



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CALL TO SERVICE GOES OUT BY OBAMA: METRO VOLUNTEERS RESPONDS

Metro Volunteers challenges the Denver community to answer Obama's call to service by participating in MLK Day activities, Be the Change Inaugural Bash and leading Denver's service movement

Denver, CO – January 15, 2009 – In the past week, the President-Elect and incoming First Lady Obama have urged people to come unite and "renew America together" by serving their community this weekend in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy. The Obamas made a commitment to service in their lives and have shown signs that the service movement will be a priority throughout the new presidency as one solution in solving our country's most pressing challenges.

On the USASERVICE.ORG website launched this week by the Presidential Inauguration Committee to foster service activities throughout the country. On the website, Michelle Obama states: *"It will take ordinary citizens working together with a common purpose to get this country back on track. This national day of service is an important first step in our continuing commitment."*

Metro Volunteers is uniquely poised to engage the Denver community in making a commitment to service in response to the momentum built by MLK Day and the Presidential Inauguration. In the next week, Metro Volunteers will: 1. engage volunteers in service on MLK Day; 2. celebrate the Presidential Inauguration and the commitment from our community to impart social change through volunteer service; 3. engage the community in making a pledge to serve by encouraging individuals to sign a [Declaration of Service](#).

MLK Day of Service

Metro Volunteers is partnering with Kaiser Permanente on MLK Day, this Monday, to engage over 400 volunteers in providing a critical service to our community: health care. "President-Elect Obama stated during his campaign that every time our nation faced a challenge, the American people rose up to meet it," said Donna Lynne, President, Kaiser Permanente Colorado. "Today, one of the biggest challenges facing our community is access to health care. That's why Kaiser Permanente and Metro Volunteers have joined forces to help serve thousands of people who are under or uninsured." Kaiser Permanente and community volunteers will provide over 1,000 community members access to preventive health care services.

ALL MEDIA ARE INVITED TO THE MLK DAY HEALTH FAIR:

Where: Manual High School 1700 E. 28th Avenue, Denver, CO
When: January 19; 8:00am-3:00pm

Be the Change Inaugural Bash

Metro Volunteers is hosting the Be the Change Inaugural Bash to celebrate the unprecedented voter turnout in the 2008 Presidential election and a commitment from our community to affect positive change through volunteer service. On the evening of the Presidential Inauguration, the newly inaugurated President Obama will address young people across the globe calling on them to be the change and continue to engage in national and community service. In Denver, the Be the Change Inaugural Bash is the local celebration of Obama's call to service, mobilizing hundreds of local citizens in making a commitment to serve.

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ALL MEDIA ARE INVITED TO THE BE THE CHANGE INAUGURAL BASH:

Where: The Church Nightclub 1160 Lincoln Street, Denver, CO

When: January 20; 4:00pm-Midnight

The Declaration of Service

Metro Volunteers will launch an online and grassroots campaign on MLK Day to engage the local community in the service movement by encouraging individuals to sign the Declaration of Service. The Declaration will track pledges of those in metropolitan Denver who are ready to do their part in meeting the challenges of our time and make Denver a healthier, more vibrant community. Metro Volunteers understands that service is one of the key activities in solving the most difficult challenges facing our community; the Declaration of Community Service is a critical step in building upon the momentum created by President-Elect Obama and getting our country back on track.

To view the Declaration of Community Service or get more information on Denver's Community Service Movement, visit www.metrovolunteers.org.

About Metro Volunteers

Our mission is to mobilize and cultivate volunteers as a vital force in our community; at Metro Volunteers we believe that volunteers are a critical resource in solving societal problems. Whether you want to join a nonprofit board of directors, mentor a youth, care for the elderly, or choose from hundreds of other opportunities designed to match your skills, time constraints and talents, Metro Volunteers can turn your decision to volunteer into a rewarding one. For more information, go to www.metrovolunteers.org.

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