



For Immediate Release

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ANNUAL MLK DAY OF SERVICE

Austin, Texas - Jan. 11, 2010 -- To honor of the work of Dr. Martin Luther King, more than 500 volunteers are expected to join with the United Way Capital Area's Hands On Central Texas program and other nonprofits for the annual MLK Day of Service on Saturday, Jan. 16.

Volunteers are urged to pre-register for projects at www.handsoncentraltexas.org or register at the kickoff event on Jan. 16 starting at 8:30 a.m. at Huston-Tillotson University, 900 Chicon Street, in the Davage-Durden Union Building. All projects will begin at 10 a.m.

Among this year's projects are:

- Painting of the Dove Springs Recreation Center – organized by 1 Hour for Kids, a United Way initiative, that recruits mentors and tutors for at-risk middle school students in the Austin and Manor Independent School Districts. Both mentors and students are expected to join in to celebrate January's designation as National Mentor Month.
- Community Garden and Classroom Cleanup – a project of Mainspring Schools, an accredited preschool serving low income children in Austin. Volunteers are needed to spruce up the school garden, as well as organize and clean classrooms.
- Paint, Clean and Organize – a project of Austin Groups for the Elderly (AGE). Volunteers will work on the more than 100-year-old AGE building which houses more than 20 nonprofit organizations.

Numerous other projects are available and include park and street cleanup, book sorting and building projects are available throughout the Austin area.

About Hands On Central Texas

Hands On Central Texas, a program of United Way Capital Area, strengthens communities through meaningful volunteer action. Hands On Central Texas is a member of the Hands On Network, whose mission is to inspire, equip, and mobilize people to take action that changes the world. At the center of the network are more than 250 affiliates, called HandsOn Action Centers that serve 83% of the American population and located 12 international communities. The vast majority of Points Of Light Institute's work and activity happens through HandsOn Network's Action Centers and its expanded network of hundreds of nonprofit, community and faith-based and government organizations.

About United Way Capital Area

United Way Capital Area is working hard to advance the common good by focusing on the building blocks of a better life: education, financial stability and health. UWCA helps individuals and families in need and works to create long-lasting changes that prevent problems from happening in the first place. Our vision in Central Texas is a caring community where the opportunity to fulfill human potential is always within reach. For more information, please visit www.unitedwaycapitalarea.org.

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