



Urban League of
The MidPlains

Empowering Communities.
Changing Lives.

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The Urban League of the MidPlains Announces \$100,000 Donation from Koch Industries, Inc.

WICHITA, Kan. – Brian Black, president and chief executive officer of The Urban League of the MidPlains, today announced a \$100,000 contribution from Koch Industries, Inc. to implement the first school-based National Urban League Incentives to Excel and Succeed program.

“NULITES prepares students for post-secondary educational opportunities and enables them to achieve economic self sufficiency,” Black said. “With this generous donation and the support of the Wichita Public Schools, we can target low to moderate income students living in Sedgwick County to provide personal and leadership development.”

NULITES, which features one-on-one college/career counseling; ACT prep workshops, and college and workplace tours, will be implemented at Wichita North High School.

“Koch Industries is pleased to support this important program with the Urban League of the MidPlains and Wichita North High School,” said Marc Palazzo, director of public affairs for Koch Industries. “The foundation of our community is strengthened by investing in the future of today’s young people and supporting programs like NULITES.”

Koch has committed to four annual \$25,000 payments.

NULITES offers scholarship and financial aid assistance, help students navigate post-secondary educational admissions processes, and assist students to successfully enter the workforce.

In 2005, 239 Wichita area students participated in the NULITES community-based program. During this period, 89 students entered a four-year college/university with 48 receiving financial aid assistance and 10 students qualifying for scholarships. Fifteen students entered the military and 23 entered the workforce.

“This is one of many efforts in the district to offer innovative programs for our students,” said Winston Brooks, superintendent of USD 259. “I am very proud of our faculty at Wichita North High School and principal Denise Wren for developing this partnership with the Urban League. We look forward to growing this program to support other schools in the district.”

“We are pleased to begin this partnership with Wichita North High School,” Black said. “The Urban League’s business philosophy is to utilize collaboration to create economic opportunities. We are proud to work with Koch Industries and Wichita Public Schools to offer a program design that enables young people to move into the economic mainstream.”

The Urban League is a non-profit economic development agency committed to the principle of promoting economic opportunity for all citizens in housing, education, employment and business development without regard to race or socioeconomic status. The League utilizes collaboration as its platform to create economic opportunities in the less affluent areas of Kansas.

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