



September 6, 2019  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Theresa Stevens  
517-203-5024 office  
517-402-5743 cell

## **CAPITAL AREA UNITED WAY COLLABORATIVE FUNDING AT WORK**

- WHAT:** United Way Education Collaborative Funding Takes Shape
- WHEN:** Sunday, September 8, 2019, 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- WHERE:** Engaging Families in Early Literacy (EFEL) Initiative to Celebrate  
International Literacy Day  
Islamic Society of Greater Lansing Gym  
940 S. Harrison  
East Lansing MI 48823

Capital Area United Way (CAUW) funds collaborative education programs that work to wrap children and adults in a blanket of resources beyond just a single agency, providing them with a better chance to be successful. This is the rationale behind CAUW's move to invest in collaborative programs beginning in 2019.

A grant was awarded to five agencies, Ingham Great Start Collaborative, Islamic Society of Greater Lansing, Refugee Development Center, South Lansing Ministries, and WKAR Public Media to focus on increasing the understanding the importance of early literacy and requirements of the Read by Grade Three law. Parents/caregivers are their child's first educator and when informed, involved and engaged in their student's learning, can help their child develop and learn. The EFEL will create awareness to mobilize the community to increase reading proficiency and will focus on parents' success as their child's first teacher.

CAUW fights for the health, education and financial stability of every person in every community.

###