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Campus Compact Grant Will Help Fund MLK Events

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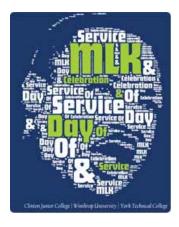
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Campus Compact Grant Will Help Fund **MLK Events**

Quick Facts

- The \$2,000 grant will be used for the 2016 service projects on Jan. 18 to aid in hunger outreach, thus connecting a university initiative to draw attention to local and global hunger.
- MLK Day has been a Winthrop tradition since 2000, when students and faculty voted to cancel classes to make room for events to be held in honor of the late Dr. King's birthday.



ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA - Winthrop University has received a \$2,000 Martin Luther King Day of Service grant provided by Campus Compact through support by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

MLK Day has been a Winthrop tradition since 2000, when students and faculty voted to cancel classes to make room for events to be held in honor of the late Dr. King's birthday. The late civil rights leader's birthday is observed as an official federal holiday and a state holiday on the third Monday of January.

"Our MLK Day of Service is a beloved event, in which we average 200 student and 50 faculty/staff volunteers," said Ellin McDonough, director of the Center for Career and Civic Engagement.

She said the \$2,000 grant will be used for the 2016 service projects on Jan. 18 to aid in hunger outreach, thus connecting a university initiative to draw attention to local and global hunger.

To date, 330 students have signed up to "Take a day ON, not off" during the federal holiday and will be supported by a strong team of 30 student leaders. Included in the total are York Technical College and Clinton College students who will work with the Winthrop students on the following projects:

- * A global hunger project, organized by Stop Hunger Now. Volunteers will package dehydrated foods for future delivery to communities across the globe.
- * A local hunger project in which the university has partnered with three local churches to prepare and deliver hot meals to people in need.
- * Additional projects will focus on service to senior citizens.

The Jan. 18 event will include performances from Skin Deep and Vision of Prayze Gospel Choir.

Winthrop's MLK Day of Service is planned, supported and facilitated by a committee of staff and students. Among those groups are: AmeriCorps*VISTA, Career and Civic Engagement, Council of Student Leaders, Diversity and Student Engagement, Fraternity and Sorority Affairs, National Panhellenic Council, Resident Students' Association, York Technical Collegeand Clinton College.

For more information, contact Judy Longshaw, news and media services manager, at 803/323-2404 or e-mail her at longshawj@winthrop.edu.

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