



POINTS OF LIGHT



# Toolkit and Resource Guide 2012 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service

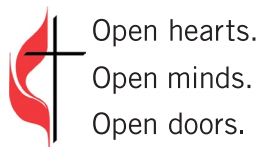
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# HOW TO GET INVOLVED

## INSPIRE CONVERSATION

An important piece of America's Sunday Supper whether you show a film or not, is sparking conversation and sharing ideas. Below are some conversation starters to help jump start your discussion.

## SERVICE

- MLK Day is a "Day on, not a day off." How are you going to make MLK Day "a day on?"
- Dr. King once said, "We must work unceasingly to uplift this nation that we love to a higher destiny, to a higher plateau of compassion, to a more noble expression of humaneness." How can you lift up your community?
- What is one local organization for which you would like to volunteer? Why?
- How can you encourage more people in your community, workplace or neighborhood to volunteer?
- What is your local community doing to reach out to the less fortunate in your community? How do you think you could do more?
- Does your community serve veterans? How are you helping them assimilate back into their daily lives once they return from their deployment?

## COMMUNITY/CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

- What is one thing you would like to change in your community? What are tangible steps you could take to make that change happen?
- What skills, resources or talents do you have that you could use to change your community?
- Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "With freedom comes responsibility." Is this statement true? If so, what responsibilities do we have as citizens?
- What are the elements or characteristics of a healthy community? Does your community exhibit these characteristics? If not, what can you do to encourage these elements?

If you are showing a film, another option to consider is to invite local experts to conduct a post-screening panel discussion. This could be a great way to engage the audience in a Q&A session.

# HOW TO GET INVOLVED

## JOIN THE NATIONAL CONVERSATION

In addition to the live, local conversations, participants across the country will be connecting online via Twitter (#MLKDay), [Facebook](#) and [Points of Light's online Livestream channel](#) to share their experiences, perspectives and insights, generating a national dialogue.

The web-enabled conversations will continue throughout MLK Day and beyond. Connect with other Americans participating in Sunday Suppers locally and nationally and share your experiences.



Moderated by Juan Williams, Fox News National Political Correspondent, the 2011 America's Sunday Supper panel included:

- Arianna Huffington, co-founder and editor-in-chief of The Huffington Post
- Legendary Olympian and UN Ambassador, Carl Lewis
- Esquire Chef of the Year 2009 and National Geographic Fellow, Barton Seaver
- NBA Legend and NBA Global Ambassador, Dikembe Mutombo
- Producer/Director of "A Village Called Versailles", S.S. Leo Chiang
- Robert Egger, Founder and President of the DC Central Kitchen
- Michelle Nunn, CEO of Points of Light

# HOW TO GET INVOLVED

## LEAD A SERVICE PROJECT OR VOLUNTEER ON MLK DAY

MLK Day is a great opportunity to get hands-on in your community. You might have a passion for service, or feel inspired to kick-off 2012 by volunteering after attending a Sunday Supper. Dr. King's life and legacy was about his commitment to service and social justice. If you shared a film during a Sunday Supper or would like to connect your service project specifically to Dr. King, below are a few ideas.

- **Poverty** – Organize a canned food drive for your local shelter. Expand the drive to include donating blankets, gloves, etc. to keep the homeless in your community warm during the winter months.
- **Education** – Organize a school supply drive.
- **Community** – Learn about the history of the community where you live. Identify cultural and religious groups in your community that might be neglected. Discuss how you can learn about their culture and help support them in preserving it.
- **Youth** – Organize a toy drive to provide less fortunate children in the community with toys and games.
- **Military/Veterans** – Assemble care packages for military members overseas.
- **Women's Empowerment** – Identify gaps in your community where women don't have equal opportunity. Develop a plan to provide literacy classes, teach English, offer vocational skills or train on financial literacy.
- **Food Security** – Donate to the local food bank.

Included in this toolkit are all the resources you'll need to plan your service project. See the Appendix for additional event planning resources.



# YOUTH, FAMILIES AND EDUCATORS

We've shared information on how to plan a Sunday Supper, organize a service project and recognize outstanding volunteers in your community. What if these options don't fit your needs?

Dr. King's work brought together people of all different backgrounds and united them through service and community engagement. Below you'll find links to connect you to the resources you need to celebrate MLK Day.

GenerationOn, the youth enterprise of Points of Light, inspires, equips and mobilizes youth to take action that changes the world and themselves through service. GenerationOn MLK Day resources are designed to provide students, parents, teachers, and youth service organizations with the tools and resources needed to plan and run meaningful MLK Day service projects at school or in the community.

## Resources include:

**Grow Involved!® on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Youth Service Event Planning Guide** – project ideas and tips designed to lead kids and teens through the planning and implementation of MLK Day events in the community.

**GenerationOn's free Grow Involved!® Classroom Kits** – all-inclusive service project kits designed to help teachers and service-learning coordinators incorporate youth service into schools and communities.

**MLK Day Service-Learning Lesson Plans and Units** – Single class-period lessons and multi-lesson service-learning units, correlated to state and national Common Core standards, that teach the importance of civic engagement for the common good.

**GenerationOn MLK Day Moments of Service Webinar** – online training focusing on MLK Day with resources in the planning, development, and execution of service and service-learning projects.

For more information on how to get involved visit [www.generationon.org](http://www.generationon.org) or [www.generationon.org/global/big-happenings/mlk-2012](http://www.generationon.org/global/big-happenings/mlk-2012)