



**National Alliance of Faith and Justice**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Plans Announced For Justice Sunday™ Weekend 2013**

**Washington, DC.** The National Alliance of Faith and Justice (NAFJ) is pleased to announce plans for the annual national commemoration of **Justice Sunday™** to encompass the weekend of January 19 – January 20, 2013.

Latest statistics indicate one in three children in the United States is exposed to violence. In addition, we are challenged to dismantle the school to prison pipeline which continues to expand and overflow into a disproportionately imbalanced adult criminal justice system. Justice Sunday™ continues to support universal public awareness and places priority upon community impact to improve the well-being of children, youth, and families while promoting public safety. Among national partners and agencies supporting the goals of this effort are the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention of the U.S. Department of Justice, Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency of DC, the National CARES Mentoring Movement, United Way Worldwide, the National Park Service, and the National Park Foundation.

From segments during traditional morning services to theme-based mentor recruitment activities following services, the observance of the Justice Sunday™ weekend will occur in local cities and communities through a wide range of program formats. Justice Sunday™ weekend blends the inclusion of faith and recognition of Dr. King as a clergy with national service as a precursor to the Monday federal holiday observed as the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service. The spirit of Justice Sunday™ 2013 is aligned with the theme of the inaugural celebration which recognizes perseverance and promise for our nation as did Dr. King and thousands of volunteers of diverse faiths. It launches a targeted campaign of no violence efforts in honor of non-violence and recognizes those who did and do pursue goals of unity, equitable justice, and dignity despite overwhelming challenges.

Additional details will be posted at [www.nafj.org](http://www.nafj.org) and at [www.penopencilmovement.org](http://www.penopencilmovement.org) to include location of the national service to be held in Washington, DC, and eligibility and contest details for *To Serve This Present Age*, a national service learning competition to launch on Justice Sunday™.

*A Charge To Keep We Have To Serve This Present Age*

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