



News Release

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Subject: MLK Peace Walk
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

41st Annual MLK Peace Walk Celebration set for Monday, January 19

(SOUTHFIELD, Mich.) – The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Task Force and the city of Southfield will host the 41st annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Peace Walk Celebration on Monday, January 19 beginning at 9 a.m. at Hope United Methodist Church, 26275 Northwestern Highway. This year’s theme will be ***“Crafting the dream in a peaceful and sustainable world rooted in dignity, democracy and nonviolence.”***

The peace walk will begin in the gymnasium of Hope United Methodist Church at 9 a.m., with an opening ceremony chaired by Dorothy Dean. The ceremony will include an opening ceremony and remarks from Mayor Ken Siver announcements and recognitions of the organizations at the event. The procession to the Southfield Pavilion will then take place followed by an 11 a.m. program at the Southfield Pavilion, 26000 Evergreen Road. Community members wishing to participate in this year’s Peace March are asked to arrive by 9 a.m. at the Hope United Methodist Church gymnasium. Mayor Kenson Siver along with Police Chief Elvin Baren will lead the march and the Pathfinders will provide a drum Corp for the peace walk. After the march, a great program has been planned in the Southfield Pavilion along with a vendor display. Everything is free and open to the public.

The Task Force will also recognize youth for their community service at the MLK Youth Service Awards at Hope United Methodist Church on January 13 from 7-9 p.m. This event is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate and recognize the outstanding achievements of our youth in serving the community. This will be an inspiring evening filled with heartfelt speeches, amazing performances, and the presentation of well-deserved awards. Pre-registration is required at:

26000 Evergreen Rd. • P.O. Box 2055 • Southfield, Michigan 48037-2055 • www.cityofsouthfield.com

<https://www.mlktaskforcemi.org/events-1/youth-service-awards>

For additional information about the Youth Service Awards email mlk2ndvp@mlktaskforcemi.org or call (248) 629-0656.

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Task Force, in partnership with Forgotten Harvest Food Bank will host a food drive on Friday January 16 from 2-4 p.m. at the Southfield Parks & Recreation parking lot. Families in need can pull up in their vehicle to the Southfield Parks and Recreation circular drive during the event time and follow directions to receive a free food box. Food boxes will be available for the first 125 people.

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Task Force, Inc. is an all-volunteer grassroots civic organization. Its mission and purpose is to celebrate the life and works of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and to accept the challenges to work to make real the promise of America as a land of freedom, equality, opportunity, and brotherhood, and to commit to plan observances to remind us of his philosophy of non-violent actions for creating positive social change. They are a civic and advocacy organization guided by the works of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to facilitate social change, the education of our youth and to promote justice.

Southfield was the first city in the state of Michigan to hold a Dr. King peace walk or march. The first Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Peace Walk took place on January 20, 1986, commemorating the first national observance of Dr. King's birthday. The walk continues to grow in size and scope each year, with year-long educational and community outreach activities.

For general information, call the MLK Task Force hotline at (248) 924-9655 or visit www.mlktaskforcemi.org. For more information about the walk, contact Dorothy Dean, Opening Ceremony and Peace Walk Chair at (248) 790-0531. For more information about the program, contact Erica Perryman, First Vice President and Program Chairman at mlk1stvp@mlktaskforcemi.org.

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