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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Why Aren't All Maryland Students Learning to Read? **Town Hall Panel Discussion: How to Close the Reading Gap**

Did you know? (Source: NAEP 2013)

55% of MD 4th grade students read below proficient levels

58% of MD 8th grade students read below proficient levels

72% of MD 4th grade students with disabilities read below proficient

EVENT: Join **Decoding Dyslexia Maryland** and statewide Community Partners, students, parents, teachers, policy makers and educational experts to discuss the issue of reading failure and solutions in Maryland public schools at a Town Hall Panel Discussion on **Saturday, October 10, 2015**.

Across the state, many students are struggling to learn how to read and write. There is no distinction in race, ethnicity or income level, and affected students struggle in both general and special education settings. At the event, panelists will share their experiences and work towards possible solutions that include: early screening, teacher preparation and evidence-based structured literacy interventions. Be part of the conversation to ensure all students receive effective reading instruction critical to their success in school and career.

DATE/TIME: **Saturday, October 10, 2015**
3:00 – 4:00 pm / Meet and Greet & Refreshments
4:00 – 6:00 pm / Panel Discussion & Question and Answer Session

LOCATION: **Owen Brown Interfaith Center**
7246 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, Maryland 21045

REGISTRATION: <https://closethereadinggap.eventbrite.com>

Decoding Dyslexia Maryland is a grassroots movement of parents, teachers, students and related professionals concerned with the limited access to educational interventions for struggling readers and students with dyslexia in MD public schools. Decoding Dyslexia members were recently appointed by Governor Hogan to the Dyslexia Education Task Force to begin in the September 2015. DD-MD State Chapters include: Anne Arundel, Central MD, Northern MD, Howard, Southern MD, PG and Montgomery Counties. To learn more, please visit:

<http://decodingdyslexiamd.weebly.com/>. Like us on Facebook:

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