



ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY, INCORPORATED

MARY BREAUX WRIGHT
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: JANUARY 16, 2017

ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY, INCORPORATED HONORS THE LEGACY OF ITS FOUNDERS AND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. WITH GLOBAL DAY OF SERVICE

Thousands Participate Worldwide, Pledging to Complete 20 Million Hours of Service by 2020

WASHINGTON – Jan. 16, 2017 – On the observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated celebrates Founders' Day by completing hundreds of community service projects, and declaring 2017 the Global Year of Service. These service projects begin the official count toward completing 20 million service hours between now and Founders' Day 2020.

"Today, we share Jan. 16 with a very special man – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. – who once said "life's most persistent and urgent question is 'what are you doing for others?'" said Dr. Mary Breaux Wright, International President. "It is only fitting that as we celebrate, we will serve," added Wright.

For 97 years, the women's service organization has been a committed contributor to society with partners such as the March of Dimes, the American Cancer Society, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Women Veterans Rock and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. A few of the community projects on Jan. 16 include:

- Abu Dhabi: Brown Bag initiative; The Emirates Autism Center volunteering
- Atlanta: "One Block at a Time" Community Clean Up
- Chicago: March of Dimes "A No Sew Fleece Blanket" distribution
- Frederiksted (St. Croix), Houston, Philadelphia and New York: Blessing Bags distribution
- Louisville, Ky.: St. Jude Children Research Hospital fundraiser
- New York: Cold Weather Items Drive
- Oakland, Calif.: Martin Luther King Jr. Shoreline Clean Up
- Rome: Project Rome homelessness initiative
- Washington: Food & Friends, Inc. delivery to those with chronic illness

Since its inception, Zeta has continued its steady climb into the national spotlight with programs designed to demonstrate concern for the human condition both nationally and internationally. Last week, women's empowerment advocates, Dr. Anita Hill, Esq., Cynthia James and Rhona Bennett were inducted in the sorority as honorary members.

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. was founded on Jan. 16, 1920 by five co-ed students at Howard University that envisioned a sorority that would promote the highest standard of scholastic achievement and Finer Womanhood. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., Zeta has a diverse membership of more than 120,000 college-educated women with over 800 chapters in North America, Europe, Asia, The Caribbean, Africa and the Middle East. For more information about Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. visit www.zphib1920.org and follow on [Twitter @zphibhq](https://twitter.com/zphibhq).

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