



Parents,

In 2018, Sheltering Wings engaged a group of men in the community who had a passion for making sure our children grow up in a community where violence in homes, relationships and schools is not an option. Men IN Action are engaged and informed men impacting the community by developing positive social behaviors, to end all forms of violence, including domestic violence and teen dating abuse. Men IN Action is designed to equip and encourage men to build each other up, hold one another accountable, challenge the status quo, and navigate life by being positive role models for our youth and each other.

On Thursday, March 21, 2019 Sheltering Wings will enlist 440 male volunteers to go into each Hendricks County elementary school classroom to read a book that focuses on important character traits such as support, positive identity, positive peer influences and commitment to learning.

The goals of the morning are the following:

1. **Teach and prompt conversations with children about 3 important character values: support, positive identity and commitment to learning.** This is in line with Sheltering Wings' new focus on the prevention of domestic violence-utilizing the 40 Developmental Assets (www.search-institute.org).
2. **Engage men in a volunteer initiative.** The hope is to expose men to the schools to encourage them to continue volunteering in the schools (or anywhere) with youth.
3. **Show our community we are a community that stands for healthy values and relationships.** It is our desire to raise a new generation built on trust, honor and respect for one another. We believe men have a unique role in this preventative measure.

What you can expect:

- The day of the event there will be a Men IN Action volunteer reader in every classroom at your child's elementary school.
- All volunteer readers will have gone through the necessary background checks and procedures per school requirements.
- The volunteer readers will be reading the book "The Invisible Boy" and then engaging the students in a series of questions pertaining to the lessons from the story.

Our hope is that your kids will come home and share about the special visitor they had in their classroom that day. To keep the conversation going you can ask some of these questions as follow up.

- What was the story about that your classroom visitor read?
- What was your favorite part of the book?
- Have you ever felt left out or invisible?
- How can you help a classmate who might feel invisible?

For info on the book "The Invisible Boy" by Trudy Ludwig visit <https://www.commonensemedia.org/book-reviews/the-invisible-boy>