**Best Practices for Promoting Black Male Achievement**

**from National League of Cities**

**Education Action Steps**

1. **Promote Reading Proficiency by the End of Third Grade**

* Seek to address the key problems
  + Lack of school readiness
  + Chronic school absence
  + Summer learning loss

1. **Recruit Mentors to Help Black Boys Stay on Track in School**
2. **Push for In-School Alternatives to Suspension and Expulsion**

* We have a disproportionate amount of African-American and Latino suspensions and expulsions.
* A growing number of school leaders are reexamining their school discipline polices and trying out alternatives that keep students engaged in learning while still maintaining standards of acceptable conduct in schools and classrooms.

1. **Work to Reduce Chronic Absences and Truancy**

* Nationally, 10-15 % of K-12 student miss nearly a month of school a year.

1. **Develop Alternative Pathways to High School Completion**

The full document, “City Leadership to Promote Black Male Achievement,”

can be found on the SUN CS website at [www.sunschools.org](http://www.sunschools.org) or at

<http://www.nlc.org/Documents/Find%20City%20Solutions/IYEF/At-Risk%20Youth/city-leadership-to-promote-black-male-achievement-sept-2012.pdf>