

Corporation for National and Community Service
Board of Directors

Resolution

WHEREAS, in 1994, Congress passed the King Holiday and Service Act, designating the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday as a national day of volunteer service, and charging the Corporation to lead efforts in promoting and organizing service events that honor Dr. King's life and teachings; and

WHEREAS, in tribute to Dr. King's legacy of a life devoted to service to others and change through non-violent action, President-elect Obama used the occasion of his inauguration as the 44th President of the United States to call Americans to serve on the King Holiday, and to make an ongoing commitment to community service throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, the Corporation and its partners, including the King Center and the Presidential Inaugural Committee, worked tirelessly to promote the King Day of Service, and pioneered the use of social media tools to advance this call to service, connect individuals to volunteer opportunities, and encourage individuals to organize their own projects; and

WHEREAS, 2009 marked the largest and most successful King Day of Service in history, with an unprecedented 13,000 projects, more than doubling last year's record, and a historic turnout of volunteers including public officials such as President-elect Obama, Vice President-elect Biden, Cabinet Secretaries, Members of Congress, Governors, Mayors and their families; and

WHEREAS, the King Center in Atlanta and its President and CEO Isaac Newton Farris Jr. played a key role in making the 2009 King Day of Service the most successful in history, by inspiring individuals and groups to get involved and promoting the day of service to tens of millions of Americans through public service announcements and dozens of media interviews, helping the Corporation generate an unprecedented level of media coverage and boost volunteer participation on the day and throughout the year.

WHEREAS, the success of the King Day of Service hinged upon thousands of organizations which helped to channel the nation's momentum to serve into action by hosting service events and organizing hundreds of thousands of volunteers, including the Corporation's seven national King Day of Service grantees, State Commissions, national service programs, and other nonprofit, community, faith-based, and educational organizations, as well as the vital support of many corporate sponsors who donated funding and employee time;

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Directors for the Corporation for National and Community Service commends the Corporation for its diligence, creativity, and energy in promoting the largest King Day of Service in history, and gratefully acknowledges the essential contributions of the Corporation's lead partner the King Center and its other partners in propelling record volunteering and encouraging the King Day of Service to be the beginning of an ongoing commitment to service throughout the year.

Approved by voice vote without objection, Feb. 4, 2009