



Local Events Honoring Martin Luther King, Jr. January 21, 2019

By Robin Gregg, School Counselor

On Martin Luther King Day, celebrated this year on Monday, January 21, 2019, communities in New Hampshire and the rest of the country will participate in commemorations, programs, and service activities. Antrim Elementary School and Pierce School families may wish to participate in two events in our area.

In nearby **Hancock, New Hampshire**, an event begins outdoors at **10 am on January 21, 2019**. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s *I Have a Dream* speech will be broadcast and read at the Hancock Bandstand on the town common in the middle of Hancock village. (In inclement weather, the speech will be read in the Vestry across the road from the Bandstand.) Following the speech, everyone is invited to the Vestry for snacks and beverages and a time of conversation and reflection. Art work and writing by Hancock Elementary School students will be displayed. This event is sponsored by members of the Hancock community who together have created a safe and inclusive forum to discuss topics of race and how ideas about and experiences of race affect our lives and community.

In keeping with this national Day of Service, **donations to the Peterborough Food Pantry** will be accepted at the Vestry during the event.

Later on that same day, in **Jaffrey, New Hampshire**, a program of events, "We Are All One Humanity," takes place at the Jaffrey Civic Center, downtown Jaffrey, NH and at the United Church of Jaffrey, 54 Main Street, Jaffrey. Bells will ring during the National Bell-Ringing Ceremony at 4:45 pm (and earlier that day during the Hancock event described above.) From **5-6 pm** at the United Church of Jaffrey, a program, "Let Freedom Ring: Choose Nonviolence," features Keynote Speaker Dr. Dottie Morris and speakers sponsored by the International Institute of New England and includes music performed by the Jaffrey and Rindge school choirs.

At **6 pm** at the Jaffrey Civic Center a reception with refreshments is open to all, and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Student Exhibit will be on display.

The Jaffrey Civic Center and the New Hampshire non-profit relief organization **NuDay Syria** are partnering in a **humanitarian drive** in keeping with the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service. NuDay Syria provides critically needed items to displaced Syrian children and families caught in one of the worst humanitarian crises of our time. Donations of nonperishable food, new/gently used clothing, shoes, bedding and sleeping bags, fabric and sewing supplies, toys and games such as crayons, play-doh and puzzles, diapers, soap, detergent and toothbrushes may be brought to the Jaffrey Civic Center Jan. 11-26, M-F 9-noon and 1-5pm and Sat. 10-2. Volunteers are also sought to help sort and pack on Sat. Jan. 26, 10-4 (rain date Sun. Jan 27, noon-4). The following are especially needed: Non-prescription medications (especially for pain) and vitamins; medical equipment (walkers, wheelchairs, canes, crutches) and supplies (bandages, etc.); Cookware and utensils (no dishware or other breakables;

Bicycles in any condition (they will be restored by a volunteer); tools and building supplies.

For questions, to volunteer or to arrange for pick-up of large items please call/text Jodi at 562-7033 or contact mlkjaffrey@gmail.com.