hudson, Ashford and others before them?

**Beckwith:** I am deeply grateful for Senator Hicks-Hudson's contributions. She stepped in at a tough time and steered us to where we are today, and I'm so thankful. Moving forward, having a chair who isn't an elected official could be beneficial. I've pledged not to seek office in my first term to focus entirely on this crucial role. That will be helpful and different from what we've seen in recent years.

**Perryman:** Given the prevalence of older candidates in the presidential race and the aging demographics of Congress and the Senate, how do you plan to make the Lucas County Democratic Party more relevant and engaging to younger voters?

**Beckwith:** I acknowledge the presence of seasoned leaders within our ranks, yet I commend President Biden and U.S. Senator Brown for their dedicated service and achievements over the past four years. Absolutely no one fights harder for our state than Senator Brown. In addition, we see in the news the tireless efforts Representative Kaptur makes for her district all the time. It is crucial to highlight these accomplishments.

So, I want to celebrate their work, but I also want to ensure local candidates feel supported by the Party. This means offering them resources and support for their campaigns and emphasizing the importance of reaching voters across all areas of Lucas County.

To this end, I have already started engaging with various community groups and attending club meetings all across the county. I was at the Sylvania Dems last week, and I'm planning to go to the Holland-Springfield group next week. I'm also connecting with the Latino Alliance. I'm making sure that people know that we are invested in our candidates and elected officials and their work on our behalf.

**Perryman:** Can you elaborate on the importance of reaching the suburbs in these upcoming elections?

**Beckwith:** This reflects the dynamism of our expanding community and the exceptional organizing efforts in regions like the Anthony Wayne area, where tireless work has significantly boosted Democratic Central Committee representation. These efforts underscore the importance of tapping into population shifts while keeping sight of our diverse voter base. Voters span various demographics and locations, so I am dedicated to maintaining and strengthening connections with communities throughout the county.

**Perryman:** What is a strategy for improving central city voter turnout, which has been extremely low, particularly for primaries and non-Obama-led presidential races?

**Beckwith:** My roots are in grassroots organizing, so door-to-door engagement with voters is still the most important way to connect. Despite technological advances and digital marketing, personal outreach by knocking on doors or calling on the phone is unparalleled in ensuring voter turnout. That approach is crucial for supporting Dr. Brittany Jones and Mac Driscoll in their Toledo City Council races. Brittany Jones has never been on the ballot before, so we must ensure she has the support she needs in Toledo to win. I'm committed to making sure we have a robust, coordinated campaign.

**Perryman:** Is there anything you want to add that maybe I should have asked?

**Beckwith:** I'm deeply grateful for Senator Hicks-Hudson's contributions and the leadership she's shown me. Her guidance has been invaluable on this journey, and along with the efforts of people like Representative Kaptur, they've paved the way for me to where I am today.

Having such role models has been inspiring. Despite the challenges ahead, I'm genuinely excited about our team and the positive changes we're poised to make. There's much work yet to be done, but I'm optimistic about the future.

**Perryman:** I can feel the energy already. Here's to Sky Nation's success. Best of luck!

**Beckwith:** Thank you!

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, PhD, at [drdlperryman@centerofhope-baptist.org](mailto:drdlperryman@centerofhope-baptist.org)



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CSRN... continued from page 5

which a strong sense of self-worth can be built.

"Much of my career has been dedicated to the field of professional mental health and substance abuse, where I strive to make a positive impact and offer support to those in need of healing and recovery," says Brother Muhammad.

Self-acceptance is another radical act of defiance against societal norms that seek to diminish the worth and beauty of Black bodies and minds. Embracing one's identity, flaws and strengths fosters a sense of belonging and self-worth, empowering Black individuals to resist internalized oppression and embrace their unique identities unapologetically. In a society that often perpetuates self-doubt and insecurity among Black people, self-acceptance becomes an act of rebellion, reclaiming agency and dignity.

For many the journey towards reclaiming lost self-esteem is not without its challenges. Many people within our Black communities, despite outward success, grapple with feelings of low self-esteem, stemming from a sense of powerlessness and victimhood. CSRN recognizes the importance of confronting past traumas and systemic injustices, empowering individuals to challenge negative stereotypes and redefine their self-worth.

Personal integrity and living purposefully are not just abstract concepts; they are essential pillars of empowerment for all Black individuals. Personal integrity forms the foundation of one's character, guiding actions and decisions with honesty and moral principles. For Black people navigating a world rife with stereotypes and systemic barriers, personal integrity serves as a compass, guiding them towards authenticity and ethical behavior in the face of adversity.

CSRN also celebrates Juneteenth and their annual Black Lives Matter Day together serving as a poignant reminder of the resilience and unity within Toledo's Black community. Through themes like Black Unity & Black Love, they foster a sense of belonging, honoring the contributions of every member, shining a spotlight on the unsung heroes, while ensuring their stories are not lost in the noise of indifference.

But CSRN's work is not confined to celebrations; it's a journey towards justice. They also engage with local government officials, ensuring that the voices of our black community are not only heard but actively considered in policy-making decisions. By honoring those lost to police violence and advocating for

systemic change, they stand as a beacon of resistance against injustice.

"By empowering ourselves and taking action, we can build a stronger, more resilient future for generations to come," says Brother Washington.

Through a variety of initiatives, including spoken word sessions, soulful gatherings, and community events, they create spaces where Black voices can thrive and self-expression is celebrated. By promoting local businesses and uplifting cultural traditions, CSRN fosters a sense of belonging and pride within our community.

In a symbolic gesture honoring Black History Month, the Pan-African flag was proudly raised in front of One Government Center. Among those gathered for the occasion were Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz, representatives from the NAACP Toledo, members of the Community Solidarity Response Network of Toledo, the Board of Lucas County Commissioners, several Toledo City Council members and state Sen. Paula Hicks-Hudson. The event served as a poignant reminder of the significance of Black culture in Toledo. The Pan-African Flag, also called the Black Liberation Flag, was created in 1920 by the Universal Negro Improvement Association and was designed by Marcus Garvey.

"It's vital to recognize the intersections of our journeys within the Black community, and to uplift and empower each other to engage actively in social justice, faith, and every avenue that leads us towards collective liberation and equity," says Brother Washington.

While CSRN has no religious affiliations, it embraces the peaceful principles of Kwanzaa and fosters an environment where positive values from various faiths intertwine harmoniously.

It is clear that CSRN's impact extends far beyond individual empowerment; it's about collective strength and solidarity. By engaging with local governments, advocating for policy change, and honoring those lost to police violence, they amplify the voices of the marginalized and demand justice for all.

In this world where systemic inequalities persist, CSRN serves as a change maker, illuminating the path towards a more equitable future. In the journey towards justice, every voice matters and CSRN and Brother Washington Muhammad hope to help create a world where all individuals are valued, respected and empowered to thrive.

Follow CSRN of Toledo @ Facebook.com/Community Solidarity Response Network of Toledo & @ Instagram.com/CSRNToledo

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Washington Muhammad and Donald Lynn leading Kwanzaa service



Washington Muhammad - at podium - explains the reasons for raising the Pan African flag during Black History Month



Washington Muhammad and Jodie Summers at the podcast



Washington and Yvette Muhammad





# Pathway for Successful Leadership: New Hub Partner at Reynolds Elementary

By Dawn Scotland  
The Truth Reporter

Pathway for Successful Leadership, Inc. is the new lead Hub partner at Reynolds Elementary school. The nonprofit has spearheaded an adopt-a-hallway program at Reynolds Elementary which will provide greater support and visibility to address the varying needs of the Toledo Public School.

On Tuesday, March 26, Principal Tiffany Dent, Vice Principal Keith Jordan, Executive Director of Toledo Public Schools Rogers Area Therea Quinn and Tyra Smith, president and CEO of Pathways for Successful Leadership, met with the community partners that each adopted a hallway at Reynolds.

The community partners are:

- The University of Toledo
- Richards Health Systems
- Toledo Buffalo Soldiers
- Mt. Zion Church
- Compassion Church
- After School All Stars
- Unison Mental Health

The goal is that each partner adopts the needs of the hall. This can range from much needed teacher supplies to winter gloves and hats and even tutoring, elaborated Smith.

P4SL currently partners with several schools in the district.

...continued on page 11



Tyra Smith (CEO & President of P4SL), Reynolds Elementary School Principal Tiffany Dent and community partner Compassion



Representatives from Unison Health in their adopted hallway at Reynolds school



Reynolds Community Hub Partner Buffalo Soldiers with Reynolds Elementary School student



Tyra Smith (CEO & President of P4SL), Reynolds Elementary School Principal Tiffany Dent and community partner Afterschool All Stars



Tiffany Dent, Principal of Reynolds Elementary School, speaks with Hub Community Partners

## 2024 ST. FRANCIS DE SALES SUMMER CAMPS

FOR MORE DETAILS AND REGISTRATION PLEASE VISIT [SFSKNIGHTS.ORG/CAMPS](https://sfsknights.org/camps)

<p><b>FOOTBALL CAMPS</b>  <b>M-T   June 10-11 • 9:00am-10:30am</b>                  Location: SFS Practice Fields                  For those entering grades 3-6 (Boys)                  Cost: \$30  <b>M-T   June 10-11 • 11:00am-12:30pm</b>                  Location: SFS Practice Fields                  For those entering grades 7-9 (Boys)                  Cost: \$30</p> <p><b>FOOTBALL/BASKETBALL COMBO CAMP</b>                  Cost: \$50</p> <p><b>BASKETBALL CAMPS</b>  <b>M-T   June 10-11 • 9:00am-10:30pm</b>                  Location: SFS Main Gym                  For those entering grades 7-9 (Co-Ed)                  Cost: \$30  <b>M-T   June 10-11 • 11:00am-12:30pm</b>                  Location: SFS Main Gym                  For those entering grades 3-6 (Co-Ed)                  Cost: \$30</p> <p><b>SOCCER CAMPS</b>  <b>T-Th   June 18-20 • 10:00am-Noon</b>                  Location: SFS Practice Fields                  For those entering grades 1-5 (Co-Ed)                  Cost: \$80  <b>T-Th   June 25-27 • 10:00am-Noon</b>                  Location: SFS Practice Fields                  For those entering grades 6-9 (Boys)                  Cost: \$100</p> <p><b>BASEBALL CAMP</b>  <b>M-W   June 3-5 • 9:00am-Noon</b>                  Location: SFS Baseball Field                  For those entering grades 4-9 (Boys)                  Cost: \$60</p> <p><b>WATER POLO CAMP</b>  <b>T-Th   June 18-20 • 11:00am-1:00pm</b>                  Location: SFS Natatorium                  For those entering grades 7-9 (Boys)                  Cost: \$50</p>	<p><b>GOLF CAMP</b>  <b>T-F   June 18-21 • 9:00am-Noon</b>                  Location: McDivots Driving Range                  For those entering grades 4-12 (Co-Ed)                  Cost: \$125</p> <p><b>CHEERLEADING CAMPS</b>  <b>T-W   June 18-19 • 6:30pm-8:30pm</b>                  Location: SFS Practice Fields                  For those entering grades PreK-5 (Girls)                  Cost: \$30  <b>Th-F   June 20-21 • 6:30pm-8:30pm</b>                  Location: SFS Practice Fields                  For those entering grades 6-8 (Girls)                  Cost: \$30</p> <p><b>LACROSSE CAMP</b>  <b>T-Th   July 9-11 • 4:30pm-6:00pm</b>                  Location: SFS Practice Fields                  For those entering grades 1-4 (Boys)                  Cost: \$40</p> <p><b>ROBOTICS CAMP</b>  <b>M-Th   July 15-18 • 9:00am-Noon</b>                  Location: SFS                  For those entering grades 4-8 (Co-Ed)                  Cost: \$125</p> <p><b>CHOIR CAMP</b>  <b>M-Th   June 24-27 • 9:00am-Noon</b>                  Location: SFS Band Room                  For those entering grades 7-12 (Co-Ed)                  Cost: \$50</p> <p><b>MUSICAL THEATRE CAMP</b>  <b>T-Th   August 6-8 • 9:00am-11:00am</b>                  Location: SFS Band Room                  For those entering grades 5-8 (Co-Ed)                  Cost: \$50</p>
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# Central State University Names Top Senior Scholars from Four Colleges

Special to The Truth

Central State University announced its four top college scholars during the annual Academic Recognition Convocation (ARC) on Tuesday, April 2.

The 2024 Outstanding Senior Scholars included Raven Golliday of Cleveland, College of Business; Baijing Zinnerman of Indianapolis, Indiana, John W. Garland College of Engineering, Science, Technology, and Agriculture; Laketa Wright of Dayton, College of Education; and Daquan Neal of Mount Sterling, College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences.

F. Erik Brooks, PhD, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, offered opening remarks. "Though it may be dreary outside, there's no reason for it to be dreary in here. This is a celebration," he said.

"We are here to recognize and celebrate our students' academic successes as we commemorate 137 years of academic excellence at this premier institution of higher learning," Brooks continued.

Sarah Armstrong-Jones, PhD, interim executive director of the Honors College and International Affairs, and Honors College program manager brought the occasion by stating that Honors Day, the precursor to the ARC, began on April 14, 1954, when then-Central State College acknowledged 83 scholars.

"Fast forward to today, when we are recognizing over 1,000 students for class and college honors," Jones said. "The name may have changed to the Academic Recognition Convocation, but the spirit of the occasion is one that will live on in the students we see here today — students who are creative, talented, smart, and determined.

"The students at Central State University have been my students and my mentees for over 10 years, and I, like many of you, have heard their struggles, seen their perseverance, and been in awe of their accomplishments."

Jones addressed the students, saying they are a meaningful part of the university's history, culture, and future. She encouraged the students to sit up tall, push their shoulders back, and take pride in what they stand for and



(L. to R.): Central State University Interim President Alex Johnson, PhD; Raven Golliday, Outstanding Senior Scholar, College of Business; Baijing Zinnerman, Outstanding Senior Scholar, John W. Garland College of Engineering, Science, Technology, and Agriculture; Laketa Wright, Outstanding Senior Scholar, College of Education; Daquan Neal, Outstanding Senior Scholar, College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences; and F. Erik Brooks, PhD, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

whose shoulders they stand on.

"There is power in that," Jones said. "We honor you for making the choice to handle your business, to set goals and strive toward them, to not shy away from the hard work. To find balance. To be committed to something you are

...continued on page 11

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# Four Films Every Educator Teaching Black Students Should Watch

By Aziah Siid, | Word in Black | San Diego Voice and Viewpoint  
Special to The Truth

Racial prejudice and bullying, a lack of funding, inadequate mental health support, and inexperienced teachers — those are just some of the challenges Black students face in America's K-12 public schools. We see some of these issues show up on television on "Abbott Elementary," but representations of Black students and schools are a mixed bag on the big screen. Some films — we're looking at you, "Dangerous Minds" — dive right into the stereotype of the white savior teacher who rescues bad Black kids from their terrible neighborhoods and families.

So, where can teachers see accurate and empathetic representations of the struggles, successes, and joys of teaching Black kids in deliberately underfunded and disenfranchised schools?

And, most importantly, where are films that present possible suggestions and solutions for educators?

Here are four films every educator teaching Black students should watch. They'll give folks an idea what the challenges are, what solutions people are trying, and sometimes they make us smile:

### 1. The Great Debaters

Featuring Hollywood A-listers like Denzel Washington, Forest Whitaker, and Kimberly Elise, the 2007 hit movie, "The Great Debaters," is based on a true story about historical Wiley College's first debate team.

Portrayed by Denzel Washington, professor Melvin B. Tolson inspires the 1935 team to perform at their highest level as they go through a nearly undefeated season. The Southern heat, a lynch mob, Jim Crow, and sexism, all the while working tirelessly to make it to the championship match against Harvard University's debate team.

Whether it's opportunities not being presented, being judged harsher than their white counterparts, or simply the prejudice they receive from simply being Black, the film is a modern-day parallel to the challenges Black students, teachers, and coaches face when pursuing excellence.

### 2. Teach Us All

In 1957, nine African American students were escorted to the doors of Little Rock Central High School, three years after the Brown v. Board of Education decision deemed it illegal to segregate schools. During their first few attempts to enter, the students were spit on, blockaded, and forced out of Arkansas high school. But eventually, they would walk into the building.

Decades later, the discrimination and inequalities Black students faced then have taken on new shapes and forms all over the country. The 2017 documentary, "Teach Us All," produced by Ava DuVernay's film distribution company ARRAY, puts what happened in Little Rock as the backdrop to looking at education in three different cities — New York, Los Angeles,

and Little Rock. The film looks specifically at the roles of teachers in creating educational change, as well as how the community and students themselves are demanding justice.

### 3. Building Bridges

Being the first Black student to attend an all-white elementary school couldn't have been easy in 1960 Louisiana? But that was the reality for 6-year-old Ruby Bridges, who had to be protected by federal marshals as she entered William Frantz Elementary School in New Orleans.

The 1998 Disney-produced film about Bridges, who is now 69, was recently banned from a Florida school because a parent worried it would make her child feel guilty about racism. Given that school segregation jumped 35% from 1991 to 2020 in the 100 largest school districts, the depiction of Bridges' journey is a reminder of the role teachers can play in counteracting disrespect and racism in schools.

### 4. Waiting for Superman

School choice has been helpful for some families, harmful for others, and life changing for a select few.

The 2010 documentary, "Waiting for Superman," follows the five young New York City students during the high stakes lottery selection to get into one of the city's charter schools. Filmmaker Davis Guggenheim puts faces and names to education statistics and gives us a look at the education system from a parent and child perspective. It also sparks plenty of reflection on the lengths families will go to ensure their child has access to an excellent education, regardless of societal or economic status.

The post, "4 Films Every Educator Teaching Black Students Should Watch" first appeared on San Diego Voice and Viewpoint.



Central State University... continued from page 10

passionate about. To make the necessary sacrifices to come out successfully on the other end. To ask for help when the road got bumpy. To assist your peers when you saw they needed it. To give an uplifting and encouraging word to a stranger, and to simply (pursue) excellence in all that you do."

Golliday, the top College of Business scholar who also serves as the 76th Miss Central State University, welcomed attendees to the event.

"Today we honor students who have allowed learning to drive their pursuit of personal excellence despite the challenges we have experienced," Golliday said. "Today's honorees are true examples of what it means to embrace academic achievement. They have clearly proven themselves to be among the top of their class ... and continue to transform Central State University into a culture of true merit and intellectual excellence."

The ARC recognizes full-time students with high academic standing. Out-

standing Senior Scholars are selected based on high GPA, active participation in college activities, community service, and involvement in respective fields. College Scholars have a GPA of 3.50 or above. Class Scholars have a GPA of 3.20 to 3.49.

Pathway... continued from page 9

The vision of Pathway 4 Successful Leadership (P4SL) is "to provide a positive outlook and successful future to troubled, disruptive youth. Those youth that have a lack of confidence, self-esteem, trust and respect, which prevents learning in the classroom, the home, and society as a whole, will become productive members of their environment. Skills will be developed to not only produce leaders but Successful Leaders." (source p4sl.org)

...continued on page 13

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# What Families With College-Bound Students Need to Know This Spring

Special to The Truth

Perhaps even more nerve-wracking than waiting for your child's college acceptance letters is learning whether they've been awarded financial aid. Recent changes to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) designed to simplify the process have led to unforeseen hiccups and technical glitches, causing academic institutions to delay sending out financial aid award letters. However, once you finally get the results, it can give your family a better idea of what to do next.

"Our research shows that for a majority of parents, figuring out how to pay for college was the 'road to college' activity that caused them the most stress. By making a financial plan and prioritizing it, you can be well prepared to avoid the most common bumps in the road," explains Angela Colatrisano, chief marketing officer, College Ave.

Colatrisano recommends using the spring to teach your child these valuable financial skills: how to set up a budget, how to pay bills and how to manage credit. If your family will potentially be borrowing to finance college, students should also gain an understanding of how loans work, and how the different terms of the loan will affect their monthly payments and overall loan cost.

Speaking of budget, you should set a realistic budget for yourself. A recent College Ave survey found that in addition to helping pay for tuition and housing costs, parents also contribute to their child's phone bill (65%), health insurance (61%), food and groceries (42%), cable and internet bill (35%) and transportation (32%). Be realistic about which expenses you can afford and where you want to ask your child to chip in.

### Decode Award Letters

Financial aid award letters can look different for each school. Familiarize yourself with their components so that when they arrive, you'll be ready to decipher them. Here's what to look for:

1. Free money: The award letter will list whether your student is eligible for scholarships and grants (sometimes called Merit or Gift Aid). This is money you typically don't need to pay back.

2. Federal Work-Study: Your child might be eligible for Federal Work-Study jobs. While jobs aren't guaranteed, they can be a good opportunity to help cover educational expenses.

3. Student Loans: Schools will list any federal loans your child is eligible to receive. Helpful hint: They may be grouped with scholarships and grants. You should also note whether the loan is subsidized or unsubsidized. Because unsubsidized loans accrue interest while your student is enrolled and during deferment periods, this will affect the overall loan cost.

4. Other factors: Check if awards being offered are for all four years and understand what your child will need to do to continue being eligible for them, year-to-year.

To get an apples-to-apples look at the offers, calculate the net direct cost of each school by subtracting offered scholarships and grants from the cost of attendance (tuition, room, board, textbooks and fees). If applicable, you can subtract work-study aid too. You should also factor in expected increases in tuition, room, board and other fees.

### Fill in the Gaps

If after doing the math, you find you have a financial gap to cover, look into private scholarships. One easy one to enter on a monthly basis is College Ave's \$1,000 Scholarship Monthly Sweepstakes.

You may also want to consider a private student loan or parent loan. Look for a lender with great rates, flexible repayment terms, and the opportunity to customize the loan to fit your budget. For example, College Ave offers student loan calculators, a pre-qualification tool that offers quick answers without affecting your credit score, and other helpful tools and resources. To learn more, visit [CollegeAve.com](http://CollegeAve.com).

"The important thing is not to panic. If you filled out the FAFSA, financial aid award letters are on the way. And once you receive them, you and your student can get to the fun part of planning for the future," says Colatrisano.



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# Books for Poetry Month by Various Authors

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor

On your hands, you got lots of time.

You can make a song, you can make a rhyme. Make a long story, make a short one, write what you like, make it simple and fun. Writing poetry uses your imagination: you play with words, paint a picture, there's no intimidation. Creating poetry can be a breeze, or just reach for and read books exactly like these...

c. 2023, 2024  
various publishers  
\$18.99 - \$20.00  
various page counts

Picture books for the littles are a great way to introduce your three-to-seven-year-old to poetry because simple stories lend themselves to gentle rhymes and lessons. **See You on the Other Side** by Rachel Montez Minor, illustrated by Mariyah Rahman (Crown, \$18.99) is a rhyming book about love and loss, but it's not as sad as you might think.

In this book, several young children learn that losing someone beloved is not a forever thing, that it's very sad but it's not scary because their loved one is always just a thought away. Young readers who've recently experienced the death of a parent, grandparent, sibling, or friend will be comforted by the rhyme here, but don't dismiss the words as kiddishness: adults who've recently lost a loved one will find helpful, comforting words here, too.

Flitting from here to there and back again, author **Alice Notley** moves through phases of her life, locations, and her diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer in her latest poetry collection, **Being Reflected Upon** (Penguin, \$20.00).

From 2000 to 2017, Notley lived in Paris where she completed her wrestle with breast cancer. That, and her life abroad, are reflected in the poetry here; she also takes readers on a poetic journey on other adventures and to other places she lived and visited. This book has a random feel that entices readers to skip around and dive in anywhere. Fans of Notley will appreciate her new-age approach to her works; new fans will enjoy digging into her thoughts and visions through poems. Bonus: at least one of the poems may make you laugh.

If you're a reader who's willing to look into the future, **Colorfast** by **Rose McLarney** (Penguin, \$20.00) will be a book you'll return to time and again. This, the author's fourth collection, is filled with vivid poems of graying and fading, but also of bright shades, small things, women's lives yesterday and today, McLarney's Southern childhood, and the things she recalls about her childhood. The poems inside this book are like sitting on a front porch on a wooden rocking chair: they're comfortable, inviting, and they tell a story that readers will love discovering.

If these books aren't enough, or if you're looking for something different, silly, or classic, then head to your favorite bookstore or library. The ladies and gentlemen there will help you figure out exactly what you need, and they can introduce you to the kind of poetry that makes you laugh, makes you cry, entices a child, inspires you, gives you comfort, or makes you want to write your own poems. Isn't it time to enjoy a rhyme?

## Pathway...continued from page 11

"We were asked to come in as hub lead to provide a bridge from the community to Reynolds school which is in the heart of the Rogers district," stated Smith.

"Usually when we ask the community to partner we're asking them to collaborate on events and they will give monetary donations or come and work the events... [Now] I want them to be seen and visible throughout the school and the community by them adopting hall," she added.

Partners will decorate their hall, set up their apparel/ memorabilia and serve as additional support for the classrooms in the adopted hallway.

"So that when they are at an event and participating and/or sponsoring they can put a face to the name," she continued. Each partner is located within the neighborhood where the children can have the opportunity to see them throughout the community.

Community partners meet once a month with a committee of teachers, administrators and parents where needs for the children will be expressed.

"Now each student, teacher, parent and family can rest well knowing that Reynolds has extra hands, eyes, and ears to help the needs and the goals of the school," Smith said.

"I think it's necessary because we always speak about it and it's time now to have the actual community come in and be about. If you want to be a partner. [Here's] an opportunity to do so."

To become a partner at Reynolds contact Tyra Smith at [tsmithp4sl@gmail.com](mailto:tsmithp4sl@gmail.com) or 419-917-2537 or contact Principal Tiffany Dent at Reynolds Elementary 419-671-1500.

Toledo Public Schools currently has six hubs schools.

Schools as Community Hubs serve as both a place and a set of partnerships to meet the identified needs of a school and the surrounding community.

Based on the national community schools strategy, Toledo Public Schools has transformed six schools into Hubs. In these Hub schools, those in the community will find services and resources that promote the academic success of students, nurture family and community connectedness, and foster health and wellness within the community." (source: TPS.org)

The current hubs schools are Reynolds Elementary School, Jones Leadership Academy, Pickett Academy, Riverside Elementary, Rogers High School and Scott High School.

To learn more about these hubs visit [www.tps.org/community/community\\_hubs](http://www.tps.org/community/community_hubs)



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# CLASSIFIEDS

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April 10, 2024

## Public Bid Advertisement (Electronic Bidding) State of Ohio Standard Forms and Documents

1130-23-317  
Accessibility/ADA Improvements  
The University of Toledo  
Lucas County, OH

**Bids Due:** April 16, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. through the State's electronic bidding system at <https://bidexpress.com>

**EDGE Participation Goal:** 5.0% of contract of the contract sum with EDGE-certified business(es) AND additional 10% EDGE-certified OR Diverse Supplier vendors including MBE, WBE, VBE, BSVI, SDVOB, and LGBTBE.

**Domestic steel use is required per ORC 153.011.**

Contract	Estimated Cost
General Trades	\$450,000.00
Total General Trades (Deduct) Alternates	\$-12,000.00

**Pre-bid Meeting:** April 02, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. – Main Campus, Plant Operations Building - Room 1000, The University of Toledo, 2925 East Rocket Drive, Toledo, OH 43606

**Walk-Through:** Immediately following Pre-Bid.

**Bid Documents:** Available electronically at <https://bidexpress.com>

**More Info:** Questions submitted at <https://bidexpress.com>

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH), located in Toledo, OH is seeking experienced applicants for the following position(s): **Vice President of Finance**. For complete details, visit <https://www.lucasmha.org> and click on Careers. **Deadline: 04/16/24**. This is a Section 3 covered position. HUD recipients are encouraged to apply and are to indicate on the application if you are a LMHA Public Housing client or Housing Choice Voucher Program participant. Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. **NO PHONE CALLS**. Equal employment opportunity shall be afforded to all qualified persons without regard to age, race, color, religion, religious creed, gender, military status, ancestry, disability, handicap, sexual orientation, genetic information or national origin.



## NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Electronic proposals will be received by the Board of County Commissioners of Lucas County, Ohio, by the Purchasing Department, One Government Center, Suite 480, Toledo, Ohio 43604-2247 until 4:00 P.M. (local time), May 16, 2024 and opened immediately thereafter for **#2142-TANF Program Services to Youth & Families** for the Lucas County Department of Job & Family Services, according to specifications available for examination, or download the proposal by going to the site, <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.asp>. Suppliers interested in doing business with Lucas County must register in the Supplier Portal. To access the Lucas County Oracle Supplier Portal, please visit:

[https://eicb.fa.us6.oraclecloud.com/fscm/UI/faces/NegotiationAbstracts?\\_afrcBuild=300000007278812&\\_afrcCtrlstate=15ps8sau3\\_1&\\_afrcLoop=7126760101772357&\\_afrcWindowMode=0&\\_afrcWindowId=avudlxmca&\\_afrcFS=16&\\_afrcMT=screen&\\_afrcMFW=1920&\\_afrcMEH=932&\\_afrcMEDW=1920&\\_afrcMEDH=1080&\\_afrcMFC=8&\\_afrcMFCI=0&\\_afrcMFM=0&\\_afrcMFR=96&\\_afrcMFG=0&\\_afrcMFS=0&\\_afrcMFO=0](https://eicb.fa.us6.oraclecloud.com/fscm/UI/faces/NegotiationAbstracts?_afrcBuild=300000007278812&_afrcCtrlstate=15ps8sau3_1&_afrcLoop=7126760101772357&_afrcWindowMode=0&_afrcWindowId=avudlxmca&_afrcFS=16&_afrcMT=screen&_afrcMFW=1920&_afrcMEH=932&_afrcMEDW=1920&_afrcMEDH=1080&_afrcMFC=8&_afrcMFCI=0&_afrcMFM=0&_afrcMFR=96&_afrcMFG=0&_afrcMFS=0&_afrcMFO=0)

Prior to 4:00 P.M. (local time), May 16, 2024 each proposal shall contain the full name of each person submitting the proposal and the name of every person or company interested in same.

The right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

By order of the Board of County Commissioners, Lucas County, Ohio.

Pete Gerken – President  
Lisa A. Sobecki – Commissioner  
Anita Lopez – Commissioner

**#2142-TANF Program Services to Youth & Families** – Lucas County  
Publish: April 7, 2024

## INVITATION FOR BIDS BOILER REPLACEMENT AT FLORY GARDENS & VISTULA MANOR IFB24-B006

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will receive bids for **Boiler Replacement at Flory Gardens & Vistula Manor in accordance with IFB24-B006**. Received in accordance with law until **April 23, 2024, at 3:00 PM ET**. For documents: [www.lucasmha.org](http://www.lucasmha.org); 424 Jackson Street., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9438 (TRS: Dial 711). Bidders are required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract, and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



## FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT GRANT

The City of Toledo's Facade Improvement Grant and White Box Grant will be accepting applications until April 17. For more information, visit [toledo.oh.gov/vibrancy](http://toledo.oh.gov/vibrancy).

## LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR AVIATION CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY

The Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority (TLCPA) is seeking qualified aviation consulting firm(s) to provide professional Architectural, Engineering, and Planning services for the Eugene F. Kranz Toledo Express Airport, Toledo Executive Airport, and Seagate Heliport Heliport.

These services are to be provided in connection with the capital improvement plan (CIP) for both airports, as well as assist in the development of a potential CIP for the heliport. This Request for Qualifications (RFQ) will result in a multi-year agreement with a consultant or consultants for a period of five (5) years. The selected consultant(s) will then negotiate and enter into sub-agreements for services, based on the scope of work, with the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority on a project/assignment basis during the term of the five (5) year period.

The selection process of consultant(s) is being done in accordance with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Advisory Circular 150/5100-14E, and applicable Ohio statutes and laws.

The required format for the proposal to be submitted to the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority is described in detail in the full copy of the Request for Qualifications, and is available by either (1) emailing Tina Perkins at [Tperkins@Toledoport.org](mailto:Tperkins@Toledoport.org) or (2) visiting the Port Authority's website at <https://www.toledoport.org/public-notice>. Proposals are due no later than 10:00 a.m. (local time), Wednesday, April 10, 2024.

Thomas Winston, President and CEO  
Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority

## REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS ARCHITECTURAL & ENGINEERING SERVICES (A&E) QUALIFICATIONS RFQ24-Q001

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) will receive qualifications for **Architectural & Engineering (A&E) Services in accordance with RFQ24-Q001**. Received in accordance with law until **May 1, 2024 at 3:00 PM EST**. For documents: [www.lucasmha.org](http://www.lucasmha.org); 424 Jackson Street., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9438 (TRS: Dial 711). Bidders are required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. This contract opportunity is a Section 3 Covered Contract, and any Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.



# The 13th Annual Business and Health Expo

By Dawn Scotland  
The Truth Reporter

The Social Butterfly, Donnetta Carter, hosted her 13th Annual Business and Health Expo at St. Clemens Hall Saturday April 6 from 11-5 p.m. Hundreds of attendees enjoyed a room of 55+ vendors and non-profit organizations as well as Mercy Health Screenings, Toledo Museum of Art Glassblowing Mobile, Ruth's Mae's Food Truck and more.

Donnetta Carter, the event specialist of Toledo, Ohio, orchestrates seamless and unforgettable experiences with precision and creativity. As the owner of The Social Butterfly, Carter offers comprehensive event support services tailored to small businesses, ensuring their occasions are executed flawlessly.

The 13th Annual Business and Health Expo showcased a variety of products and services including health and wellness services, women's and men's apparel, candles, jewelry, cologne, natural products, homemade desserts and more!

Sponsors of this year's Business and Health Expo included:

- Good Neighbors Family Pharmacy
- The Huntington National Bank
- Seaway Foods
- The Sojourner's Truth Newspaper



Shanel Davis of PinkNWhiteFactory.com with Kalen and Kyree Davis



Shaiem Hampton, owner of Bomaye Bracelets & Accessories and Ohio State Representative Paula Hicks-Hudson



How About This, LLC owner Susie Brown



Hundreds attended the event with over 55 vendor representation



Ronda Beatty of Jafra displays her eye-catching products



Mercy Health provided free health screenings at the event



Larry Jones sells various products for all holidays and occasions



Lynette Dunbar and Loretta Taylor of Savvy Sistas Fashion Boutique

You Are Not Alone-Dementia Talk with Pamela Presents:

## Purple Sunday

An Alzheimer's Awareness Event

### April 28, 2024

~Enjoy the word presented by: Dr. Brandon A. A. J. Davis  
~Delight in some entertaining music (Good for the Soul) featuring Warren AME Church VIP Choir Under the Direction of Mr. Alvin Jones

**WARREN A.M.E. CHURCH**  
GOD OUR FATHER IS ALWAYS WITH US

- \*Wear you best Purple attire
- \*Receive & wear Purple ribbon
- \*Show your passion for the cure to end Alzheimer's

915 Collingwood Blvd.  
Toledo, Ohio 43604  
\*During 11am service

~Enter the drawing to win gifts & prizes!

## CASA INFORMATION SESSION INVITATION

We invite you to join one of our CASA information sessions to learn about our program and the volunteer application process.

Dates at the  
**Sanger Branch Library**  
3030 Central Ave. Toledo, OH 43606

Dates at the  
**Sylvania Branch Library**  
6749 Monroe Street, Sylvania, OH 43360

**Sunday 3/3 at 2 PM**

**Sunday 5/5 at 2 PM**

**Sunday 4/7 at 2 PM**

**Wednesday 5/22 at 7 PM**

### BENEFITS

- Make a direct impact on the lives of abused and neglected children.
- Learn and grow personally and professionally, plus be part of a like-minded and supportive community.
- Receive forty (40) hours of free, interactive training to prepare you to work independently to advocate, investigate and monitor cases of child abuse and neglect in the juvenile court system.

**More Information:**  
(419)213-6753 / CASAKIDS.NET

# The Junction Coalition Hosts Lead Education Event at Mott Branch Library

By Dawn Scotland  
The Truth Reporter

The Junction Coalition, along with partner organizations, hosted a free lead education event at the Mott Branch Library on Saturday, April 6 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to educate families on the dangers of lead exposure and to provide resources for the community to get help.

In 2023, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), through its Child Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, awarded The Junction Coalition a \$600,000 grant, spanning a three-year period, to help reduce lead poisoning in the Toledo community. The Junction Coalition is one of 11 organizations in the United States, and the only organization in the state of Ohio, to receive this grant.

This three-year, community-based grant supports organizations in their efforts to:

- Collaborate with partners from various sectors;
- Expand access to resources and services for families and children;
- Augment knowledge and skills related to lead poisoning prevention;
- Raise awareness within the community about the risks associated with lead exposure and the disparities in blood lead levels, particularly as influenced by factors such as race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and geography

Attendees had the opportunity to sign up for The Junction Coalition's "419 Lead Out Program" to assist families in getting the help they need. They also received lunch and refreshments.

Those in attendance also received a book, Aiden The Lead-free Superhero, and listened to a live reading via zoom of the book by the author Deanna Branch along with her son Aiden, the subject and young illustrator of the book that tells his journey of sickness from lead poisoning.

Partners attending the event included:

- Advocates for Basic Legal Equality
- Lucas Soil and Water Conservation District
- Nationwide Children's Hospital
- Neighborhood Health Association
- Neighborworks Toledo Region
- The Lead Paint Detective
- Toledo Fair Housing Center
- Toledo Lead Poisoning Prevention Coalition
- Toledo Lucas County Health Department
- UMADAOP

The Junction Coalition is a non-profit, grassroots organization located in the Junction community of Toledo, Ohio providing a viable voice to its neighbors. The Junction Coalition seeks to promote healthy relationships with local, state, and federal government to build a better quality of life for community members and for business owners who benefit the Junction community.

To learn more visit [junctioncoalition419.org](http://junctioncoalition419.org)



Raina Dawson, attorney at Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, serves as a resource



Attendees gather information about lead poisoning



Children learn about the risks of lead poisoning



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Dr. Basil Akponunu  
Internal Medicine Physician

[utmc.utoledo.edu](http://utmc.utoledo.edu)

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