

Stockton College to Host 8th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service

Event is Monday, January 16

For Immediate Release

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Galloway Township, NJ- The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey will continue its tradition of starting the new semester with a daylong program of community service activities prior to the first day of classes. The 8th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Day of Service will take place **Monday, January 16, 2012**.

The public is invited to participate along with Stockton students, faculty and staff. This year the College is partnering in the event with the Galloway Twp. Public Schools. A wide range of service projects and activities are available for volunteers to take part in, both on and off campus.

"The Day of Service is something we started shortly after I began at the College and it has grown each year, both in participation and the number of agencies we help," Stockton President Herman J. Saatkamp said. :"We are encouraging people to take a day on rather than a day off to honor Dr. King on his national holiday."

To register electronically for the event, visit the Stockton website, <u>www.stockton.edu</u> and click on the MLK Day of Service icon.

Breakfast and sign-in for pre-registered volunteers will take place beginning 8:00 a.m. in the College's Sports Center.

The opening of the program will begin at 9:00 a.m. with speeches delivered by Dr. Saatkamp

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and a keynote by Stockton graduate Terry Dougherty a 3rd grade teacher at Roland Rogers Elementary School in Galloway. There will also be musical selections and entertainment.

Before the volunteers embark on their service projects, which take place from approximately 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., several Community Engagement Awards will be presented to staff and faculty members, a student and a student organization.

The College will be sending groups of volunteers to more than a dozen local organizations. A number of Day of Service activities will also take place on campus and are open to the public.

President Saatkamp said, "MLK Day of Service gives our students the opportunity to start off the New Year and the new semester by giving back to the community. It has been very rewarding to watch the program succeed and attract more and more students each year. This year, we are expecting more than 250 students to participate."

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