

NEWS RELEASE

United Way
of Jackson County
www.uwjackson.org



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ENERGIZING EDUCATION GETS CRUCIAL SUPPORT WITH \$50,000 GIFT FROM ALRO STEEL *Company Supports Early Grade Reading Initiative*

JACKSON, Michigan (July 21, 2016) – Alro Steel Corp.’s recent gift of \$50,000 to Energizing Education will help the early grade reading engagement effort start the school year with crucial support and momentum.

“Energizing Education succeeds because it’s a collective effort – schools, volunteers and donors coming together to transform our community one child at a time ,” said Ken Toll, President & CEO of United Way of Jackson County, which oversees EE. “Alro Steel’s generous gift is a wonderful example of its commitment to Jackson County and our community’s future.”

EE targets low-achieving students in grades K-2nd with a two-pronged approach to improve literacy: volunteer mentors, coached by a literacy specialist, working one-on-one with students in reading, writing and vocabulary during half-hour sessions twice a week; and family involvement activities that encourage families to take a more active role in their children’s education, providing skills and materials to nurture reading at home.

At a community gathering in June, EE organizers unveiled results of an independent evaluation that showed strong support among educators and families and indications that the program may yield long-term positive impact for students.

Currently, EE operates in seven Jackson County elementary schools-Frost, Bennett, McCulloch and Cascades (Jackson Public Schools); Arnold (Michigan Center); Early Elementary (Northwest); George Long (Grass Lake).

Brian Glick, Alro Vice President of Business Development and Marketing, said Alro’s support of EE fits with the company’s core values. “Integrity, loyalty and honesty drive our community commitment just as they drive our business,” Glick said. “That’s why we’re proud to support Energizing Education.”

Founded in 1948 in Jackson, Alro Steel Corp. is a distributor of metals, industrial supplies and plastics. Alro has more than 60 locations in 12 states. On the web: www.alro.com.

About United Way of Jackson County

United Way of Jackson County is *Connecting Our Community for the Common Good* by mobilizing people, organizations and funds to drive programs that help children succeed in school, make sure families are financially stable, and help people achieve good health. Visit our website at www.uwjackson.org, or follow us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram.

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Connecting Our Community for the Common Good