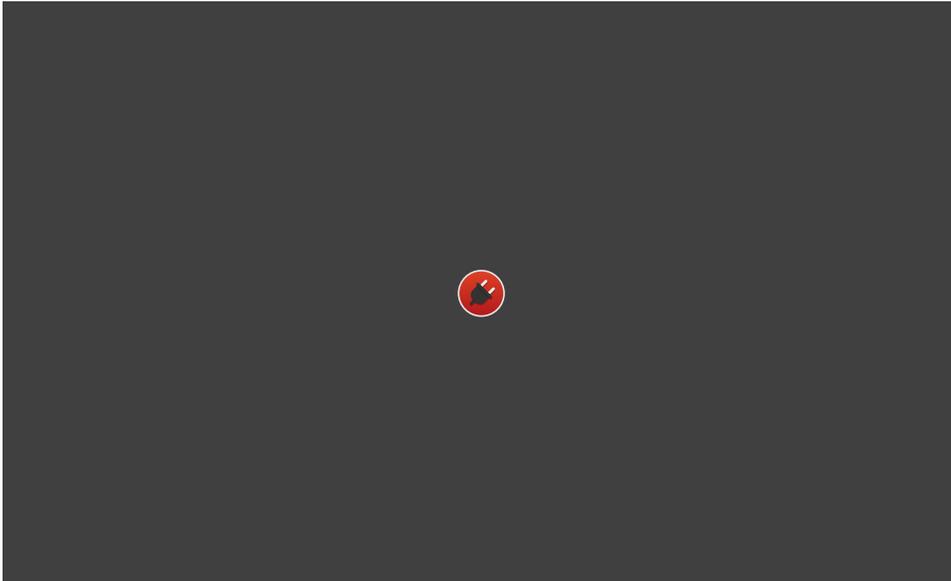




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Boys & Girls Club of Dane County works to keep MLK's dream alive

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Boys & Girls Club of Dane County works to keep MLK's dream alive

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MADISON, Wis. -They are four of the famous words ever spoken: "I have a dream."

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Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. used those words when he spoke at the March on Washington on Aug. 28, 1963.

King's dream was that future generations could dream. That is something that is being carried on more than 50 years after he spoke those words.

"If we want our kids to fulfill their dreams, we have to invest in their educations. We have to expose them to great opportunities. We have to make sure that they are ready for college and careers. Those are the kinds of dreams that our kids have to have. And when I say our kids, all of our kids," CEO of the Boys and Girls Club of Dane County Michael Johnson said.

While King affected change in America, disparities still exist in education, employment and opportunity.

"You look at some of the issues we find today, they are the some of the

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same issues that he talked about in the '60s. Whether it is disparity in education, disparities in wealth, unemployment disparities, some of the same issues that he talked about then, we're talking about today," Johnson said.

The Boys and Girls Club of Dane County has been working to eliminate disparities in employment through summer internship programs for youth in the community.

They have also developed a community partnership that will utilize tutors to help close the disparity gap in education.

"We want their dreams to be fulfilled. So if they dream to become a doctor, lawyer, school teacher, CEO, we want to put them on that path and it is one thing to dream, but it is another thing to be able to walk that dream and that's what Dr. King wanted," Johnson said.

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