



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Day of Service

2008 Report

Governor's Commission on Community Service
Office of Lt. Governor Barbara O'Brien

Denver, CO 80203

"At the heart of all that civilization has meant and developed is 'community'."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service

2008 Report

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"Life's most urgent question is: What are you doing for others?"

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Governor's Commission on Community Service, under the office of Lieutenant Governor Barbara O'Brien, is a strong advocate for volunteerism and civic engagement. By Executive Order, the Office of the Lieutenant Governor oversees the Governor's Commission on Community Service, which is guided by an advisory board of sixteen commissioners. One role of this Commission is to foster community service and volunteerism in the state.

Mission

The Commission serves as a catalyst for the promotion and expansion of community service and volunteerism to all Colorado residents as an effective means to address civic and social issues and improve the overall well being of communities throughout the state.



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Lt. Governor
Barbara O'Brien

Governor's Commission on Community Service
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Lauren Lockard, Student Intern, Johnson & Wales University

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March 19, 2008

Dear Volunteers and Community Partners:

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of you, the organizations and volunteers who contributed to the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service.

The Martin Luther King Day of Service is a way to transform Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life and teachings into community service that helps solve social problems. On Jan 21, 2008, many Coloradoans did just that when they made the holiday "*a day on, not a day off*" and gave back to their community and our wonderful state.

Together, we made this year's program very successful. Coloradoans honored their state by planning and participating in over 33 separate statewide projects. It was confirmed once again that when Coloradoans work together, they make a significant impact on their communities.

Congratulations to all of you who participated in this wonderful event and thank you for your efforts to make Colorado a better place for all of us. We hope that we can continue to count on your support for this important program.

With Sincere Appreciation,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara O'Brien".

Barbara O'Brien
Lt. Governor

2008 Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Sponsors



JOHNSON & WALES
UNIVERSITY



Special Thanks To

The Honorable Peter C. Groff, Senate President, Colorado General Assembly

Shirley Vaughn, Website Coordinator,
Colorado Department of Health and Environment

Tamara Banks, Taz Media

MLK Day Advisory Committee

Tom Rapp, Commissioner, GCCS
Dan Dunlap, Corporation for National and Community Service
Alexis St. Juliana, Colorado Cross Disability Coalition
Desiree Marchman, Colorado Civil Rights Commission
Cheryl Armstrong, James P. Beckwourth Mountain Club
Dr. Joyce Marie Davis, MLK Humanitarian Awards Committee
Phil Rudy, National Civilian Community Corps
Mark Shelton, Commissioner, GCCS
Katie Aplin, State Farm Insurance
Sandra Mann, Mile High United Way
Laura Kinder, Director, Volunteer Connection of Boulder County
Lindsay Tracy, Commissioner, GCCS



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March 19, 2008

Dear Partners in Service:

I want to thank all of you, and especially the participating community volunteers, who helped make this year's Martin Luther King Jr. *Day of Service* a wonderful tribute to the life and legacy of Dr. King.

For the first time in many years the Colorado Governor's Commission on Community Service launched an all out effort to promote the MLK *Day of Service*, resulting in over thirty (30) volunteer projects registered across the state. In addition, the Governor's Commission co-sponsored the Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Awards program, honoring those unsung heroes who contribute tirelessly year round in service to their communities.

Thank you, too, to the members of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day Advisory Committee for your leadership and assistance in planning this year's *Day of Service*.

Please join me in thanking all of those who participated in this event. Thank you for helping to honor Dr. King's life and teachings by contributing your holiday in service to your community and to the citizens of Colorado.

Sincerely,

Christine Benero, Chair
Governor's Commission on Community Service

2008 Week of Events

Thursday, Jan. 17

18th Annual MLK, Jr. 2008 Humanitarian Awards
Lifetime Achievement Awards
Colorado Symphony Orchestra King Celebration
Concert

Friday, Jan. 18

22nd Annual MLK Social Responsibility Awards
Luncheon

Saturday, Jan. 19

“Get To Cleanin’ Remembering Memphis” Volunteers
removing litter from the Marade route

Monday, Jan. 21

23rd Annual MLK Marade 2008

2008 Project Locations





A Day On, Not a Day Off for...

James P. Beckwourth Mountain Club



"The James P. Beckwourth Mountain Club's MLK service project commenced in early January, 2008, with a call for donations of clothing and school supplies from our membership and Outdoor Education Center program families. The nonprofit Family Tree Housing and Family Services was chosen as the beneficiary of their efforts.

Over the next four weeks, the Club collected five large containers of donations. On Saturday, February 2, 2008, the project culminated with a visit to the Family Tree facility in Wheat Ridge. Thirteen Beckwourth OEC youth and two Beckwourth staff delivered the trove of donations and participated in a two-hour workshop on homelessness led by Family Tree volunteer Linda Barringer. After the workshop, all of the Beckwourth OEC youth learned to look at homelessness differently and with more understanding. They also learned how they could work to decrease and eliminate homelessness in their own communities."



A Day On, Not a Day Off for... **Pueblo SRDA Foster Grandparent Program**



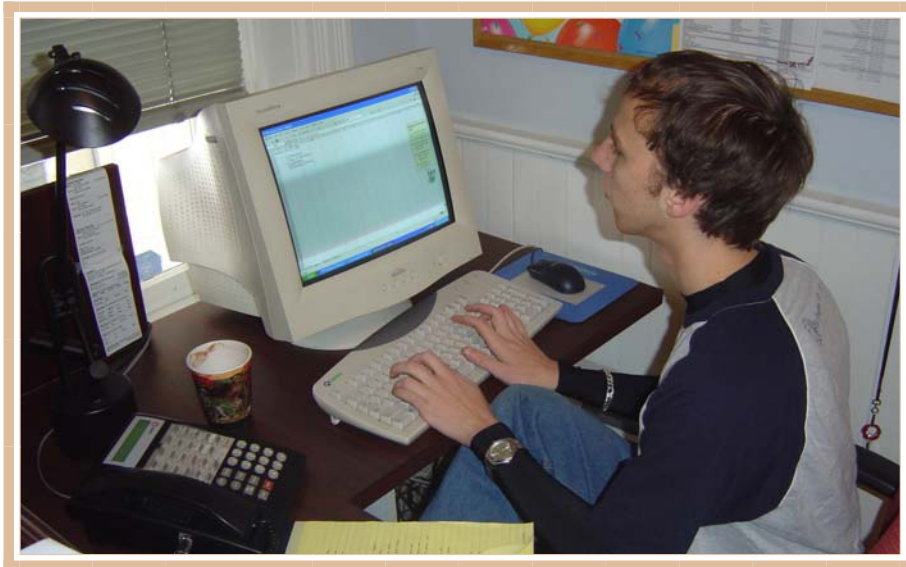
The Pueblo Senior Resource Development Agency's Foster Grand parent Program combined forces with the local YMCA Silver Sneakers participants and sponsored a children's book drive.

The community was asked to donate new and gently used books for the drive. The event started off with a senior social which took place on January 18th at the Joseph Edwards Senior Center in Pueblo. Admission to the social was a new or used book. Refreshments and entertainment was provided. Approximately 50 people attended the social. Free bookmarks were given away to the donors of books.

The Colorado State Department of Corrections employee council for two local facilities saw the posting of the event on the website and encouraged their employees to get involved and donate books. Several workers from DOC attended the January 18th kickoff event and brought boxes of books. Approximately 10 volunteers met at the senior center to sort through the donated books. The sorting process brought back fond memories for those involved. Over 500 books were collected and distributed to two local non profit child care facilities in Pueblo.



A Day On, Not a Day Off for... **Johnson & Wales University**



"It was nice to dedicate a day of service to my community, because when we get so busy in our own schedules, we sometimes forget about people and places that do so much for others. I would take a day of service over my own schedule any day!"
-Emily Hafner

On the MLK Day of Service, Johnson & Wales University took 16 participants to Brent's Place, a hospitality house for families who have a child receiving treatment for a life threatening illness. The team was broken up in to smaller groups to complete various projects around the apartments and community rooms. Groups completed projects ranging from inventory of the supply room and empty apartments, cleaning and sanitizing floors, cataloging the media room, and sorting and sanitizing toys and other storage facilities. At the end of the day, the team was able to help set up for the evenings social event, a birthday party. Overall, the team was able to help in keeping Brent's Place safe and clean



"I really was inspired to work and to help out in any way possible, especially after seeing the wall of children and even adults that have come face to face with such a horrible condition. I can't even imagine what their families are going through, knowing that there is a chance their child may not make it, but that is when having hope in God and his ability in taking care of everything can help to ease their worries."
-Chanae Walker





A Day On, Not a Day Off for...

Community Building Partnership for Youth in Transition Team

“MLK Day has never meant so much to me, personally, as it did yesterday. It was amazing to see the community come together and the change that has occurred because of the work of Dr. King and his followers. I know that from this experience, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day will always be a day “on” for the rest of my life.”



MLK Day was a special day for Americorps members from the Community Building Partnership for Youth in Transition. The team split up across Denver to make an impact on the region. Nineteen members braved the snow and help as marshals at the MLK Day Parade at City Park. Eight members made their way to the Food Bank of the Rockies to help with various tasks. Another member spent time reading to children at a local school. The team enjoyed seeing the community come together and make MLK day in 2008 a day to remember.

“The most memorable event was the walk itself. The cold and wet weather, plus the need to continue, was powerful.”





A Day On, Not a Day Off for... Colorado HIPPY Corps

“Some parents found it hard to focus on wishes for themselves. It is common for parents to dream for their children. Home visitors commented that they had to spend some time in discussion with the parents to help them express their personal dreams. Most home visitors had to first show the parent their own personal quilt square and discuss their own dream with them.”



The clients of HIPPY, Home Instruction for Parents & Preschool Youngsters, teamed up to each create a patch of fabric that represented their dreams for the future. The patches were sewn together and made into a banner that was then carried in the MLK Day Parade. Drawings included simple line drawings that symbolized simple hopes, while others dreamed for cars, to become a doctor, or the hopes to become an American citizen.



HIPPYUSA®
Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters



A Day On, Not a Day Off for... **Food Bank of the Rockies**



Three teams of nine volunteers assembled food boxes for the USDA Commodities Program. This consisted of packing nutritional non-perishable food in boxes on an assembly line. This is a program targeting low-income pregnant and postpartum women, their infants and children and senior citizens. Eligible participants that live at poverty level and below receive one box per family member monthly as a supplement to the diets of these vulnerable groups. They packed 1,050 boxes which will provide for three days of distribution.

One team from Weld County packed zip lock food containers and lids in boxes of 48 count to be distributed to member agencies for use re-packing product for their food box programs. The containers come to us in pallet size boxes that are difficult to distribute in such a large size. The group completed 176 boxes and also assisted in breaking down cardboard boxes for the re-cycle compactor. The boxes are emptied in the food assemble line.





A Day On, Not a Day Off for... **Mile High Montessori Schools**



Volunteers from the metro Denver area volunteered their time on Martin Luther King Jr. Day at Mile High Montessori.

Five sites across Denver hosted volunteers who read to students and presented various programs. Environmental Learning for Kids presented a program on about local wildlife that included hands on activities for the children.



2008 Project List

| County | Project Category | Project Description |
|----------|-----------------------------|---|
| Alamosa | Education | Students from Mi Animo Prevention Program and the San Luis Valley Boys & Girls Club viewed Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech. Following a discussion, the students wrote their own version of the speech," and, on January 21, delivered them to the students, parents and staff at the Boys and Girls Club. |
| Arapahoe | Social Services | Habitat for Humanity volunteers helped with the construction of a duplex to provide affordable homes for two families. |
| Boulder | Public/Private Partnerships | The city of Longmont Diversity Committee, in collaboration with the community's Multicultural Action Committee, invited citizens into the council chambers for an evening of speeches by students and community leaders to honor Dr. King. |
| Boulder | Social Services | AmeriCorps Alums partnered with Habitat for Humanity to drywall, paint, side, and roof a home under construction in North Boulder. |
| Boulder | Environmental | Recycling Rangers recycled items at drop off centers and assisted the less mobile visitors unload materials. Volunteers also helped answer recycling questions. |
| Boulder | Public/Private Partnerships | The City of Boulder Human Rights Office held a human rights fair featuring a rally, SLAM poetry, gospel choir, and children's activities to end racism. |
| Denver | Social Services | Volunteers of America served 1,000 meals to the homeless and needy. There was live gospel and jazz music as well as free clothing. |
| Denver | Youth Development | Shorter Community A.M.E. Church held its Second Annual READ-IN event. Children learned about Dr. King's passion for education and also had the opportunity to engage in personal and spiritual development. |
| Denver | Education | Brother Jeff's Cultural Center held a public forum to discuss the means needed to reclaim the commemoration of Dr. King and to build a case against racism. |
| Denver | Public/Private Partnerships | Volunteers cleaned the MLK Day Marade route on the Saturday before MLK Day. The "Back to 'Cleanin' - Remembering Memphis" event was organized to honor the sanitation workers of Memphis and make a statement about the purpose of the MLK commission. |
| Denver | Social Services | Church in the City held a luncheon to serve the needy. Volunteers prepared, served, and cleaned at the event. |
| Denver | Early Childhood Development | HIPPY program sites across Colorado spent the month of January working with individual parents and children creating "I Have a Dream," squares while discussing the ideas of Dr. King. Each program site then marched in the MLK Day Marade. |
| Denver | Early Childhood Development | Mile High Montessori schools across Denver spent the day reading and working on children's activities to celebrate Dr. King. AmeriCorps volunteers and community volunteers assisted at several sites. |
| Denver | Youth Development | James P. Beckwourth Mountain Club's Outdoor Education Center conducted a jacket and school supply drive to benefit individuals from Family Tree, a local nonprofit organization that assists individuals that are homeless and victims of domestic violence. |
| Denver | Social Services | AmeriCorps NCCC Team Leaders worked as marshals for the Denver City MLK Marade Committee and helped with other duties on the day of the Marade. |
| Denver | Social Services | Citizens across Denver provided free transportation for those in need who wished to attend free medical screening by Kaiser Permanente. |
| Denver | Social Services | The Community Building Partnership for Youth in Transition AmeriCorps team worked as Marade marshals and also sorted food at Food Bank of the Rockies. |
| Denver | Economic and Social Policy | The Colorado Black Women's Endowment Fund hosted a community forum to discuss "The Cliff Effect," policy issues affecting TANF recipients and their children. |

2008 Project List

| County | Project | Project Description |
|----------|-----------------------------|---|
| Denver | Health | The American Red Cross Mile High Chapter, HOPE Worldwide, and the African American Leadership Institute teamed up to provide fire prevention information to four Denver neighborhoods. |
| Denver | Health | Johnson & Wales University students and staff spent the day at Brent's Place, a home for children receiving medical treatment, working on various maintenance and organization projects. |
| Denver | Health | Kaiser Permanente offered free immunizations, screening and health exams to children and adults in need. Service was conducted at two medical sites in Denver. |
| Denver | Social Services | AmeriCorps NCCC Team Leaders made food boxes at the Food Bank of the Rockies following their work as marshals with the City of Denver Marade Committee. |
| Denver | Social Services | Volunteers from AmeriCorps teams and community members across Denver met at the Food bank of the Rockies to assist in sorting and organizing food for those in need. |
| Denver | Education | The Colorado Department of Transportation held a black history lunch that included entertainment and history discussion that honored Dr. King. |
| Denver | Social Services | CARENET AmeriCorps teams joined other AmeriCorps teams across Colorado as MLK Day Marade marshals. |
| Denver | Social Services | AmeriCorps NCCC Team Leaders worked with two Habitat for Humanity Home Improvement Outlets. |
| Gunnison | Other | Western State College hosted a MLK Celebration & Commemoration with guest speaker Vernon Howard, chairman of the MLK celebration in Denver. The also included a performance by the Sifa Sifa Band. |
| Mesa | Public/Private Partnerships | The Mesa State College AmeriCorps team assisted the MLK Day project for the City of Grand Junction by organizing the march and arranging for local speakers to recognize the efforts of Dr. King. |
| Mesa | Social Services | A 1.3 mile-long march was held at Grand Junction City Hall. The march ended with a series of speakers reading the "I Have a Dream Speech". |
| Mesa | Youth Development | The Girl Scouts gathered to learn winter survival skills. They were taught about Hypothermia, first aid, snow cave building, as well as some fun skill like snow painting and sledding safety. |
| Pueblo | Public/Private Partnerships | The Pueblo Foster Grandparent Program and the Pueblo YMCA Silver Sneakers sponsored a children's book drive. The community donated new and gently used children books from January 18 -February 1, 2008. The books were distributed to several local day care facilities. |
| Weld | Education | Volunteers worked at the Weld Alternative High School, helping to remove old furniture, sort files and clean storage rooms. |
| Weld | Social Services | Volunteers gathered at Weld Food Bank to help safety-check and sort through donated food. Volunteers also emptied bins of donated food as they prepared for the upcoming Spring food drives. |



I have a dream.....

that the poor people ^{had} money and a house to keep them warm and safe and its sad beacuse other people that do have this stuff make fun of the people that don't have it, and it makes it even harder for the poor, and everybody wouldn't have to pay for health insurance.

[Isaiah A.]

age 8

The "I Have a Dream" speech delivered to the San Luis Valley Boys and Girls Club by Isaiah A., a student in the Mi Animo Prevention Program.

"The true neighbor will risk his position, his prestige and even his life for the welfare of others."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Mark Your Calendars for the 2009 MLK Day of Service January 19th, 2009



"I've seen the promised land. I may not get there with you, but I want you to know tonight that we as a people will get to the promised land.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.