

Change the World, One Youth at a Time ... Share Your Wisdom

Seventy percent of African American youth in Madison, Wisconsin, are from economically challenged families. Poverty and a lack of reliable resources such as transportation, parents working long hours in poorly paid jobs with little flexibility, unstable and unaffordable housing, inadequate health care and escalating community violence all contribute to chronic absenteeism and low student expectations.



Many children don't have a problem learning as much as they have a problem living.

The 100 Black Men of Madison are in the process of initiating Project SOAR (Student Opportunities, Access and Readiness) in collaboration with established community partners to address the academic needs and exposure of

these African American youth in middle and high schools in our City.

One important activity of Project SOAR is the establishment of the SOAR Career Academy.

The aim of the SOAR Career Academy is to provide knowledge of meaningful occupations and professions that can be secured after high school.

Through classes presented by subject matter experts at all High and Middle Schools of the Madison Metropolitan School District, students will be exposed to relevant career and educational options, *including but not limited to*, healthcare, police science, information technology, fire science, construction & building trades, entrepreneurship, transportation/logistics, education, accounting, armed services, manufacturing, food services, utilities, etc.

The Goals of SOAR Career Academies Are:

- Increase student attendance, academic achievement and graduation rates through integrated academic and career curricula.
- Focus on career preparation through exposures from subject matter experts based on workforce needs.
- Raise student aspiration and commitment to academic achievement and work ethics.
- Establish high expectations for all students.
- Engage students in planning and making decisions for their future
- Provide students with pathways to postsecondary education and career opportunities
- Augment student awareness of skills important to success in careers, life, and society
- Enhance parent/Community involvement

If you can share your wisdom with as a SOAR Career Academy Subject Matter Instructor, please register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/soar-career-academy-instructor-registration-tickets-21021483824>.