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How Will You Help Shape Our New York This MLK Day? *SJCC Hosts Annual Day of Service Honoring Dr. King's Message*

East Hills, N.Y. (Jan. 15, 2026) – On Monday, January 19, Sid Jacobson JCC will host its annual **MLK Day of Service** in East Hills, joining fellow nonprofits across the New York City metropolitan area in a UJA-Federation of New York-coordinated day of action honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. through service.

Rather than treating the holiday as a day off, Sid Jacobson JCC invites Long Islanders to make it a day on, offering local individuals and families an opportunity to participate in hands-on service projects that reflect Dr. King's enduring call to justice, compassion, and shared responsibility.

“By bringing generations together, our MLK Day of Service shows that being an Upstander has no age limit,” **Susan Berman**, Associate Executive Director, Community Engagement, said. “This day reflects what we strive to be at our Center for Community Engagement: engaged, compassionate, and committed to lifting one another up through meaningful service.”

Volunteers will take part in service initiatives focused on addressing food insecurity and encouraging civic engagement. Projects include food and supply collections benefiting neighbors in need, large-scale meal packing, a community blood drive, a nationwide postcard-writing campaign supporting hunger relief, and educational programming that introduces young children to Dr. King's message of kindness and equality.

“This year's call to action is addressing food insecurity and providing opportunities for our community to step up throughout the year,” Berman added. “Service doesn't end on MLK Day. It begins there.”

Many of these efforts connect directly to Sid Jacobson JCC's ongoing mission to support Long Island individuals and families confronting hunger. Through our **Nikki Schwartz Memorial Community Needs Bank**, the JCC provides weekly access to food and essential supplies while strengthening partnerships with local pantries across Long Island as a redistribution hub for Island Harvest and Met Council, ensuring this crucial work continues well beyond a single day of service.

All MLK Day of Service activities will take place from 10:30am-6pm at Sid Jacobson JCC in East Hills. Community members are encouraged to participate for all or part of the day.

More information is available at sjjcc.org/mlkday.

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About Sid Jacobson JCC

Sid Jacobson JCC (sjjcc.org) in East Hills provides a full range of cutting-edge recreational, health, fitness, educational, cultural arts, and social service programs. SJJCC promotes Jewish identity and provides a comprehensive program based on Jewish values, traditions, heritage, and culture, and is committed to enriching the lives of all individuals and families in its community. Where life flourishes.

“Like” the JCC on Facebook (facebook.com/sidjacobsonjcc) and “Follow Us” on Instagram (instagram.com/sidjacobsonjcc).

Sid Jacobson JCC is a beneficiary agency of the UJA Federation of New York.