



**The Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission**  
**“Celebrating Dr. King Beyond the Holiday”**  
**2011 Executive Summary**



**About the Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission**

The Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission (AMLKC) was created by Act 1216 of 1993. The AMLKC is an offspring of the Martin Luther King Federal Holiday Commission. It was established under former Governor Bill Clinton by executive order and then signed into legislation by former Governor Jim Guy Tucker. The Commission was created to promote the legacy and philosophy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In 1997, a formal mission statement, a stated purpose, goals and objectives, and the Commission Board were developed. Because of its limited resources, a consensus determined that the Commission would focus on youth oriented projects first, and then expand. Violence and crime among youth was one of the critical concerns with the people of Arkansas. The Commission also formed the Youth Commission Board, which is composed of Arkansas high school and college students who have demonstrated strong qualities of leadership and community service. The Youth Commissioners have particular influence in advising the Commission in projects dealing with youth. The mission of the Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission is to promote understanding and acceptance of nonviolence and human equality as a way of building community among all Arkansans. The purpose and goals of the Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission are to promote racial harmony, understanding, community service, respect and goodwill among all citizens, to promote principles of nonviolence, promote awareness and appreciation of the Civil Rights movement and advocacy of the principles and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Develop, coordinate and advise the Governor and General Assembly of ceremonies and activities throughout the state relating to the observance of Dr. King’s Holiday.

**Mission**

- ④ Promote racial harmony; understanding; community service, respect and goodwill among all citizens.
- ④ Promote principles of nonviolence.
- ④ Promote awareness and appreciation of the Civil Rights movement and advocacy of the principles and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- ④ Develop, coordinate, and advise the Governor and General Assembly of ceremonies and activities throughout the state relating to the observance of Dr. King’s Holiday.

**Vision & Goals**

The Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission is guided by Dr. King's teachings and philosophy of love, tolerance, and nonviolence. The Commission strives for social improvement in Arkansas, helping communities and organizations achieve new levels of leadership and public service. The Commission works directly with youth and others, encouraging them to embrace alternatives to violence and discover their common humanity. Through activities that stress racial and cultural diversity, the Commission offers the youth of Arkansas a new understanding of the important roles they play in the communities, now and in the future. The Commission advocates creating social change through changing public policy by providing training and technical assistance to developing and established organizations with similar goals. Whether working with



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the Arkansas State Capitol or at small community centers across the state, the Commission strives to build alliances. The Commission brings people together to better focus on common goals and increase their collective strength.

**MLK Birthday Bash 2011**

- In honor of Dr. King’s birthday, the Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission sponsors a celebration of Dr. King’s birthright, legacy, and noble work and tenets. Annually we host a bash, a Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Bash presented by the Arkansas Martin Luther King Jr. Commission was held on Friday, January 14, 2011 from Noon to 1:00 PM at eStem Public Charter High School in Little Rock, AR. John Bacon – eStem CEO was guest speaker.

**MLK Holiday Weekend Speaking Tour 2011**

- Executive Director DuShun Scarbrough toured the state of Arkansas and spoke at various places as their guest keynote speaker, including Benton, Paris, Fort Smith, Pine Bluff, Fayetteville, and North Little Rock.

**A Day of Service 2011**

- “A Day of Service” targets homeless veterans as well as the homeless and less fortunate. We offer each person a free meal and personal hygiene kit as well as many other services such as health screenings and job counseling. In honor of Dr. King and Rosa Parks, Central Arkansas Transit Authority in conjunction with the Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission, is providing free bus rides throughout Central Arkansas. Last year we were able to reach out to approximately 500 individuals during this event and this year the AMLKC along with Olive Garden fed 2000 attendees, which approximately 60% of them were of the homeless and less fortunate community. “A Day of Service” was held Monday, January 17th, 2011 at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

**Celebration of Worship**

- Following the “A Day of Service” program the AMLKC acknowledged the King Holiday with a Celebration of



Worship Service. This event began at 5:00 p.m. on January 17, 2011 at Bethel AME Church (Rev. Tyrone Broomfield – Pastor), which is located at 600 N. Cedar Street in North Little Rock, Arkansas 72114. Mr. DuShun Scarbrough

was guest speaker.



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**Inaugural Coretta Scott King Women’s Day Conference Series**

- 6 In the spirit of Dr. King, and his right hand and beloved wife, Mrs. Coretta Scott King, The Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission hosted the First Annual Coretta Scott King Women’s Conferences Series. These conferences target women in our state correctional system.

The event was geared toward helping these women regain some of their self-esteem as well as the goals and dreams they have lost due to their current circumstances and to assist those who are to be released to lead productive lives. The event featured motivational and educational workshops that range from living a positive life in spite of the bars, to dressing for success, self-esteem and living the principles of Nonviolence as espoused by Dr. King. We also treat the women to make-up lessons, chair massages, dancing and exercise as well as a special catered lunch. It was held at the Hawkins Women’s Unit in Wrightsville, AR on February 15, 2011 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.



**The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Vigil 43<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Assassination of Dr. King**

- 6 The Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Vigil was to be held on April 4, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. on the steps of the State Capitol but was moved inside because of rain. The vigil is a celebration in remembrance of the death of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
- 6 Over Five Hundred (500) youth from across the state filled the halls and each level of the State Capitol
- 6 Elementary, Middle, High Schools Bands participated in the Band Showcase
- 6 Honorable Mike Beebe, Governor of Arkansas provided an inspirational address





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- 6 Legislatures socialized with youth while receiving words from elected officials and 2010 Miss Arkansas Alyse Eady.

**Dream Keeper/L.E.A.D. ® School Visits to their Partners in Education**

- 6 For the 2010/2011 school year, the Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission has collaborated with Cloverdale Aerospace Technology Conversion Charter Middle School, eStem Public Charter School, Hall High School, Hamilton Learning Academy, Jack Robey Junior High School, and McClellan Magnet High School. Through that partnership, outreach coordinators from the Arkansas MLK Commission visit their schools and hold various presentations about leadership, education, and acceptance of diversity. Moreover, the AMLKC mentors these students in the areas of résumé building, conflict resolution, professional development, scholarship research, and more. Other organizations, groups, and agency are invited from time to time to co-present.

**Nonviolence Youth Summit Part IV – Anti-Bullying Conference**

- 6 The Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission, with the assistance of the Arkansas Department of Human Services, hosted “Nonviolence Youth Summit Part IV – Anti-Bullying Conference” featuring Guest Speaker, Martin Luther King, III, at the Arkansas State Capitol located at 500 Woodlane Avenue, Little Rock, AR 72201, (501) 683-1300, which was held on Tuesday, May 31, 2011 from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm. Breakout sessions included: Youth Obesity, Nutrition, and Fitness – Arkansas Minority Health Commission; Cyber Bullying – Arkansas Attorney General’s Office; G.O.T.V. (Get Out To Vote) – Arkansas Secretary of State’s Communications and Education Division; Peer Pressure – Linnsey Sanders from the Department of Workforce Services; and Gangs – Steve Nawojczyk.

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual “Our Beloved Community” Luncheon**

- 6 The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual “Our Beloved Community” Luncheon was held Tuesday May 31, 2011, from 1:45 PM to 2:20 PM at King Interdistrict Magnet Elementary, 905 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Little Rock, AR 72202. The luncheon is given not only as a token of our appreciation, but as a reminder to the leaders of the community of the importance of their continuous participation, contributions, and support. Martin Luther King, III, the son of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., made a special appearance.

**2011 L.E.A.D. ® Apprenticeship Training Workshop**

- 6 Little Rock - L.E.A.D. ® (Leadership, Education, and Acceptance of Diversity) is a mentorship and leadership program, created by Executive Director DuShun Scarbrough, to enhance the youth of today through social, academic, and career opportunities. During the summer of 2011, AMLKC will launch, for the third year, the L.E.A.D. ® Apprenticeship Training Workshop, in which our summer youth interns participate. This workshop’s primary objectives are to develop skills in communication, conflict resolution, financial literacy, strategic thinking and marketing, etc. Education in the areas of business etiquette, entrepreneurship, and leadership are vital to this program as well.



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### **Partnership with the Ivy Center**

- ④ The Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission partners with the Ivy Center each summer to take youth to Washington D.C. on a college tour in order to expose their minds to a conducive, academic environment for them to thrive successfully.

### **New Partners in Education 2011**

- ④ The Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission thanks Fuller Middle School and Argenta Academy for becoming the King Commission’s newest partners in education.

### **Arkansas State Fair’s “Day of Caring”**

- ④ The Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission donated free admission and ride passes to three of its partners in education, which were Argenta Academy, eStem, and Fuller Middle School for the Wednesday, October 19, 2011 Arkansas State Fair’s “Day of Carin.”

### **Nonviolence Youth Summit Part V**

- ④ The Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission hosted “Nonviolence Youth Summit Part V”, at the University of Arkansas Community College at Hope’s Johnny Rapert Library Complex located at 2500 South Main, Hope, Arkansas, Friday, October 21, 2011, from 7:30 am to 3:00 pm, with keynote speaker, Professor Joe Martin.
- ④ Professor Joe Martin is an award-winning motivational speaker, author, professor, and retention expert. He has authored and co-authored seven books, including the top-selling Good Teachers Never Quit, Let Your Leadership Speak, and Tricks of the Grade. Joe has spoken for more than 600 businesses, organizations, colleges & universities, and K-12 schools/districts. His presentations are encouraging.