

**News release**

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**Six Humanitarians to be honored  
at Martin Luther King Jr. celebration**

KENOSHA – Six area residents will be honored at Gateway Technical College's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration on January 21.

Four adults and two teens will be honored at the 14<sup>th</sup> annual event for exemplifying the daily principles of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. To qualify for the honor, recipients needed to be residents of Kenosha, Racine or Walworth counties. Other criteria included demonstrating commitment to the protection and advancement of human rights and social justice – and how this extraordinary commitment has improved lives and contributed to the well-being of people.

The 2008 adult recipients are Janet Days, Mother Louise Hunter, Maria Morales, and Warrington Richardson. The youth recipients are Allena Berry and Kaitie Gromacki. The six will be honored at the celebration to be held at noon in the Madrigrano Auditorium, 3520-30<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

- Janet Days, 41, Racine, is Gateway Technical College's coordinator for the Multicultural, Nontraditional Occupations and Displaced Homemaker programs. She served on the Racine Unified School District Board from 2003-06, coaches basketball and teaches Sunday school classes at her church. One of her nominators calls Days his hero because she has remained faithful to providing equal opportunity to all.
- Mother Louise Hunter, 73, Racine, is the founder and president of the Love and Charity Homeless Mission and Shelter in Racine, a shelter she set up and has run for nearly 50 years. It is a home for the homeless and Mother Louise has ministered to those in it by feeding and serving them – physically and spiritually.
- Maria Morales, 63, Racine, is the coordinator for the Voces de la Frontera in Racine. Morales is a strong advocate for immigrant rights and organizations that help people of all races come together so that racism can be eliminated.
- Warrington Richardson, 61, Racine, is retired. He worked for more than 35 years as an educator in the Racine Unified School District, most recently as a substitute principal at Washington Park High School. He has received numerous awards, is a member of a number of service and non-profit groups and has dedicated his life's work to helping others, most notably the youth of Racine County.
- Allena Berry, 18, Racine, is a senior at Washington Park High School. She has used her leadership skills to reach out to others and start up a

mentoring program for incoming freshmen high-schoolers. Berry is involved in several different school and community activities such as the Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra, Positive Impact and the S.C. Johnson Elementary School Lighted Schoolhouse after school program.

- Kaitie Gromacki, 18, Kenosha, is a senior at Tremper High School. She began her volunteer work early in life – at 6, she worked with her parents at the Shalom Center. She worked with her mother at the Interfaith Network Nightly Shelter program at the center at 14 and now works with the Kenosha Literacy Council. Gromacki has also volunteered for other service projects.

Vivian King will be the keynote speaker at the 14<sup>th</sup> annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration, provided by Gateway's Multicultural Events program. King is the director of public affairs for Roundy's Supermarkets Inc., a Milwaukee-based supermarket chain which operates 153 retail grocery stores including several in Southeastern Wisconsin.

This year's celebration theme is "Take a Position, Move Mountains," drawing upon Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s call for Americans to take the position that is "neither safe nor politic nor popular, but he must do it because conscience tells him it is right." Doors to the event open at 11:15 a.m.

The program is free and open to the public. Audio and video of the event will be streamed at Gateway Technical College's Web site [www.gtc.edu](http://www.gtc.edu). The program will be carried on WGTD live at noon. WGTD, based out of Gateway

Technical College, can be heard in Kenosha/Racine at 91.1, in Elkhorn at 101.7 and in Lake Geneva at 103.3.

Gateway Technical College collaborates with communities in Kenosha, Racine and Walworth counties to ensure economic growth and viability by providing education, training, leadership and technological resources to meet the challenging needs of students, employers and communities.

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