

LEWISTON ME

Proclamation

Recognizing January 16 as “Martin Luther King Jr. Day”

On January 16, 2023, we celebrate the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. and reflect upon the sacrifice, bravery, and courage he and all those who took part in the Civil Rights Movement demonstrated. His influence inspired a nation to move towards justice, peace, and unification.

Let this day be a reminder of the impact of Dr. King’s work, resulting in the racial and ethnic equity we see in our community today. There is still work to be done. Work that extends beyond a weekend, a month, or a year. Work that is ongoing, as our community continues to build equality and true equity for all. Lewiston is a city of incredible diversity and with that comes the challenge of addressing our biases and working hard to disrupt the fabric of injustice. In the words of Dr. King, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly." Dr. King’s commitment to justice never wavered and I, too, commit to the work and dedication needed to ensure that all people in this community, no matter their race or ethnicity, have access to equitable opportunity and are equally represented at every table, on all levels.

To live out the legacy of Dr. King requires more than reflection; it requires intentional action and a willingness to confront injustice. We must never be satisfied with our current state and always push to be better than before. We must keep moving towards a just and equal society and let the rewards of our hard work pave the way for generations to come. Dr. Martin Luther King’s legacy reminds us that our work is worth the outcome, and we must strive for progress in our community.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Carl L. Sheline, Mayor of the City of Lewiston, recognize January 16, 2023, as Martin Luther King Jr. Day, and I encourage all Lewiston residents to observe this day with something meaningful, such as taking part in a MLK event at Bates College or at a place of worship, and by making time this year for civic engagement and volunteering in your community.



Presented this 13th day of January, 2023


Mayor Carl L. Sheline