

## LIVING THE DREAM, INC. – REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. WEEK



*2023 Theme: "Why We Can't Wait"*

Website: [www.ltdtopeka.com](http://www.ltdtopeka.com)

### **Thursday, January 5, 2023 – Tuesday, January 31, 2023: Annual MLK Food Drive**

- Topeka Public Schools-USD #501 in partnership with Living the Dream, Inc. will be collecting non-breakable and non-perishable food items. Donation bins will be placed in all Topeka Public Schools' buildings.

### **Monday, January 9, 2023 - Friday, January 13, 2023: Respect for Elders and Pre-Schoolers Week**

- Members of Living the Dream, Inc. and community volunteers will be storytelling throughout the week about the life and legacy of Dr. King to various Topeka area pre-school students.
- Throughout this week, students from Topeka High School's Job's for America's Graduates (JAG) will be delivering personal care baskets to select Topeka area senior centers in recognition of elderly citizens.

### **Tuesday, January 10, 2023: Education Outreach Day**

- The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Poetry Competition for students in grades fifth through twelfth will be held at 6:00 pm at the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library, Marvin Auditorium. A reception will follow the program.

### **Thursday, January 12, 2023: Governor's Annual MLK March and Proclamation Signing**

- The traditional march around the Kansas Statehouse starts at 11:30 am from the south doors of the Kansas Capitol. The march will be led by Governor Laura Kelly, legislators, and members of the Kansas African American Affairs Commission. The march will culminate with Governor Kelly signing the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. proclamation in the first floor rotunda at 12:00 noon. The keynote speaker is Angela Bates, Director of the Nicodemus Historical Society.

### **Saturday, January 14, 2023: Scholarship and Community Awards Banquet**

- The Scholarship and Awards Banquet will be held at the Ramada Hotel and Convention Center, Regency Ballroom, 420 SE Sixth Street. The doors open at 5:30 pm and the program starts at 6:30 pm. Rev. Markel Hutchins, Chairman and CEO of MovementForward, Inc. of Atlanta, Georgia is the banquet speaker. Graduating high school seniors and scholarship and community awards recipients will be recognized.

### **Sunday, January 15, 2023: MLK Communitywide Worship Service**

- The Kansas Nebraska American Baptist Central Churches Region Area in partnership with Living the Dream, Inc. is hosting a worship service at 7:00 pm at the New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church, 2801 SW Indiana Avenue, Rev. Delmar White, Pastor. Rev. T.D. Hicks, pastor of the Antioch Missionary Baptist Church is the keynote speaker.

### **Monday, January 16, 2023: Dr. King National Holiday and Day of Community Service**

- The New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church, 2801 SW Indiana Avenue, Rev. Delmar White, Pastor is hosting the Student Recognition Awards program at their Fellowship Hall. The first, second, and third place winners of the 2023 MLK Art, Essay, and Poetry Competitions will be recognized at 10:00 am. The winning artwork will be on display.
- **“Whose Dream Is It?”** and the Topeka Center for Peace and Justice in partnership with Living the Dream, Inc., is sponsoring its 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Celebration and Chili and Soup Dinner at the New Life Baptist Church, 3601 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Rev. Clarence Newton is the host pastor. The free Chili and Soup Dinner starts at 6:00 pm followed by the program at 7:00 pm. Dr. Beryl New, Director of Certified Personnel and Equity Council, Topeka Public Schools is the keynote speaker. Ms. LaQuanda Jacobs of the Innocence Project will also be sharing her experience about her false imprisonment. Mr. Ronnie Cushinberry and a Community Choir will be providing musical selections.
- Harvesters - The Community Food Network is hosting a **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. National Day of Service**” in partnership with Living the Dream, Inc. Community volunteers will be sorting and repacking food for children, families, and seniors in need of food assistance. Volunteers must be eight years of age or older. Masks are optional to wear. To register for the various two-hour shifts, please go online to: [www.harvesters.org/how-to-help/volunteer/volunteer-opportunities](http://www.harvesters.org/how-to-help/volunteer/volunteer-opportunities) or contact the Community Engagement Team at: [fighthunger@harvesters.org](mailto:fighthunger@harvesters.org) or at (785) 861-7750. Volunteers are encouraged to donate chicken noodle, tomato or vegetable soup for the MLK Food Drive.

### **Tuesday, January 17, 2023: Day of Community Service**

- Harvesters - The Community Food Network is continuing the **“MLK Day of Service”** in partnership with Living the Dream, Inc. Volunteers will be sorting and repacking food for children, families, and seniors in need of food assistance. Volunteers must be eight years of age or older. Masks are optional to wear. To register for the various two-hour shifts, please go online to: [www.harvesters.org/how-to-help/volunteer/volunteer-opportunities](http://www.harvesters.org/how-to-help/volunteer/volunteer-opportunities) or contact the Community Engagement Team at: [fighthunger@harvesters.org](mailto:fighthunger@harvesters.org) or at (785) 861-7750. Volunteers are encouraged to bring chicken noodle, tomato or vegetable soup for the MLK Food Drive.