

NEWS RELEASE



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Contact and Media Inquiries:
Stacy Roller
Kids Impact Community, LLC.
414-531-0935
stacy@kicmke.org

KIDS IMPACT COMMUNITY (KIC) VOLUNTEER AND ACTIVISM SERIES IN HONOR OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

MILWAUKEE, WIS. -- To honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Kids Impact Community (KIC) has joined forces with the North Shore Coalition and is spearheading an event series dedicated to celebrating Dr. King. These free virtual events provide the North Shore community from our youngest to our oldest with opportunities to get involved in recognizing the area's racial inequities. The events are inspired by MLK Day's designation as a National Day of Service to encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities. Events include youth service opportunities, food drives, social justice story times, book discussions, technology collections and speaker series among others. Although these events are free, pre-registration is encouraged.

The MLK events hosted by Kids Impact Community (KIC) include:

Virtual Kids Impact Community MLK National Day of Service January 18 from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Join KIC for a virtual all-ages celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day through an engaging story time with a special guest reader, Milwaukee County Executive, David Crowley. Crowley will read *Let's Talk About Race* by Julius Lester, a powerful book that discusses race in a very concrete and accessible way –easy for even the youngest children to understand. Following a reflection of the reading, a second book reading of *Maddie's Fridge* by Lois Brandy will include a thoughtful chat about food insecurity. Children will be encouraged to donate extra food in their pantry to Food is Free MKE to be shared with a neighbor who is experiencing hunger and needs some extra support. The event will include music and movement breaks with Lachrisa Grandberry, a Milwaukee native and professional actor and teaching artist connected to Milwaukee Rep and The Second City in Chicago, and it will conclude with a community art activity.

Fill a "Make Your House a Home" Basket for ACTS Housing (K5+) January 18 from 4-5 p.m.

Join Kids Impact Community for a kid-led celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day through a virtual event and corresponding service project. Children will engage neighbors, friends and family to fill a "Make Your House a Home" Basket for ACTS Housing with supplies and necessities a family needs to make their very first house a home.

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**Kids Impact Community Social Justice Story Time - Racial Justice and Taking Action
January 19 from 4-5 p.m. and January 20 from 4-5 p.m.**

Rona Wolfe, kindergarten teacher and anti-bias educator, will lead kid-friendly discussions through stories about racial justice and address how kids can take big actions in small ways. Different books will be read for each day, so participants are encouraged to attend both events. These events will conclude with a community art activity that will challenge families to make a commitment to service over the next year. Families will be asked to paint how they plan on making a change in our community on a 6×6” canvas square. Like a quilt, these squares will be combined into a traveling art exhibit displayed at locations throughout the area.

In addition to the Kids Impact Community led events, KIC has joined forces this year with the North Shore Coalition - a group of local networks that advocate for racial justice on Milwaukee's North Shore and throughout the region. It was founded specifically to plan service projects, educational opportunities and special events that CELEBRATE, EDUCATION, ADVOCATE and SERVE in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. View a complete listing of local events at www.mlknsmkc.com.

For additional information regarding Kids Impact Community, or to access the link to register for the MLK events, please visit:

<http://kicmkc.org/mlk/>

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Kids Impact Community, LLC., strives to provide an environment where all children and families feel safe and affirmed, valued and reflected. We are unaffiliated with any faith traditions or other organizations. We partner with diverse, established, and effective organizations within Milwaukee that, like us, recognize the capability of children to make change, serve others, and build relationships.

KIC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, through which persons of diverse color, ethnicity, sexual orientation, family configuration, enablement and socioeconomic status learn and serve together.

Kids Impact Community, LLC • PO BOX 170694, Milwaukee, WI 53217 • www.kicmkc.org