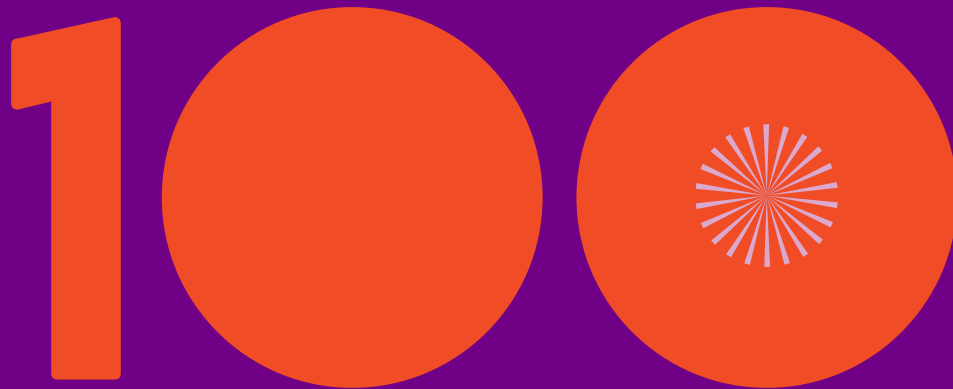
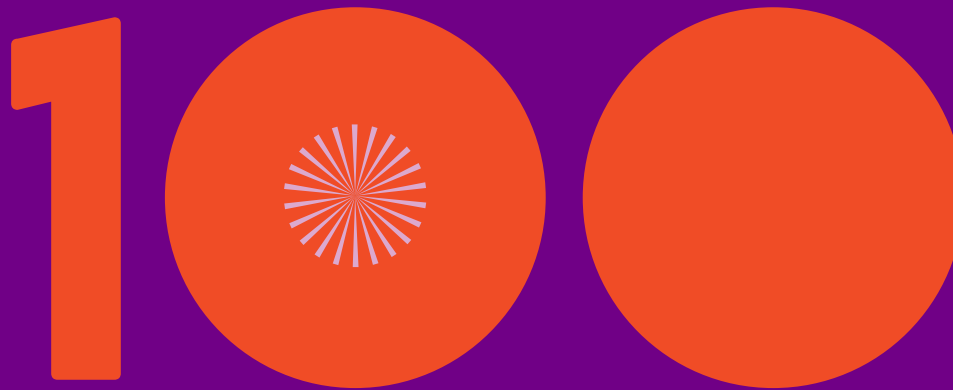


REALIZE
the DREAM



— FOR —



SERVICE PROGRAM

EDUCATOR GUIDE



**EMPOWER YOUR STUDENTS TO HELP CREATE A UNITED,
JUST AND EQUITABLE AMERICA THROUGH SERVICE.**

an initiative of

**MARTIN
LUTHER
KING III
FOUNDATION**

LEGACY+



BE THE CHANGE THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE.

Realize the Dream is a monumental initiative that incorporates experiential service learning in your classroom to inspire students to become engaged citizens.

Together, we'll ignite a nationwide movement through a bold call to action—achieving 100 million hours of service by the 100th anniversary of Dr. King's birth in 2029.

A MESSAGE FROM MARTIN LUTHER KING III



Thank you for joining us in *Realize the Dream*, a monumental initiative to unite America through service. Martin Luther King III, Arndrea Waters King and their daughter, Yolanda Renee King, are deeply passionate about enriching students' experiences to help them develop into conscientious and well-rounded citizens.

By realizing his father's dream of an equitable and united America through a service-learning model, our goal is to educate, inspire and equip students to gain a deeper understanding of how their actions apply to real-world issues and promote a message of hope and unity, both locally and globally.

In this guide you will find resources to support you while incorporating applied and experiential service learning opportunities in your classroom. It includes resources on a range of topics such as well-being, mental health and financial literacy. The service-learning projects are optional and can help guide you in developing a plan for linking demanding academic content to issues your students are facing today.

Students who successfully engage in the program will be empowered to:

- Become active and engaged citizens while building skills in leadership and critical thinking
- Unite with school district staff, students and families by collectively committing to service
- Fulfill service hour requirements for schools or religious institutions
- Strengthen Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) skills needed to form productive relationships, make responsible decisions and communicate effectively
- Be heroes in their own communities, with the potential to gain local and national recognition
- Embrace Dr. King's nonviolent principles of education, fostering a culture of understanding and empathy in their academic and personal pursuits

On behalf of Martin Luther King III, Arndrea Waters King and Yolanda Renee King, we thank you for considering this exciting program. We look forward to supporting your journey and can't wait to hear about the positive impacts your students have on their local and global communities.

Sincerely,

The *Realize the Dream* Team

**“LIFE’S MOST
PERSISTENT
AND URGENT
QUESTION IS,
‘WHAT ARE YOU
DOING FOR
OTHERS?’”**



**DR. MARTIN
LUTHER KING JR.**

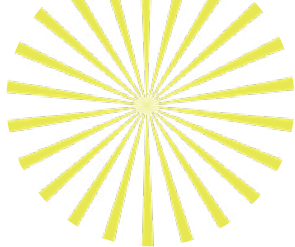
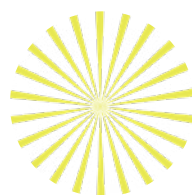
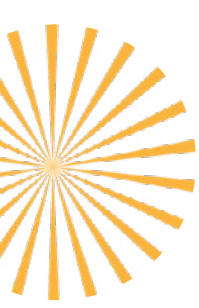


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REALIZE THE DREAM PROGRAM MODEL

The Realize the Dream Experience

Realize the Dream supplies structure, guidance and resources to teachers who integrate service learning into any subject area to help translate classroom learning into hands-on problem solving. This program helps teachers and students explore issues both locally and globally and plan a service project to address these issues as well as their passions.

Following the four parts below, students define what form their service will take and apply the content and skills they have learned through activities and lessons in the classroom to carry out a service-learning project that they are passionate about while having the opportunity to receive service-learning recognition.

Part 1: Investigate & Learn

Students explore issues related to a real-world challenge or opportunity within the context of Dr. King's dream of a united America.

Part 2: Action Plan

Students develop a plan to implement their service-learning project.

Part 3: Take Action

Students implement their action plan.

Part 4: Report & Celebrate

Students record their number of service hours and report it to *Realize the Dream*, as well as gather artifacts to highlight their project to showcase their learning.

Record & Reflect

We recommend that students maintain a log of their service activities and hours along the way. Be sure to take photos and videos of students' service—we want to highlight their stories of service on our platforms!

WHAT IS REALIZE THE DREAM?

Martin Luther King III, Arndrea Waters King and Yolanda Renee King are building a movement, *Realize the Dream*, to accomplish 100 million hours of service to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of his father, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. *Realize the Dream* is a monumental 5-year program that launched in January 2024. This bold initiative aims to uplift and unite communities across America and the globe. It will include a major celebration, a major celebration at the National Mall, a national tour tied to NFL teams, a special awards ceremony, a year-long activation of service for families, a book series and much more!

HOW WILL REALIZE THE DREAM SUPPORT STUDENT SUCCESS?

- 95% of people living in America believe Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is one of the most important figures in U.S. history. The study of MLK, as well as exposure to extraordinary celebrities, leaders and influencers helps to mold student ideas and formulate positive role models.
- 10M+ people across all ages, experiences and perspectives will be involved in inspiring students to own their dreams of living in a thriving community.
- 78% of students involved in service learning develop leadership skills.
- 75% of students engaged in service learning enhance their social skills and improve their critical thinking skills.

SERVICE-LEARNING SKILLS DEVELOPMENT



ARGUMENT
FORMATION



INFORMATION
LITERACY



LEADERSHIP
SKILLS



ORGANIZATION



ACTION
PLANNING



RESEARCH AND
WRITING



CRITICAL
THINKING



REFLECTION



SOCIAL
AND EMOTIONAL
LEARNING

- **Empathy:** Through service learning, students will be exposed to equity and human rights issues, increasing social awareness and building respect and understanding for others.
- **Communication:** Working as a volunteer in different and unfamiliar environments will improve communication skills and increase the ability to nurture positive, healthy relationships with others.
- **Collaboration:** In a volunteer setting, students will work as a group and build important skills like conflict resolution.
- **Resilience:** Showing up for others isn't always easy. Through service learning, students gain practice goal setting, self-motivation and resilience.
- **Problem solving:** Through experience, students build an arsenal of tools that will help them identify problems and come up with creative solutions.

What Does Service Learning Look Like?

Taking action comes in many forms. *Realize the Dream* can be achieved through volunteerism, service, education and advocacy, donations and material support, and social entrepreneurship. As such, there are many ways for students to get involved.

“WE MUST USE TIME CREATIVELY IN
THE KNOWLEDGE THAT THE TIME IS
ALWAYS RIGHT TO DO RIGHT.”

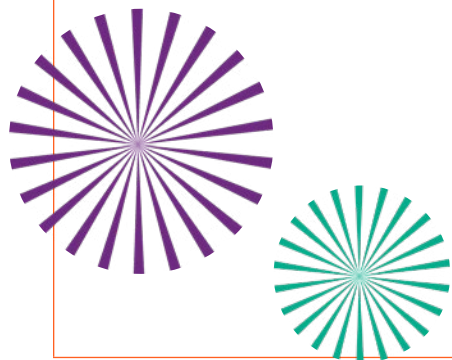
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

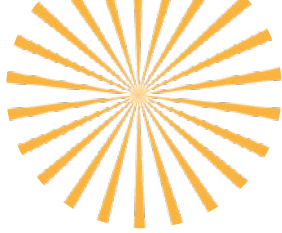


HOW STUDENTS CAN PARTICIPATE IN *REALIZE THE DREAM*

Taking part in this exciting program is easy and rewarding. Simply follow the steps outlined below.

1. Take Action	Create a service-learning project designed to address an issue in your community. -OR- Already doing service at your school? Great! Proceed to Step 2.
2. Document Your Service Project Journey	Show us how you are carrying the vision of MLK forward. ■ Take pictures and make videos. We want to see your acts of service and the reactions of others towards your service. ■ Save samples of your work or items that you have created. ■ Use the hashtag #RealizetheDream on social media to inspire and motivate others to join you in your acts of service. ■ Create a school service display or showcase to highlight and celebrate your acts of service!
3. Log Your Hours	Log your hours to be part of the 100M hours of service. ■ Go to this online form to track your hours. Important Note: Service hours may be submitted at an aggregate level for a group or class of students, or even on behalf of a school or district.
4. Share Your Story	Tell us about your service project. ■ Submit your story here to share photos, videos and samples of your work through the <i>Realize the Dream</i> page. ■ Each month we will highlight a service story on our social media channels. Plus, there will be opportunities for exciting giveaways!
5. Celebrate Your Service!	Celebrate your inspiring act of service! Certificate of Recognition: ■ When students complete 10, 25 or 50 hours of service in an academic year, they are eligible to receive a personalized certificate of recognition. Letter of Recognition for Service: ■ Students completing service activities are eligible to receive a recognition letter from their teacher/administrator outlining their incredible service achievement and its impact on their community.





PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

Below you will find the suggested outline for how to structure your participation in *Realize the Dream*.

Implementation is meant to be flexible and can look different for each teacher depending on classroom structure and requirements.

Initial Preparation

- Review the suggested Service Topics and Project Examples to help with background and idea development.
- Introduce the program to your class by using this [intro video](#).
- Identify regular checkpoints to help students stay on track.
- Begin implementing the program with Part 1: Investigate and Learn.
- To help share your stories, create a Google Folder or other digital platform for students to save samples of work, pictures/videos and reflections during the process.
- Guide students as they design their service projects with Part 2: Action Planning.



Implementation

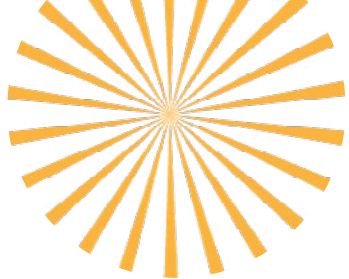
- Guide students as they begin their service projects and participate in Part 3: Take Action.
- Use [teacher implementation videos](#) to address project challenges and help students stay motivated and engaged.
- Connect with another classroom or school to share ideas and sustain involvement.
- Check in with students to log their hours of service and photo/video their activities.



Wrap-Up/Reflection

- Guide students as they wrap up their work and develop their service portfolio (if they're keeping one) in Part 4: Report and Celebrate.
- Determine how your students will showcase their work.
- Plan a celebration (optional).
- Provide feedback on your experience by taking the end-of-year survey.

JOIN TOGETHER WITH OTHER TEACHERS TO SUPPORT YOUR EFFORTS!



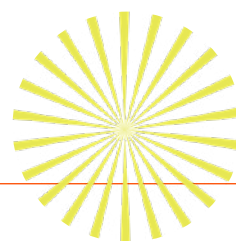
SERVICE TOPICS

What Social Issues Can You Explore?

Rooted in the themes that Martin Luther King III and his family are passionate about, students can explore issues that many people face every day. The topics identified here are meant to be a starting point for deciding what themes can be explored in your classroom. You can find theme-specific resources at [Education+](#).

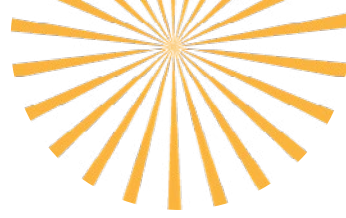
Realize the Dream is designed to be flexible, and this list is not meant to be exhaustive. We encourage you to select a topic that is important to you and your students.

Community Service	Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
■ Volunteering at assisted living/senior homes ■ Planting or maintaining a community garden ■ Collecting resources for the community (canned food drives, collecting warm clothing) ■ Peer to peer mentoring or tutoring programs ■ Community clean-ups ■ School-based beautification projects ■ Awareness-raising activities for different causes at school or in the community ■ Volunteering at a local non-profit organization, such as a public library or SPCA ■ Fostering a culture of understanding and empathy	■ Understanding universal human rights ■ Access to literacy or STEM ■ Promoting diversity and inclusion ■ Exploration of civil rights ■ Loss of tribal languages ■ Effects of civic disengagement ■ Gender equality ■ Effects of racial bias ■ Access to multilingual resources ■ Effects of immigration ■ Voter participation among minorities
Mental Health	Environment/Conservation
■ Anti-bullying awareness and behavior change ■ Month-long behavior challenges (gratitude, empathy, mindfulness, altruism, etc.) ■ Creating mental health first aid kits to help youth support their well-being ■ Access to health care and resources ■ Identifying and creating safe and positive environments	■ Access to government resources ■ Changes in the natural environment ■ Preserving historical landmarks ■ Climate change and politics ■ Access to clean water ■ Loss of biodiversity ■ Effects of pollution



STEM and Innovation	Financial Literacy
■ Digital accessibility ■ Effects of artificial intelligence ■ Promoting sustainable solutions ■ Incorporating green chemistry ■ Sustainable innovation	■ Effects of social entrepreneurship ■ Access to economic opportunity ■ Acquiring appropriate wages ■ Developing budgets ■ Spending within your means ■ Understanding currency and various ways to purchase and save
Food Security	
■ Volunteering at local food banks or pantries ■ Establishing and maintaining community vegetable gardens for sustainable food sources ■ Organizing food drives to collect non-perishable items for those in need ■ Peer-led initiatives for educating the community on nutrition and budget-friendly meal planning ■ School-based programs promoting awareness of food insecurity and fundraising for local hunger relief organizations ■ Hosting community events to raise awareness about the importance of food security ■ Volunteering at soup kitchens or community meal programs	





PROJECT IDEAS

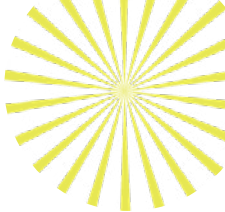
What Service-Learning Projects Can You Take Action On?

To help you understand how social issues translate into actionable service-learning projects, we have provided some examples below. You can also gain additional implementation tips from the Education+ at educationplus.org.

Community Service	Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Help build a positive environment forming bonds with seniors that will enrich both group's lives. Anne Sullivan School in Illinois has been partnering with an assisted living facility, having the residents come to the school to engage in craft activities or having the students go eat lunch with them at their residence.	Create a mentoring program for students or families who have moved here from other countries. Develop a social network or host events for families to come together for support.
Anti-Bullying	Financial Literacy
Create an awareness-raising campaign about how to become an upstander rather than a bystander when you see bullying happen. Identify key supportive adults or peers who students can connect with for support.	Many schools host movie nights. Why not screen a documentary that touches on a topic helping with financial literacy? Then have a discussion afterwards inviting local bankers or businesses to give guidance to families. It can be a fundraiser for a cause or be informational.
Mental Health	Global Citizenship / Human Rights
Host a gratitude week during National Gratitude Month (November) and challenge students to show gratitude every day over five days, to a meaningful person in their life (teacher/coach, family member, peer, community member and themselves!).	Clean water is a basic human right that not everyone has. Orland School District in Illinois had three junior high schools join together in a Walk for Water to raise money to bring fresh water to families who don't have access to it. They raised \$18,978!
STEM and Innovation	Food Security
Technology is a powerful tool for social change. Use it to develop ways to make your school and community more inclusive for everyone. Design an app to make life easier for people like a group of high school students from Alabama who created an app that is a water well mapping tool. It simplifies the work of engineers to resolve any potential issues in water before trouble happens.	Houston, Texas high school buddies Bryce Lui, Jeffrey Chuong and Omar Busaidy created Food for Heroes to help local restaurants and support frontline workers during the pandemic. Since launching a GoFundMe campaign and spreading the word on social media, Food for Heroes has delivered approximately \$8,500 worth of food to frontline workers in hospitals, police departments, fire departments and local sheriffs' offices.



REALIZE THE DREAM IMPLEMENTATION



TEACHER TIPS

Start early! Introducing the program at the beginning of the school year and setting clear and realistic milestones helps gain student buy-in.

Realize the Dream is flexible. The instructional resources and activities provided are great assets for implementation, but many teachers have activities that may already fit their chosen issue. Teachers are encouraged to modify and adapt the program to fit their classroom.

Management is easier if the entire class participates. Students can work in groups or individually. Doing it with the whole class, especially at younger ages, is easier to keep students actively involved.

Take advantage of service-learning program resources. There is a whole section at educationplus.org for service learning and other modules to support the many social issues students may be interested in.

Schedule a celebration day or showcase. Having a real date to work toward helps students stay motivated.

Build relationships with community partners. Creating partnerships with local organizations is a great way to grow impact year over year.

Engage other educators and program

leaders in Realize the Dream. Share this opportunity with colleagues and friends. Encourage them to participate with their classrooms!

Share the program with parents, administrators and community members. Parental support can be key in keeping students engaged outside the classroom. Publicize the program on the school website and let the community know what service projects are being planned. Support can come in a variety of places.

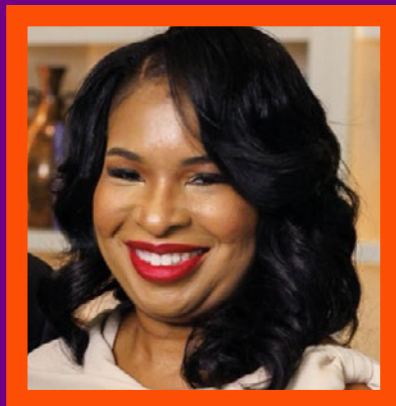
Recognize students' efforts often! Feeling seen and knowing that the time and energy being put into their projects is being recognized are important to keep students engaged throughout the year. Post updates about your projects on social media using #RealizetheDream.

Have students document their work to share their stories with others. *Realize the Dream* is about 100M hours of service for the 100th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. Be sure to record your students' hours monthly, so we can see your progress, as well as inspire others!

WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

Reach out to us at info@educationplus.org with questions, ideas or comments.

**“IT TAKES AN
ACT OF COURAGE
TO SEE THE WORLD
NOT AS IT IS,
BUT ALL THE
GREATNESS
IT COULD BE.”**



**ARNDREA
WATERS KING**



PROGRAM RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES

We want to recognize youth who are positively impacting and unifying our communities through service. We know every student's journey may look slightly different, but we want young people to see themselves as the leaders they are.

We've curated a few turnkey recognition assets that can be easily customized to celebrate and honor your students' service actions. Available for download this May on educationplus.org!

Certificate of Recognition

Certificates will be available for 10 hours, 25 hours and 50 hours of service.



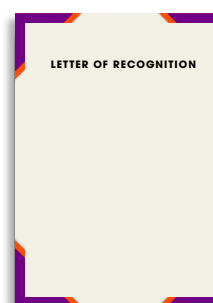
Digital Badges

For students and educators participating in *Realize the Dream*, they'll have access to the *Realize the Dream* digital badge, ideal for social media, signatures, school portfolios, resumés, etc.



Letters of Recognition

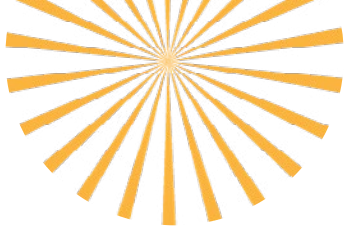
From Educator/School Administrator attesting to service activities conducted by the student. These templates are downloadable and may be printed on school letterhead or be customized to suit your needs.



Personalized Thank You Recognition Video from Martin Luther King III and his family

For those classes/clubs/schools where educators submit more than 100 collective hours of service during the academic year! (An accumulative 100 hours must be submitted by May 1st to receive the video.)





IMPLEMENTATION RESOURCES

Letter for Students



Dear Student,

You're invited to join us in *Realize the Dream*!

Martin Luther King III, Arndrea Waters King and Yolanda Renee King are building a movement, *Realize the Dream*, to accomplish 100 million hours of service to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of his father, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. *Realize the Dream* is a monumental 5-year program that launched in January 2024. This bold initiative aims to uplift and unite communities across America and the globe.

It will include a major celebration, a major celebration at the National Mall, a national tour tied to NFL teams, a special awards ceremony, a year-long activation of service for families, a book series and much more!

By becoming involved in *Realize the Dream*, you are joining a network of students across America who are making positive impacts on their local and global communities following the vision and principles of Dr. King. Through a service-learning project, you can make a positive impact on the world around you with what you've learned in your classroom.

Why Participate in <i>Realize the Dream</i> ?	Benefits of Service Learning
■ Apply what you're learning in the classroom to real-life settings and situations ■ Enhance skills necessary for college and careers, including leadership, critical thinking and communications ■ Demonstrate your commitment to civic engagement through service ■ Work with classmates to make a positive impact on local, national and global communities	■ Learn about your community, the issues affecting it and how they link to the world beyond ■ See how your voice can make an impact ■ Connect with others while designing your project ■ Spend time at school doing good while you learn ■ Volunteering expands your social networks and enhances your social skills

It's time to get out there and make it happen! Every action, no matter how small, can make a big difference.

“EVERYBODY CAN BE GREAT ... BECAUSE ANYBODY CAN SERVE. YOU DON'T HAVE TO HAVE A COLLEGE DEGREE TO SERVE. YOU DON'T HAVE TO MAKE YOUR SUBJECT AND VERB AGREE TO SERVE. YOU ONLY NEED A HEART FULL OF GRACE. A SOUL GENERATED BY LOVE.”

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

[Click here to download the letter template](#)

IMPLEMENTATION RESOURCES

Handout for Students

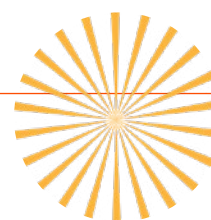
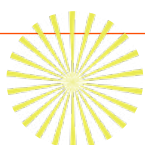
Service-Learning Project Ideas

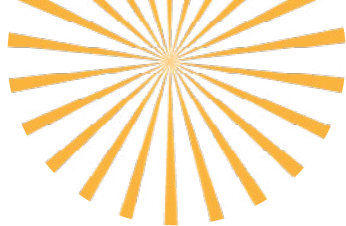
Taking action comes in many forms:

Volunteerism • Service • Education & Advocacy • Donations & Material Support • Social Entrepreneurship

Here's some inspiration for your *Realize the Dream* service project.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion	Financial Literacy
■ Create a mentorship program ■ Record books for those who can't see or have difficulty reading ■ Organize a lunch for new students ■ Label items around the school to help English language learners ■ Create a story walk outside ■ Set up informational tables for people to learn about different disabilities or diverse groups	■ Host a movie night and have a discussion afterwards about how to save money ■ Organize a school store or coffee cart ■ Create flash cards or a Bingo board with pictures to help people learn about currency ■ Research and create a list of tips on how to be prepared for an interview or write an effective college application letter
Mental Health	Global Citizenship
■ Organize a fundraiser to provide access to service animals for people with anxiety ■ Create self-care goody bags that will make people smile ■ Make a scavenger hunt or obstacle course ■ Read a book with a younger student and have a walk and talk discussion ■ Decorate rocks with positive messages ■ Create a digital slideshow with positive messages or uplifting pictures ■ Make inspirational stepping stones out of cement or plaster for a garden	■ Organize a Walk for Water to raise money to bring fresh water to families who don't have access ■ Develop a recycling or composting program ■ Write a letter or card to service members telling them we appreciate their service ■ Organize a Walkathon carrying signs about causes you are passionate about



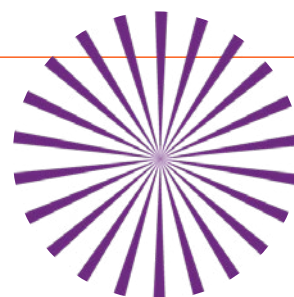


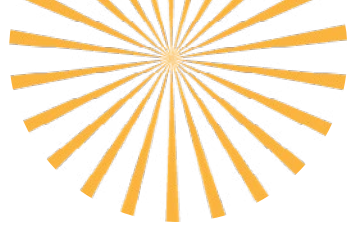
IMPLEMENTATION RESOURCES

Handout for Students

Service-Learning Project Ideas (cont'd)

STEM and Innovation	Community Service
■ Design an app to make life easier for people ■ Set up a program to teach younger students about computer skills	■ Honor and support local frontline workers in hospitals, police/fire departments and sheriffs' offices ■ Organize a donation drive of personal care products, toys or food for a local organization ■ Visit an assisted living community ■ Ask a local business how you can support them ■ Make bookmarks with positive messages for the library or a local senior center ■ Do a clean-up around the school or in the neighborhood ■ Make pet toys for an animal shelter
Food Security	
■ Volunteer at a local food bank or pantry ■ Establish and maintain a community vegetable gardens for sustainable food sources ■ Organize a food drive to collect non-perishable items for those in need ■ Educate the community on nutrition and budget-friendly meal planning ■ Promote awareness of food insecurity and fundraise for local hunger relief organizations ■ Host a community event to raise awareness about the importance of food security ■ Volunteer at a soup kitchen or community meal program	





IMPLEMENTATION RESOURCES

Letter for Caregivers/Parents/Guardians



Dear Caregivers, Parents and/or Guardians,

Martin Luther King III, Arndrea Waters King and Yolanda Renee King are building a movement, *Realize the Dream*, to accomplish 100 million hours of service to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of his father, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. *Realize the Dream* is a monumental 5-year program that launched in January 2024. This bold initiative aims to uplift and unite communities across America and the globe.

It will include a major celebration, a major celebration at the National Mall, a national tour tied to NFL teams, a special awards ceremony, a year-long activation of service for families, a book series and much more!

We are excited for our students to participate in Realize the Dream and hope you'll support their service aspirations and project goals! We know they'll be excited to share with you how they've served others and positively contributed to a flourishing school and community environment.

Realize the Dream uses a rigorous curriculum framework guiding students to investigate a real-world social issue connected to their course content, with the goal of applying their understanding to a local or global service project.

There are many benefits to service learning:

- Dedicating time as a volunteer expands social networks and enhances social skills.
- Students who volunteer are 66% more likely to be considered "flourishing," a positive measure of overall health and well-being.
- Building an understanding of how they can solve today's problems drives change and demonstrates civic responsibility, critical thinking and analysis.
- Life skills such as relationship building, self-awareness, social awareness and decision making are strengthened.

If you are interested to learn more about *Realize the Dream*, please visit realizethedream.org.

Thank you,

[Teacher Name or School Name]

“EVERYBODY CAN BE GREAT ... BECAUSE ANYBODY CAN SERVE. YOU DON'T HAVE TO HAVE A COLLEGE DEGREE TO SERVE. YOU DON'T HAVE TO MAKE YOUR SUBJECT AND VERB AGREE TO SERVE. YOU ONLY NEED A HEART FULL OF GRACE. A SOUL GENERATED BY LOVE.”

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

[Click here to download the letter template](#)



IMPLEMENTATION RESOURCES

Letter for Fellow Teachers



Dear Fellow Teacher,

Martin Luther King III, Arndrea Waters King and Yolanda Renee King are building a movement, *Realize the Dream*, to accomplish 100 million hours of service to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of his father, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. *Realize the Dream* is a monumental 5-year program that launched in January 2024. This bold initiative aims to uplift and unite communities across America and the globe.

It will include a major celebration, a major celebration at the National Mall, a national tour tied to NFL teams, a special awards ceremony, a year-long activation of service for families, a book series and much more!

Realize the Dream uses a rigorous curriculum framework guiding students to investigate a real-world social issue connected to their course content, with the goal of applying their understanding to a local or global service project.

There are many benefits to service learning:

- Dedicating time as a volunteer expands social networks and enhances social skills.
- Building an understanding of how they can solve today's problems drives change and demonstrates civic responsibility, critical thinking and analysis.
- SEL skills such as relationship building, self-awareness, social awareness and decision making are strengthened.

We encourage you to consider joining in *Realize the Dream* with your students, too.

We know how excited your students will be to address real-world issues through service learning and positively contribute to a flourishing school and community environment.

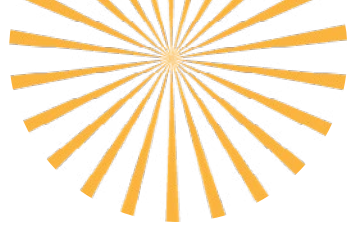
If you are interested to learn more about *Realize the Dream*, please visit realizethedream.org.

Thank you,

“EVERYBODY CAN BE GREAT ... BECAUSE ANYBODY CAN SERVE. YOU DON'T HAVE TO HAVE A COLLEGE DEGREE TO SERVE. YOU DON'T HAVE TO MAKE YOUR SUBJECT AND VERB AGREE TO SERVE. YOU ONLY NEED A HEART FULL OF GRACE. A SOUL GENERATED BY LOVE.”

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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IMPLEMENTATION RESOURCES

Handout for Administrators



Martin Luther King III, Arndrea Waters King and Yolanda Renee King are building a movement, *Realize the Dream*, to accomplish 100 million hours of service to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of his father, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. *Realize the Dream* is a monumental 5-year program that launched in January 2024. This bold initiative aims to uplift and unite communities across America and the globe.

It will include a major celebration, a major celebration at the National Mall, a national tour tied to NFL teams, a special awards ceremony, a year-long activation of service for families, a book series and much more!

Realize the Dream engages students in a national service program involving tens of millions across America of all ages, experiences and perspectives. It uses a rigorous curriculum framework guiding students to investigate a real-world social issue connected to their course content, with the goal of applying their understanding to a local or global service project. Participating in their service project will involve:

- Research and investigation of an issue relevant to their core classroom content and skills
- Analysis of related problems and solutions to a real-world issue
- Developing an action plan and completing a project
- Showcasing their findings to communicate learnings, impacts or make future recommendations

There are many benefits to service learning:

- Students who volunteer are 66% more likely to be considered “flourishing,” a positive measure of overall health and well-being.
- Dedicating time as a volunteer enhances communication and social skills.
- Building an understanding of how they can solve today’s problems drives change and demonstrates civic responsibility, critical thinking and analysis.
- SEL skills such as relationship building, self-awareness, social awareness and decision making are strengthened.
- Working collaboratively with a team to research, plan and execute service projects allows students to express opinions, communicate ideas and present results.

WE HOPE YOU WILL SUPPORT YOUR STUDENTS IN REALIZE THE DREAM!

To learn more about *Realize the Dream*, please visit realizethedream.org.

[Click here to download the handout](#)

REALIZE
the DREAM



an initiative of

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KING III
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