



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Media Contact:

Angela Pritchett

Lead to Read KC

Communications Manager

913.645.4780

**Lead to Read KC Announces Appointment of
Rhea Muchalla LeGrande as New Executive Director**

Kansas City, Mo. -- [Lead to Read KC](#), a nonprofit dedicated to increasing children's literacy, is pleased to announce the appointment of Rhea Muchalla LeGrande as its new Executive Director. LeGrande will assume the leadership role on May 13, 2024.

LeGrande brings a strong background and dedication to literacy for Lead to Read KC. In her previous roles she was Chief Program Officer at Teach For America, Founding Program Lead at Educator Academy, and in various roles within the Kansas City Public Schools. As Founder and CEO of LeGrande Solutions, she has most recently guided strategies to advance social equity for educational, non-profit, and for-profit organizations.

"I am thrilled to step into the role of Executive Director at Lead to Read KC," said Rhea LeGrande. "I look forward to advancing our impactful work alongside our dedicated partners and community members. Together, we will continue to cultivate a more beautiful Kansas City, grounded in equity and enriched by literacy, ensuring every child experiences the profound joy and transformative power of reading."

As Lead to Read KC's Executive Director, LeGrande will be responsible for overseeing all aspects of the organization's operations, including working closely with members of the Leadership Team who develop programs for schools, direct fundraising, and manage volunteers, community outreach, and communications. In addition, her duties also will include building relationships with community partners, serving as spokesperson, setting growth and expansion targets, and reporting to Lead to Read KC's Board of Directors.

"Lead To Read KC has done so much good since its inception more than a decade ago. That said, I believe that we are only getting started!" said Eric Graham, Lead to Read KC Board Chairperson. "Rhea has tremendous passion and a demonstrated commitment to childhood literacy over the course of her impressive career. We feel so fortunate to have her as our new Executive Director. With Rhea's expertise and visionary leadership experience, I believe that our potential to impact the ongoing literacy crisis affecting our children and city is limitless."

LeGrande holds a Master's Secondary Education from the University of Missouri, St. Louis, and a Master's of Philosophy from the University of Oregon. She is currently working towards her PhD in Education Curriculum & Instruction.

About Lead to Read KC:

[Lead to Read KC](#) is a children's literacy nonprofit dedicated to supporting the social, emotional and reading skills that are foundational to student success. It does this by mobilizing community volunteers, called Reading Mentors, to read one-to-one with students attending high-need elementary schools across Kansas City, as well as through its tutoring program, its Reading Is EverywhereSM community book distribution initiative, and its author visit program.

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