



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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We Are Part of the Dream

AmeriCorps*VISTAs (Volunteers In Service To America) serving with HeartLine invite you to celebrate the vision of Dr. King's "beloved community." The mission of the *We Are Part of the Dream* project is to highlight organizations that are putting elements of this vision into action by sharing their accomplishments and efforts.

According to the King Center website (www.thekingcenter.com), "Dr. King's Beloved Community is a global vision, in which all people can share in the wealth of the earth. In the Beloved Community, poverty, hunger and homelessness will not be tolerated because international standards of human decency will not allow it. Racism and all forms of discrimination, bigotry and prejudice will be replaced by an all-inclusive spirit of sisterhood and brotherhood." To get involved, individuals are asked to choose a nonprofit organization which is a reflection of the beloved community because of its impact on social or economic inequality.

Through *We Are Part of the Dream*, HeartLine and their assigned AmeriCorps*VISTAs hope to bring to light the present strides being taken toward making the "beloved community" a reality. It is also hoped that, by utilizing the web, those who were a part of the Civil Rights struggle in the past will be encouraged by seeing how far the community has come.

The *We Are Part of the Dream* project kicks off at the Dr. Martin Luther King Parade on January 19, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. as HeartLine VISTAs and volunteers join others in marching to celebrate Dr. King's vision. VISTAs and volunteers will be representing HeartLine as an organization working to make that vision a reality. The parade begins at NW 7th and Robinson Avenue in Oklahoma City.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

1. **Choose** an organization you feel is a reflection of the beloved community because of its impact on social or economic inequality.

2. **Ask** the individuals in that organization the **Focus Question** listed below:

Focus Question: How is this organization strengthening my community by promoting equality, or demonstrating neighborly love in action by addressing the issues of poverty?

3. **Record the Answer** from those who are putting these values into action (staff, volunteers, etc.), tell them about the project and ask them to be involved by recording their story in writing or film.

4. **Share the answer:**

Email it to the MySpace page www.myspace.com/wearepartofthedream, or

Film it and post it to YouTube by adding *We Are Part of the Dream* to the title.

For questions, contact Christa Brown at (405)840-9396 ext. 147 or visit www.myspace.com/wearepartofthedream

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