January 11, 2013

Prepare, participate in the Martin Luther King Day of Service

"January 21, 2013 will mark the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. federal holiday. This milestone is a perfect opportunity for Americans to honor Dr. King’s legacy through service. The MLK Day of Service empowers individuals, strengthens communities, bridges barriers, creates solutions to social problems, and moves us closer to Dr. King’s vision of a beloved community." -- MLKDay.gov

We at the INOFBCI encourage you to visit the MLKDay.gov website to learn more about MLK Day and how you can participate. Below are a few links to get you started.

- Why Serve on MLK Day?
- How Can I Serve?
- Learn About Dr. King

Learn more by clicking here.

OpEd: When you volunteer, you become special

Jim Huston
Aleeah Livengood

The Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, 'Everyone can be great because anyone can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't even have to
make your subject and your verb agree to serve. . . . You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.' As we reflect on 2012, we can be proud that so many Hoosiers understand that message, and the number of servant volunteers seems to be growing.

Most recently, we have seen countless Hoosier volunteers help with the recovery of Hurricane Sandy. From monetary donations to in-kind items to individuals traveling east to help out, Hoosiers have stepped up to meet needs quickly in the wake of disaster.

Continue reading by clicking here.

Volunteer for MLK Day with Colts linebacker Gary Brackett

Contact: Brad Meadows, (317) 232-2651, bmeadows@icrc.in.gov

Indianapolis: Former Indianapolis Colts linebacker Gary Brackett will lead several local organizations in the Second Annual Dr. King Day of Service Friday, January 18, 2013 presented by the Indiana Civil Rights Commission. The event will honor Dr. Martin Luther King’s legacy by increasing economic opportunities through service and volunteer activities.

Those interested in volunteering should contact: Paula Barnett, Volunteer Coordinator, (317) 234-6482 or pbarnett@icrc.in.gov.

Click here for more information.

Indiana Civil Rights Commission
The Indiana Civil Rights Commission enforces Indiana Civil Rights Laws and provides education and services to the public in an effort to ensure equal opportunity for all Hoosiers and visitors to the State of Indiana.

Look who's serving: find Indiana MLK Day service opportunities

Some technical difficulties appear to be delaying the events we have submitted in honor of MLK Day from posting on the AllForGood.org website. So as we wait, we wanted to share some Indiana-specific causes may be a fit for you (feel free to write us here at the INFBCI and we'll update the list! You can write us at "info" at "ofbci.in.gov"). You may notice that some occur on MLK Day and others occur on different days though they are still happening in

- Feb. 8-11 - ALDE Educational Conference (fund raising, marketing, communications)
- Feb. 28 - SAVI level II: My Data webinar
- Mar. 9-17 - AmeriCorps "Week"
- Apr. 7-10 - National AfterSchool Association's Annual Convention (Indy)
- Jun. 19-22 - Service Unites Conference on Volunteering and Service (Points of Light)

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If you can receive text updates, you can get Twitter updates from us without joining Twitter. Simply text "follow INOFBCI" on your mobile phone to this number: 40404.

Our Programs:

- One Stop SHOP: nonprofit Grant funding, volunteering, contracts
honor of Dr. King's legacy).

Please feel free to plug your zip code into our service-finder widget (making sure to check out the multiple tabs of types of activities) or check the list below this text (all events are organized by date):

Click here to view the rest of the article, which includes a widget to find service opportunities in your area.

Create your own MLK Day event

If you would like to create your own service activity, (which anyone can do!), here are some service areas or needs to address you might consider:

- Disaster services / disaster preparedness
- Economic opportunity
- Education
- Environmental stewardship
- Healthy futures (activities that promote good health habits)
- Veterans and military families assistance
- Shelter work for the people who are homeless and/or transient
- Food pantry assistance

Once you've put the idea together, it doesn't matter how simple or complex it is, register it at http://www.allforgood.org/posting. While there, you can also search other service opportunities.

Please feel free to contact us with questions or for more information.

United We Serve.

Join Us for the Largest Earthquake Drill in Central U.S. History.

February 7, 2013
Hoosiers encouraged to 'shake out' for earthquake preparedness

Did you know that on this April 18, it will have been five years since Indiana was hit by an earthquake that was felt by thousands across the state? Thankfully, that quake was a minor quake that did not cause a magnitude of damage for which the New Madrid fault has the potential.

Given that potential for disaster, our good friends at the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) have asked us to spread the word to you, our friends in the world of nonprofit, faith, philanthropic, service, volunteerism, to consider taking part in the “largest earthquake drill in central U.S. history.”

Register here: http://www.shakeout.org/centralus/register/

For more information, please visit: http://www.shakeout.org/centralus/.

Starfish Initiative seeks AmeriCorps VISTA applicants

As posted by our friends at Charitable Advisors:

Location: Indianapolis, IN
Type: Full Time
Organization: Starfish Initiative

Description: Starfish Initiative is seeking two efficient and organized individuals to join our team for a year of service through Americorps VISTA. Both VISTA positions focus on capacity building for our organization. One VISTA will be supporting our College Program and another VISTA will be supporting our High School Program. Americorps VISTA members receive a living stipend, health benefits, and an education award upon the completion of their year of
service.

Qualifications: Starfish Initiative is in the business of getting bright young kids into college, prepared to get their degree, and then to bring their knowledge and energy and value back to central Indiana. That’s our mission. Starfish is about college. Getting there. Staying there. Succeeding there. Each event and every program element is designed to create self-sufficient, self-advocating individuals who will get their college degree and claim their place in the world.

Click APPLY NOW to apply online. Then scroll down the page to Advanced Search. Select AmeriCorps VISTA, then choose INDIANA as the state and hit Search at the bottom.

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**AmeriCorps in the news: Jackson Co. members spur local service**

*Brownstown Students Collect Blankets*

*Published Friday, December 21, 2012 via the WBIW News Network*

(BROWNSTOWN) - Members of Brownstown Central High School’s Distributive Education Clubs of America, a club that focuses on business and marketing, spent the month of December collecting blankets for Jackson County Sertoma Club’s efforts to provide families in need this Christmas.

The Jackson County Banner reports blankets were collected by juniors and seniors through a volunteering project organized by members of Jackson County Americorps.

*Click here to read the rest of the story*