

WORDS MATTER, ACTIONS MATTER.

**Serve in honor
of Dr. Martin
Luther King Jr.**



#MLKDay

ServeRI
Commission for National and Community Service

AmeriCorps
Rhode Island

What is MLK Day?

Martin Luther King, Jr., was a social rights activist in the 1950s and '60s. He was a leader of the American civil rights movement and organized a number of peaceful protests, including the March on Washington in 1963. After Dr. King's assassination in 1968, his wife, Coretta Scott King guided the creation of the largest archive of documents from the Civil Rights Movement. Perhaps her greatest legacy was spearheading the massive educational and lobbying campaign to establish Dr. King's birthday as a national holiday to be celebrated through service.

How does MLK Day connect to AmeriCorps?

The Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service is a defining moment each year when Americans step up to make our communities more equitable and take action to create the Beloved Community of Dr. King's dream. While Dr. King believed the Beloved Community was possible, he acknowledged and fought for systemic change. **His example is our call to action.** MLK Day is the only federal holiday designated as a national day of service to encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities. AmeriCorps has been charged with leading this effort for the past quarter century. To learn more about AmeriCorps visit AmeriCorps.gov

How can your students be involved?

With MLK Day right around the corner, Black History Month and Random Acts of Kindness Day coming up in February consider a lesson on his teachings or plan a service learning project with your students to get them involved.

Visit TheKingCenter.org or ServeRhodeIsland.com/MLKDay for ideas and share your results with us on social media @AmeriCorpsRI and use #MLKDay

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