Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service Project Overview

HISTORY

> *"Let us rise up tonight with greater readiness. Let us stand with a greater determination. And let us move on in these powerful days, these days of challenge, to make America what it ought to be. We have an opportunity to make a better nation."*
>
> *- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Annually, on the third Monday in January, Americans celebrate the King Birthday Holiday, honoring the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Many students do not go to school. Many adults do not go to work. But while we are not studying or working, what can we do to commemorate this important day?

On August 3, 1994, President Bill Clinton signed the King Holiday and Service Act, designed to transform Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day into a King Day of Service that reflects his life and teaching – bringing people together -- around this common cause. Service is a powerful strategy to honor the words and deeds of Dr. King. By serving others we demonstrate our reverence for the life and work of Dr. King. The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Indiana Holiday Commission asks you to reach out and help local community organizations serve the needs of fellow Hoosiers.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Be a volunteer with a social service agency in your community or organize a project on your own. You will find a King Day of Service project to be very rewarding. Work on a project can be a good experience for everyone. By organizing one-day projects or projects intended to be completed over a period of time, large numbers of volunteers can be involved in getting things done in our communities in Indiana. Ideas for King Day of Service projects are listed on the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Indiana Holiday Commission website.

Social service agencies can develop projects to be performed on Monday, January 21, 2002. Once developed, place a description of your project, the type, and number of volunteers needed on the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Indiana Holiday Commission website.

YES! I WILL HELP

Individuals desiring to keep Dr. King's dream of social justice alive should began to decide the type of service they would like to perform on Monday, January 21, 2002. Groups or teams are encouraged to work together to help neighbors or contact a local service agency for volunteer suggestions.

On Monday, January 21, 2002, during the **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Day of Service**, you may consider doing projects that relate to:

- *Needy Families and the Homeless;*
- *Senior Citizens; School Activities;*
- *Neighborhood Enhancement; and*
- *Special Needs People and Children in Hospitals, Shelters and Guardian Homes*, to name a few.

GET IN ON THE ACTION!

Visit the Martin Luther King, Jr. Web page, *www.IN.gov/icrc/mlkjr/mlkjr.html* for information on how to volunteer, or for locations of social service agencies in your area that need volunteer assistance or call the Indiana Civil Rights Commission toll free at *(800) 628-2909 or Denidra Warren at (317) 233-0534.*

> *". . . everybody can be great because everybody can serve."*
>
> **- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**