

VFW Honors Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Legacy

The VFW encourages everyone to celebrate the 'day on' by giving back to their communities

Jan 12, 2024

WASHINGTON — On Monday, Jan. 15, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and its Auxiliary will join the millions of Americans in honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a visionary and activist who would ultimately lay down his life for the cause of civil rights.

Born on Jan. 15, 1929, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was a minister and humanitarian who championed the cause of civil rights from 1955 until he was assassinated on April 4, 1968. The Civil Rights Act of 1968, passed just days after his death, solidified his life's work in fighting for social justice and against discrimination.

The observance of Dr. King's birthday on the third Monday each January was signed into law by President Ronald Reagan in November 1983, and designated as "a day on, not a day off," is the only federal holiday designated as a national day of service. In a salute to Dr. King, the VFW encourages its members, the Auxiliary, supporters and all Americans to honor his legacy through volunteerism in their communities across the country.

On behalf of the more than 1.4 million members of the VFW and its Auxiliary, let us remember Dr. King and live lives that reflect his message of equality, justice, love and peace.

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