



News release

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**Thelma Sias to keynote Gateway's
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. celebration
*Three named as Humanitarians***

Thelma Sias, vice president – local affairs for Wisconsin Energy Corporation Energy Group, will keynote Gateway Technical College's 22nd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. celebration Jan. 18 at the Madrigrano Auditorium in the college's Conference Center on its Kenosha Campus, 3520-30th Ave. The theme for this year's celebration is "Personal Responsibility: Stand up!"

Doors open at 11:30 a.m. and the event begins at noon.

Sias is responsible for building and enhancing long-term relationships with community leaders and local government to garner support and approval for critical corporate initiatives. Sias directs activities to monitor community concerns and negotiate with local governments on policies that impact company operations. Under her leadership, Local Affairs addresses the service needs of We Energies municipal customers and school districts — the total annual revenue of which exceeds \$230 million.

Humanitarians named

Gateway will also honor three who have been selected as this year's Humanitarians, two adults and one youth. These individuals are recognized for their humanitarian contributions to society in his or her school, business or profession, as well as their dedication to volunteerism or philanthropic life's work.

Don and Cheryl Mueller. Among other work, the Muellers, of Racine, have spearheaded a resurgence of the St. Vincent de Paul Society in Racine and engage in a prison ministry. Their award nominator says the Muellers "have spent a lifetime of service to those in need."

Alexis Aiello

Alexis Aiello, Racine, is a fourth-grader at Racine Unified School District. She is involved in Girl Scouts and is a peer mentor at her school. Aiello's award nominator says she "embodies the spirit and philosophy of Dr. Martin Luther King because she looks at people's hearts and nothing else. And even when those whose hearts are sometimes unkind – she sees them as a person even more in need of love!"

For more information: www.gtc.edu/mlk

For further questions, please contact Zina Haywood at (262) 564-3104.

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 changing needs of students, employers and communities.

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