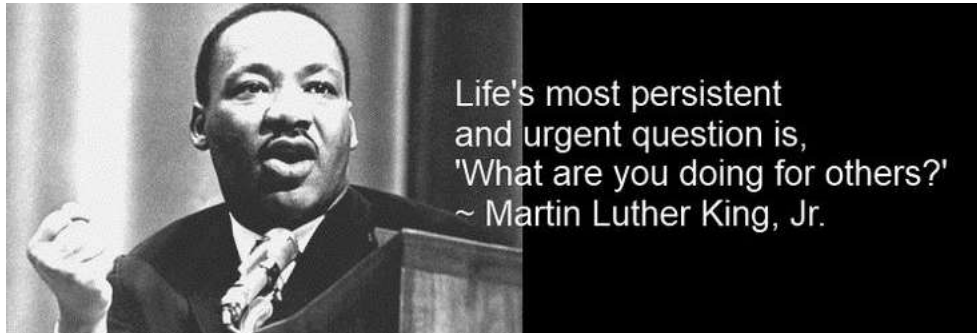




**The Stone Soup Leadership Institute
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 21, 2019**



In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., The Stone Soup Leadership Institute dedicated this month to his legacy. Youth deepened their appreciation by joining a community service project and reading stories from the book, *Stone Soup for the World: Life-Changing Stories of Everyday Heroes -- Letter from a Birmingham Jail* and *Fulfilling Martin's Dream*.

Our youth were inspired by Dr. King's courage and his vision:

It is important is to remind us - people tend to forget. Yes, we know he's the man with the dream that inspired the world, but it is important to remember the man who died and make sure his words will never be forgotten. Every day little by little, we hope to stop racism, stop the shootings and stop all the bad things but it truly can't be stopped if we don't remind ourselves of Dr. King's dream. **Lya Perez**

Youth eagerly participated in Dr. King Jr. community service event hosted by Hungry Fridays. They joined with other youth, business, community members from across Providence to prepare and serve hot meals for the hungry. While honoring Dr. King's legacy, they learned first-hand about the impact of giving back to the community.



It is important to inspire people to help each other and treat everyone the same. We are honoring Dr. King by doing community service. The less fortunate are mostly people of color and he fought for the freedom of people of color, so helping them out in a big or small way makes an impact. We can make a positive change, just as he inspired the community to do.

Leaslie Perez

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My experience today was amazing. I was really touched by all the people who took time out of their day to help. Everyone was so welcoming, and it just felt great to create a positive change by helping those who need it. We prepared and packed lunch boxes. It was amazing to see how fast everyone joined in – even the little boys and girls!

At first, we made 300 lunches. A stranger came up to the organizer and said 300 wasn't enough, so we should peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. A few minutes passed, and before you know it, we now had made 400 lunches! It brings a smile to my face to know that people are not going to bed with an empty stomach. I realized that in life, we all get caught up with the little things but tend to pass by the bigger picture. It is important to help those in need and to be thankful for every little thing we have.

It felt great to come together as strangers to do something good to honor Dr. King. We honored his dream, his bravery and his empowerment as he stood up for what was right.

This reminded me of his courage and taught me to remember we all have a voice and we must use it to make change; whether big or small. Thank you, Hungry Fridays, for all the hard work that you do. Your hearts are very kind! Please keep up the great work.

Lya Perez



Today was the day to recognize Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. for his courage and the things that he fought for. It was a day to recognize how much he gave back to his community. He is an inspirational man and it was the perfect day to honor him.



My experience today was very special. I was nervous at first, but everyone was so welcoming and nice. We started by cutting the bread and preparing sandwiches. It was a very fun and enlightening experience! We made 400 sandwiches in total! It didn't even take too long because there were so many people helping out. It felt great to work alongside strangers to do something good for the day. It made me think about how lucky and blessed I am and made me more grateful for everything I have. I felt very good about helping the hungry and to know that so many people showed up to participate is very touching. The event put a smile on lots of people's faces. It's great to think that so many people can go to sleep with a full stomach. I felt like this event brought the community closer. I would love to do it again!

Leaslie Perez

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