

# TEACH TOLEDO SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Promoting college success and teacher diversity in Toledo's central city communities

### Urban areas are the centers of our rich, diverse communities.

However, local and national data both reveal that the teaching profession and the pipeline into teacher education is overwhelmingly white and middle class, and few teachers in urban schools live in the neighborhoods they teach in. Currently, fewer than 15% of teachers locally and nationally identify as people of color.

The disparity between the teacher and student populations is a source of considerable concern.

#### **About the Program**

The Teach Toledo initiative addresses the shortage of teachers who live in cities, represent the rich diversity of city residents, and have a passion for living and working in cities — specifically in Toledo, Ohio.

K-12 students in urban areas are most successful when their schools reflect diversity, with teachers who have overcome the challenges of racism, food and housing insecurity, and poorly funded schools who share their students' aspirations.

That doesn't mean white, middle-class teachers can't be great and effective teachers; it does mean that colleges of education need to intentionally diversify the profession in order for all schools and students to achieve the equity that nurtures success.

That's what UToledo's Judith Herb College of Education is doing with Teach Toledo.

#### A Passion for Urban Leadership

Our scholars are selected based on both their proven academic ability and their commitment to living and teaching in urban neighborhoods. They typically embody:

- Lived experiences in urban neighborhoods
- An understanding of why they want to teach in city schools
- Cultural competencies, including dialects and languages

Teach Toledo provides students a chance to explore teaching as a career: the associate's degree program focuses on urban schooling; most courses also count as core requirements applicable to bachelor's degrees in other fields.

#### **Join Us**

Become part of our community of scholars and citizens who value diversity in cities and believe in all students having the quality schooling they need to succeed and contribute to our great city and nation.

## Help Us Make a Difference

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