

Girl Scouts + Rotary District 6220

Martin Luther King Jr. Service Day 2023

Girl Scouts + Rotary District 6220

Martin Luther King Jr. Service Day 2023

Questions? Contact:

Girl Scout IDEA Lunch & Learns

Girl Scouts invites staff, board members, and Rotarians to engage in Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access development.

The Erasure of Indigenous Histories, Cultures and Identities

November 2, 2022 11:30-12:30 PM

<https://zoom.us/j/95608721233>

Password: IDEA

Staff will discover how Indigenous histories, cultures and identities have been represented in pop culture, the educational system and in history. Staff will reflect on the erasure of indigenous histories, cultures and identities. They will then discuss Take Action opportunities to honor the identities, cultures and histories of Indigenous communities.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 17th, 2023 10:00am-3:00pm

<https://zoom.us/j/95896401077>

Password: IDEA

Staff will explore and learn about the blockbusting efforts in the city of Chicago, led by guest speaker Kate Bennett. They will discuss Take Action in their own communities to honor Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Staff will then discuss and reflect and plan to implement the teachings and knowledge to further ensure that Girl Scouts is an equitable place for all girls.

Women's History Month

March 1, 2023 11:30am-12:30 pm

<https://zoom.us/j/95482726079>

Password: IDEA

Staff will discover the stories and experiences of various women of color who have made an impact on women's rights. They will discuss how to incorporate these stories and women into the Girl Scouts program curriculum. Furthermore, they will reflect and discuss these lived experiences and the women's rights history.

Asian American + Pacific Islander History, Cultures, and Identities

May 3, 2023 11:30am-12:30pm

<https://zoom.us/j/94513590557>

Password: IDEA

Staff will explore and learn cultures and histories of Asian American and Pacific Islander women. They will discuss and reflect on how to ensure they are respecting and appreciating Asian American and Pacific Islander cultures and experiences in programming and in their own personal lives.

LGBTQ+ Black Folx Juneteenth Storytelling & Celebration

June 15, 2023, 11:30am-12:30 pm

<https://zoom.us/j/96000714763>

Password: IDEA

Staff will discover and learn about LGBTQ+ Black Folx representation in pop culture and history. They will reflect on how to ensure we represent underrepresented narratives and experiences in programming and in the Girl Scout experience. Staff will also connect to community organizations hosting events, and Take Action by attending and representing Girl Scouts at Juneteenth events across our geography.

Minority Mental Health Awareness Month

July 12, 2023 11:30am-12:30 pm

<https://zoom.us/j/96408531456>

Password: IDEA

Staff will discover how to support and spread awareness of mental health for BIPOC. They will also explore how racism and privilege contributes to lessened mental health. Furthermore, staff will Take Action by exploring how to implement mental health into programming and how to support and spread awareness for mental health in their personal lives.

Celebrating our History and Culture: Hispanic Heritage Month

September 6, 2023 11:30 am-12:30 pm

<https://zoom.us/j/93736182768>

Password: IDEA

Staff will explore and learn from Hispanic/Latinx communities. They will learn and immerse themselves in traditions and folklore from different Hispanic communities, and how to incorporate those traditions and folklore in the Girl Scout experience through programming. Staff will Take Action by ensuring Hispanic/Latinx Girl Scouts are supported and that programming is mindful of varying cultures.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day Community Service Toolkit

Girl Scouts in collaboration with Rotary District 6220

Dr. King displayed his courage, confidence, and character and took action to make the world a better place throughout his life as he organized boycotts and protests, practiced radical nonviolence, and played a major role in the fight for American Civil Rights. His efforts were not popular during his lifetime; over 2/3 of Americans held an unfavorable view of him near the end of his life (Gallup, 1966), and he was subjected to violence, threats, and incarceration. Despite the weight of the country pushing against him, he continued to advocate, organize, and lead. These efforts from him and other members of the Civil Rights Movement eventually led to the 24th Amendment making poll taxes unconstitutional, restoring the power of the 14th and 15th Amendments, and creating three Civil Rights Acts. Dr. King's last work was the Poor People's Campaign, advocating economic justice through the passage of an Economic Bill of Rights. Dr. King was assassinated on April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee.

Girl Scouts and Rotary District 6220 honor Martin Luther King Jr. Day through community service.

Taking place each year on the third Monday in January, the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service (MLK Day) is the only federal holiday that Congress also designates as a national day of service—a “day on, not a day off.” Participation in service activities has grown each year as more Americans are encouraged to provide meaningful change in their communities (U.S. Department of the Interior).

What Is Community Service?

Community service is:

- usually activity-focused
- girls joining something already in place
- girls following someone else's directions

Whereas Take Action projects are:

- creativity-focused projects, where girls assess needs and create plans
- projects where girls create opportunities for others to serve now and in the future
- projects where girls use leadership skills to make decisions and give directions to other volunteers

Participating in community service is a great way to spark an interest in further Take Action projects!

Hosting a Supply Drive

For Rotary Clubs or Girl Scouts hosting a supply drive in your community.

Welcome

You've decided to host a service project in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day! Planning community service opportunities is not always easy, and some people simply don't have time to plan projects on their own. That's why we've put together this handy guide that lays it all out for you. This project is perfect for all ages and allows Girl Scouts and Rotarians to come together to support their communities.

If you don't find everything you need in this guide, we can help! Contact us with questions, comments, or suggestions via an email to program@gsnwg.org.

Planning your community service

Our suggested community service activity is a supply drive to support organizations or shelters for individuals experiencing homelessness. Within this toolkit are additional information and resources for Girl Scout troops and families to discover the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and the topics of homelessness. Rotaries do not need to implement any specific education with Girl Scouts, but feel free to share the learnings with any Rotarians involved!

Step 1: Research and contact one or more local organizations and shelters, depending on your anticipated supply drive size and the needs of the organization.

Questions to ask:

- What are your biggest supply needs? (Common items include underwear, socks, toiletries, paper products, tampons/pads, laundry detergent, towels, and more.)
- Are there any supplies that you do not need?
- Who does your organization serve?
- What root causes of homelessness should we be aware of?
- Beyond supply drives, what additional community education, advocacy, or longer-term solutions are needed to address homelessness in the community? This will help you guide Girl Scouts who are interested in doing further projects.

Step 2: Set your supply drive logistics.

Questions to consider:

- What are the start and end dates for your supply drive?
- What will you collect?
- Where can Girl Scout troops and families drop items off?
- Is there a specific date and time for drop-off, or will a drop-off area be open throughout a particular timeframe?

- How will you transport items from the drop location to the receiving organization or shelter?
- Are there any opportunities for Girl Scouts and Rotarians to assist with drop-off?

Step 3: Communicate with your local Girl Scout troops and families. Use the flyer template below and submit to program@gsnwg.org. Girl Scouts will share the flyer with troops and families within the area you serve.

Step 4: Implement the supply drive! Have a great picture? Send it to program@gsnwg.org.

Participating in a Supply Drive

For Girl Scouts and Rotarians participating in an established supply drive.

Welcome

You're invited to participate in a service project in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day! This project is perfect for all ages and allows Girl Scouts and Rotarians to come together to support their communities.

Steps to participation

Supply drives are hosted by local Rotary Clubs, Girl Scout Service Areas, and/or Girl Scout Troops. If your community doesn't already have one planned, you can be the first! Check out our guidance above on planning a supply drive.

Step 1: Discover the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Spend time reading the information below as a troop and explore the other videos and resources offered.

Step 2: Connect to the experience of homelessness in your community. Spend time reading the information below as a troop and explore the other videos and resources offered.

Step 3: Participate in a supply drive! Your troop can collect items from home, purchase items using troop funds, and/or ask family and friends to donate items. Need help finding your local drive? Contact program@gsnwg.org.

Discovering Martin Luther King Jr. and Community Service

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is known as a speaker, social activist, and most importantly a great Civil Rights leader. Martin Luther King Jr. was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964 for his ongoing nonviolent resistance to achieve equal rights for Black Americans.

Martin Luther King Jr. was born on January 15, 1929. Although King grew up in a "comfortable middle-class family" in Atlanta, Georgia, he still experienced racial prejudices, racial segregation, discrimination, inequalities, etc., all because he was a Black American (Lewis, 2022). There were no equal rights for African Americans in the United States.

After earning his doctorate, King moved to Montgomery, Alabama, where he joined the civil rights movement (1954–

1968). The civil rights movement was a movement to give everybody equal rights regardless of the color of their skin, gender, nationality, religion, disability, age, etc. Everyone is to be treated equally and protected by the law.

In December 1955, Rosa Parks, an African-American woman, was arrested for refusing to give up her seat on the bus for a white passenger (Lewis, 2022). Due to this, King took a role in organizing the nonviolent bus boycott which was successful and became known as the Montgomery bus boycott. King also became a leader of the civil rights movement. King delivered his "I have a dream" speech in 1963 which became one of his most well-known speeches (Lewis, 2022). His speech was about his dream of a country with no segregation and racism, to have equality for all, and a beloved community. Instead of choosing violence, King became well known as a leader who used the power of words, the act of public service, and acts of nonviolence resistance to gain equality and human rights for African Americans, the economically disadvantaged, and all who faced injustice. King organized and led several peaceful protests to help end segregation during the American civil rights movement.

Throughout Martin Luther King Jr.'s life, he brought about a lot of meaningful changes in his communities, other communities, and the country through his acts of service and leadership. King organized several nonviolent marches and protests during the civil rights movement such as the Memphis sanitation workers' strike and the March on Washington. The March on Washington was a march to gain jobs and freedom. It was a peaceful march to end segregation, gain fair wages, economic justice, voting rights, and education, and for civil rights protections. King saw the economic inequalities: people working full-time jobs yet only getting paid a part-time income. King always advocated for an economic bill of rights for poor white, black, and brown workers. Today, many bills have been passed for equality at work such as the Equality Act, Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, the Affordable Care Act, Social Security Act, Unemployment Benefits, etc.

Learn more about Martin Luther King Jr. below:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1dlQo3cVBI>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xAUvvAbzkUk>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pG8X0vOvi7Q>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ank52Zi_S0

For more videos, books, and speeches about Martin Luther King Jr., visit: <https://freedomhomeschooling.com/dr-martin-luther-king-jr-videos/>.

However, economic inequalities still exist. Some people are still being underpaid and overworked. Some families still need support and assistance due to unforeseen circumstances. There are people in our community who need immediate assistance, especially our brothers and sisters who are without homes. What kind of immediate supply needs do they have?

Did you know?

Someone who doesn't have a home is experiencing homelessness. Anybody can experience homelessness: it doesn't matter if you are young or old, a boy or a girl, or live in a city or suburb. Being homeless is hard. Unhoused families

often have to live in their cars, in motels, or in homeless shelters where they may have to share an apartment with another family. Imagine how difficult it would be to get ready for school, do your homework, or invite friends over if you didn't have a room or home to call your own. What other challenges do people who are experiencing homelessness face?

How does this happen?

Many people without homes have a job and go to work, but they don't make enough money to pay for a place to live. Other families become unhoused because they lose their job, have expenses to pay, lost their homes in fires or natural disasters, or are running away from a difficult or abusive relationship at home. Families with young children are the fastest-growing

group of homeless people. It can be hard to make enough money to buy everything a young, growing family needs!

A homeless shelter is a place people can temporarily stay if they don't have anywhere else. Some shelters only let families stay for the night, a few days, a few months, or sometimes a year. Shelters can be one large room with bunk beds or look like apartment buildings. Shelters often also provide other services to families, such as meals, childcare, job training, support groups, and therapy.

Please make a list of things that all children experience every day (e.g., we go to school, we like hanging out with friends). Would homelessness affect these experiences? In what ways?

How can you make this an ongoing Take Action project with your troop?

Contribute	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Collect toys, books, games, and clothing for donations.● Hold supply drives for diapers, quarters for the laundromat, and school supplies.● Create survival kits that include shampoo, soap, toothpaste, and toothbrushes.● Be aware of your language. Minimize language that refers to people experiencing homelessness in derogatory ways, and use people-first language (e.g., a person experiencing homelessness instead of a homeless person).● Donate food to a food pantry.● Collect hats, mittens, and coats.
Advocate	Write letters to your elected officials about the issue of homelessness.
Educate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Share what you find out about homelessness with those around you.● Talk to your peers about homelessness.● Follow your local news.● Take advantage of teachable moments. When you see others acting insultingly toward someone experiencing homelessness, share your compassionate and informed view on the difficult circumstances and obstacles facing people experiencing homelessness.



Hygiene Kit and Mailer Assembly Dates

Girl Scouts invites Rotarians to assist with our hygiene kit and mailer assembly dates!

Girl Scout Service Center: Green Bay

112 N Adams St.
Green Bay, WI 54301

November 18, 2022
10am-3pm

Girl Scout Service Center: Appleton

4693 N Lynndale Dr.
Appleton, WI 54913

February 10, 2023 OR February 17, 2023
10am-3pm

Girl Scout Service Center: Schofield

3511 Camp Phillips Road
Schofield, WI 54476

April 21, 2023
10am-3pm

Local Rotary Clubs should select the date that works best for them and notify Brittany Pyatt at bpyatt@gsnwgl.org or 920.955.3450. We will host the assembly on your selected date.