



Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service

On Monday, January 15th, the [Corporation for National and Community Service](#) (CNCS) led [MLK Day 2018](#), a national day of service dedicated to honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Taking place each year on the third Monday in January, the MLK Day of Service is the only federal holiday observed as a national day of service – a "day on, not a day off." This day calls for Americans from all walks of life to work together to provide solutions to our most pressing national problems, by empowering individuals, strengthening communities, bridging barriers, and creating solutions.

Snowy weather across the state caused some service projects to be postponed, but couldn't stop National Service programs from getting things done in honor of Dr. King's legacy. [Volunteer Tennessee](#) is proud to highlight how AmeriCorps and Volunteer Generation Fund programs in Tennessee served local communities for this national day of service.

- In Memphis, [BRIDGES USA, Inc.](#) and [Porter-Leath](#) AmeriCorps members served alongside youth enrolled in the [Bridge Builders](#) program and community volunteers to clear debris, plant native trees and do some serious mulching in and around Carnes Garden East.
- [Hands On Nashville](#)'s AmeriCorps members honored MLK Day with service at their Urban Farm, preparing supplies for the upcoming growing season and harvesting okra seeds for the Nashville Public Library Seed Exchange.
- [City Year Memphis](#) AmeriCorps members could be found both leading a beautification project at Brownsville Road Elementary school and serving at the National Civil Rights Museum as part of the second annual MLK Days of Service, led by [Volunteer Memphis](#).



Photo courtesy of the BRIDGES, USA

Despite ice and snow around the city and some cancelled/delayed projects, The MLK Days of Service Event was a huge success, with hundreds of volunteers serving at multiple sites throughout the weekend and on the Martin Luther King Jr. Day.



Photos courtesy of the City Year Memphis





- In Knoxville, [CAC AmeriCorps](#), with special support from Keep Knoxville Beautiful, cleaned up litter and debris along the Magnolia corridor. They covered about 1 mile of roadways and filled 4 truckloads with everything from plastic bottles, tires, metal debris, and even an infant's car seat.



Photos courtesy of the CAC AmeriCorps

[Volunteer Tennessee](#) is a 25 member bipartisan board appointed by the Governor to encourage volunteerism and community service. Volunteer Tennessee pursues its mission through administration of AmeriCorps grants, training and collaborations and coalitions with public and private organizations interested in volunteerism and service. Connect with us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

AmeriCorps is a program of the [Corporation for National and Community Service](#) (CNCS), a federal agency that engages more than 5 million Americans in service through its AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, and Volunteer Generation Fund programs, and leads the President's national call to service initiative, United We Serve.