



A Proclamation

WHEREAS, Justice Sunday 2005 serves as a precursor to the King Day of Service by launching a year-long effort to honor the life and legacy of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and by encouraging the country to engage in volunteerism and service around issues of reducing crime and equitable justice; and

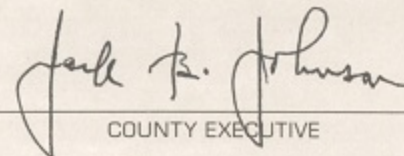
WHEREAS, in recognition of that spirit, Congress in 1994, passed the *King Holiday and Service Act*, which directed the Corporation for National and Community Service to support local efforts to make the King Holiday a day of service; and

WHEREAS, Prince George's County serves as a designated Justice Sunday National Day of Recruitment site in partnership with chapters and centers of Big Brothers Big Sisters and U.S. Dream Academy, to emphasize the need for and mobilize mentors for children whose parents are incarcerated; and

WHEREAS, the Amachi Mentoring Program and others nationwide encourage the mobilization of men and women of faith in mentoring children of prisoners. There are an estimated two million children nationwide with one or both parents in jail or prison and statistics suggest that a youth with a mentor is 70% less likely to use drugs, 85% less likely to go before juvenile courts, and 27% less likely to engage in abusive drinking.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JACK B. JOHNSON, COUNTY EXECUTIVE FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim **January 16, 2005, as Justice Sunday: A Local Day of Recruitment in Prince George's County** and urge all citizens to consider this day and the year beyond as one of commitment to volunteerism and service around this pressing social issue.




COUNTY EXECUTIVE