



Spring 1-14-2016

## MLK Day of Service Gives Students a Chance to Volunteer and Reflect

Winthrop University

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### Recommended Citation

Winthrop University, "MLK Day of Service Gives Students a Chance to Volunteer and Reflect" (2016).  
*Winthrop News 2016*. 14.  
<https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/winthropnews2016/14>

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# MLK Day of Service Gives Students a Chance to Volunteer and Reflect

## Quick Facts

- More than 300 students will spend their day off with their peers from York Technical College and Clinton College to put King's inspiring words to action through volunteer work across York County.
- In observance of the MLK Day as a federal and state holiday, Winthrop classes are cancelled and offices are closed.



*Kinyata Brown*

ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA — Winthrop University will honor the legacy of the **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.** on Jan. 18 during the institution's largest annual one-day service event.

More than 300 students will spend their day off with their peers from **York Technical College** and **Clinton College** to put King's inspiring words to action through volunteer work across York County. In observance of the **MLK Day** as a federal and state holiday, Winthrop classes are cancelled and offices are closed.

"The students who participate in MLK Day of Service get an opportunity to build meaningful relationships with individuals who may be different than them," said **Kinyata Brown**, director of diversity and student engagement. "Although there may be differences, it is the common hope for humanity that unifies our community."

The event will kick off at 10:15 a.m. in Winthrop's Richardson Ballroom in the **DiGiorgio Campus Center**. Students will be joined by **President Dan Mahony**, wife Laura and their two children as they pitch in to help. Mahony will speak to the volunteers, in addition to performances by **WU Vision of Praise Choir** and **Skin Deep Perform**.

Each group of students will receive a "mission packet" that will reveal their challenge for the day and then will travel to their destinations. A few community partners include: First ARP Church, St. John's United Methodist Church, Freedom Temple Ministries, Adult Enrichment Center and Pilgrims' Inn.

To follow the community service activities on **Twitter**, use **#WUMLK16** and **#campuscompactmlk**.

The students will return to the Winthrop campus for lunch around 1 p.m. and share and reflect on their experiences.

The event is coordinated by **Winthrop's MLK Committee**, the **Center for Career and Civic Engagement** and **AmeriCorps VISTA**. Sponsors also include the **Resident Students' Association**, **Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs**, **Council of Student Leaders**, **Office of Diversity and Student Engagement**, the **Global Learning Initiative** and a grant from the **Iowa Campus Compact MLK Day mini grant**.

For more information on the celebration, contact **Judy Longshaw**, news and media services manager, at [longshawj@winthrop.edu](mailto:longshawj@winthrop.edu) or call her at 803/323-2404.

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