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Department of Commerce,
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STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

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Serve Alaska – Call to Service 2022 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. National Day of Service

Monday, January 10, 2022 (ANCHORAGE, AK) – The Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service is a defining moment each year when Americans across the country step up to make our communities more equitable and take action to build the Beloved Community of Dr. King’s dream. His example is our **call to action**.

As we begin a new chapter in 2022, it is imperative we take advantage of opportunities to serve and support our communities on the path to recovery. The last two years have left Alaskan families dealing with challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic. Volunteerism renews and strengthens communities, families, and ourselves. Let us come together and help our communities recover and thrive through a common cause.

Making time to volunteer for the MLK Day of Service is a great way to engage with your community while honoring the legacy of Dr. King. Whether you plan on cleaning up a public space, mentoring a young person, or assisting those who are food insecure, what you do makes a world of difference.

“MLK Day of Service projects reflect a shared sense of community by bringing Alaskans together to engage in acts of service,” **said Governor Mike Dunleavy**. “I want to thank the nonprofit and community organizations, educational institutions, public agencies, private businesses, and other organizations across Alaska for answering the call to action. Each of us can and must contribute to making our Alaskan communities better with increased opportunity for all.”

Many communities will also engage in dialogue to explore ways they can address important issues. National Days of Service provide each of us with an opportunity to join neighbors and local leaders to tackle community challenges and strengthen the nation.

The Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development via Serve Alaska will leverage the strength of local citizens to help tackle local problems and advance Dr. King’s dream of opportunity for all.

“We are encouraging Alaskans across this great state to step up now through service in their communities,” said Sandra Moller, Director of the Division of Community and Regional Affairs. “May Dr. King’s teachings continue to guide and inspire us to strengthen our communities.”

Find a Volunteer Opportunity – Use the AmeriCorps Volunteer Search [HERE](#), powered by VolunteerMatch, to find an opportunity near you through one of these organizations: AmeriCorps, Idealist, Just Serve, MENTOR, Volunteer.gov (National Park Service), and

VolunteerMatch. For volunteer opportunities for MLK Day, please enter #MLK in the search box. For more information about the MLK Day of Service, visit AmeriCorps.gov/MLKDay.

Serve Alaska promotes and supports volunteerism across the state and brings AmeriCorps programs to Alaska. It is overseen by no fewer than 15 and no more than 25 voting Commission members appointed by the Governor. The Serve Alaska sub-grantees operate in almost every region of the state, bringing much needed support and training to rural and urban Alaska. Serve Alaska is housed within the Division for Community and Regional Affairs and the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development at the State of Alaska.

AmeriCorps, the federal agency for volunteerism and national service, provides opportunities for Americans to serve their country domestically, address the nation's most pressing challenges, improve lives and communities, and strengthen civic engagement. Each year, the agency invests more than \$800 million in grants for local nonprofit, community, tribal, and state organizations; places more than 250,000 AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers in intensive service roles; and empowers millions more to serve as long-term, short-term, or one-time volunteers. Learn more at AmeriCorps.gov.

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