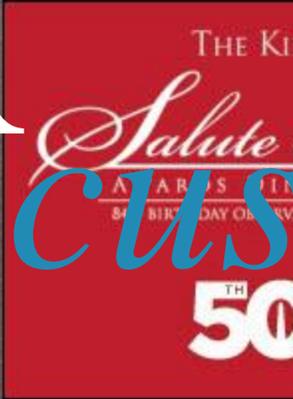


ICDHR *focus*



The 2013 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dinner Reflections Issue

Join us in August, 2013 for the 50th Anniversary of the
King Walk on Washington

The year 2013 marks two important anniversaries in the history of African Americans and the citizens of the United States. On January 1, 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation set the United States on the path of ending slavery. A war time measure issued by President Abraham Lincoln, the proclamation freed very few slaves, but it fueled the fire of the enslaved to fight for their freedom. Increasingly, those in bondage streamed into the camps at the Union Army, reclaiming ownership of their bodies. As Frederick Douglass predicted, the

(continued on page 2)



Join us in August, 2013 for the 50th Anniversary of the King Walk on Washington

(continued from page 1)

war for the Union became a war against slavery. The action of both Lincoln and the slaves made clear that the Civil War was indeed, a struggle between the forces of slavery and freedom. The dismantlement of slavery had begun.

A century later in 1963, America once again stood at the cross roads. Nine years earlier, the Supreme Court had outlawed racial segregation in the public schools. Yet, the nation had not committed itself to equality of citizenship. Segregation and innumerable other forms of discrimination made second-class citizenship the extra-constitutional status of non-whites.

In the White House, John F. Kennedy, temporized over the legal and moral issue of his time. Like Lincoln before him, national concerns outweighed his personal beliefs. On August 27, 1963, hundreds of thousands of Americans, Blacks and Whites, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, marched to the memorial of Abraham Lincoln, the author of the Emancipation Proclamation, in pursuit of the ideal of equality of citizenship. It was on this occasion that Martin Luther King, Jr. gave his famous speech, "I Have a Dream." Just as the Emancipation Proclamation marked the beginning of the end of slavery, the March on Washington numbered the days of second-class citizenship.

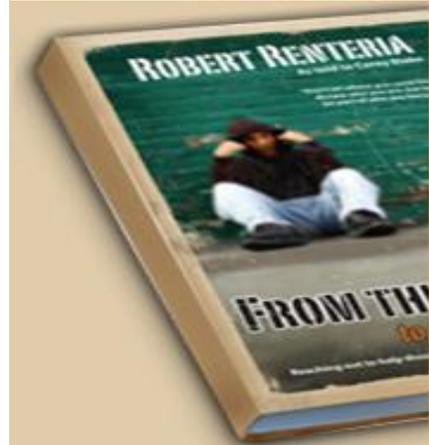
In marking the sesquicentennial of the Emancipation Proclamation and the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington, the Illinois Commission on Diversity and Human Relations (ICDHR) invites all Americans, young and old, black and white to join us in Washington, D.C. as we come together, once again to not only celebrate this historic event, but forge together to begin planning for the next 50 years for the future generation.

Specific information will be provided regarding transportation and hotel accommodations.

If you would like to participate or donate towards this historic cause, please contact us at info@icdhr.com.

ILLINOIS COMMISSION ON DIVERSITY AND HUMAN RELATIONS
P.O. Box 707, Bolingbrook, Illinois 60440
Phone: 630-771-1707; Fax: 630-771-1708; Email: info@icdhr.com

ICDHR & THE BARRIO FOUNDATION FORM COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP



On the heels of President Obama's gun control speech in Illinois, Chicago's, Illinois Commission on Diversity and Human Relations (ICDHR), The Barrio Project and eMediaCampaigns announced that they have formed a collaborative partnership to proactively expound on anti-violence education, youth initiatives and contribute to other community proponents. There is no exchange of equity involved in the arrangement.

Where each organization is seeking to implement new and innovative solutions, the Barrio Foundation will work with ICDHR to bring new ideas from core area of interest to launch. In addition, each agency will retain its independence of the other.

Both organizations seek to develop a community-based interventions designed to

(continued on page 3)



ICDHR & THE BARRIO FOUNDATION FORM COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP

Recap of the 2013 Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance and Celebration Ceremonies

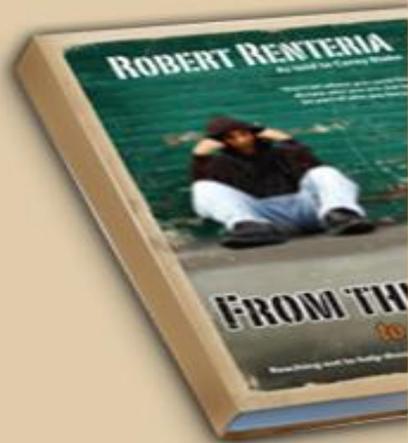
The Illinois Commission on Diversity and Human Relations (ICDHR) is honored to announce the success of their 12th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance and Celebration (Northwest) held on Friday, January 18, 2013 at the Stone Gate Conference Center in Hoffman Estates, and the 45th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance and Celebration (Chicago) held on Saturday, January 26, 2013 at the Chicago Hilton and Towers in Chicago Illinois.

The Illinois Commission on Diversity and Human Relations (ICDHR) would like to say thanks to the Motorola Solutions, Inc. (MSI) event staff headed by John T. Pierce, Senior Director of Talent & Performance Development and Toni L. Coleman Carter, Human Resources Consultant for all their efforts to make both events a huge success.

12th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance and Celebration Photo Gallery



ICDHR Chairman Rev. Clyde H. Brooks speaking at the 12th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance and Celebration at Stone Gate Conference Center in Hoffman Estates Illinois



(continued from page 2)

educate and provide harmony and diversity that cross race, gender, ethnicity and cultural divides between the inner city and suburbia. They will also address youth and adults who externalize behaviors that place self and others at risk.

Complimenting their own capabilities by establishing a relationship between innovative civic partners was an essential element of their strategy. Regarding their desire to formulate the partnership, the organizations expect to execute different forms of cooperation and embrace new models for solutions by combining their expertise and knowledge.

Commenting on the move, ICDHR Board Member Michero B. Washington said,

(continued on page 4)



Recap of the 2013 Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance and Celebration Ceremonies

(continued from page 3)

12th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance and Celebration Photo Gallery

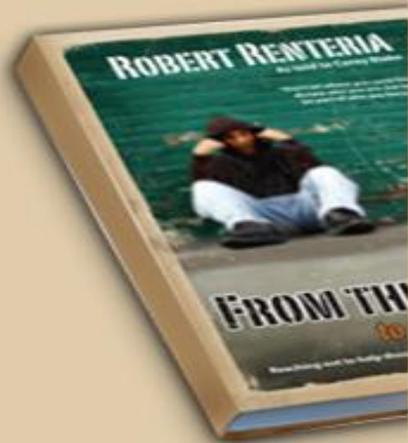


Motorola Solutions, Inc. (MSI) Human Resources Consultant and 2013 Northwest King Dinner Co-Chair Toni L. Coleman Carter and 12th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance and Celebration Honoree Sherry Nolan-Schultz, Vice-President, Talent Acquisition and Diversity at Sears Holdings Corporation



ICDHR Chairman Rev. Clyde H. Brooks and 12th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance and Celebration Honoree Kay Hoogland, Attorney and Community Activist

ICDHR & THE BARRIO FOUNDATION FORM COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP



(continued from page 3)

“We’re excited to work with Robert Renteria and the Barrio Foundation and make an impact on violence in our community. They have a proven ability to help transform the lives of our children and their families. I am looking forward to building this collaborative network which shows our youth that they have options.”

Robert Renteria, added, “We are honored to be working with a like-missioned agency like the Illinois Commission on Diversity and Human Relations. We have similar school-based and faith-based curriculum which inspires, motivates, and teaches teens and at-risk youth how to make better choices.



Recap of the 2013 Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance and Celebration Ceremonies (continued from page 4)

12th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance and Celebration Photo Gallery



Motorola Solutions, Inc. (MSI) 2013 Northwest King Dinner Co-Chairs John T. Pierce, Senior Director of Talent & Performance Development and Toni L. Colman Carter

45th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance and Celebration Photo Gallery



(left to right) Dr. Alan Goldfarb (President Emeritus, Western Illinois University), ICDHR Chairman Rev. Clyde H. Brooks and Dr. Jack Thomas (current Western Illinois University President)

**SHELBY VS.
HOLDER
SUPREME COURT
CASE UNDERWAY**



On February 27, 2013, the United States Supreme Court began deliberations on the Shelby vs. Holder Case which may void or seriously affect Sections 4 and 5 of the 1965 Voters Rights Act.

These sections require nine southern states to secure federal agreement before changes can be enacted before voting requirements can be modified.

Shelby, Alabama brought suit against Eric Holder, U.S. States Attorney General in an attempt to delete this requirement.

Shelby officials believe that their voting record has improved to the point that they should not be required to seek federal approval in the future. This is a case to watch.





MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS AND ICDHR PARTNER IN PROMOTING STEM CAREERS

Recap of the 2013 Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance and Celebration Ceremonies

(continued from page 5)

45th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance and Celebration Photo Gallery



(left to right) Rev. Clyde H. Brooks (ICDHR Chairman), Matthew Manning (Charter One Bank), John Burgess (International Services Associates), Rev. Richard Gills (ICDHR Board Member)



The Soul Children of Chicago Entertain the Crowd at the 2013 Chicago MLK Dinner



As one of only two (2) organizations that Motorola Solutions supports, the ICDHR is proud to announce that the Commission was granted its first academic scholarship for a student to enter Western Illinois University.

Nicholas L. Tarleton, from Proviso Mathematics and Science Academy in Forest Park Illinois, was the student selected to seek a career in one of the STEM disciplines (Science, Technology, Engineering or Math).

The scholarship award was presented by Dr. Jack Thomas, the current Western Illinois University President at the 45th Annual Dr. King Dinner held January 26, 2013 at the Chicago Hilton Hotel.

The Illinois Commission on Diversity and Human Relations (ICDHR) congratulates Mr. Tarleton on this achievement, and wishes him well with his future academic endeavors.



Recap of the 2013 Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance and Celebration Ceremonies

(continued from page 6)

45th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance and Celebration Photo Gallery

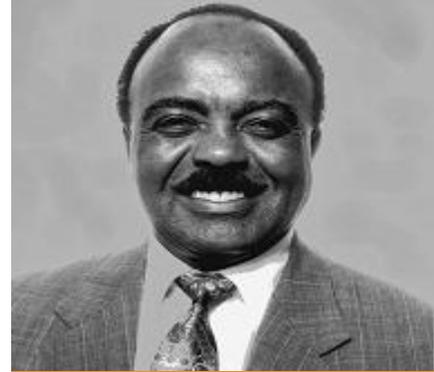


(left to right) 2013 Chicago King Dinner Honorees Candi Castleberry-Singleton (Univ. of Pittsburgh Medical Center), Maureen O'Brien (Global Leadership Women's Forum), Jill Blanchard (HAVI Global Solutions USA), Steve Pemberton (Walgreens) with Rev. Clyde H. Brooks (ICDHR Chairman)



(left to right) Michero B. Washington (ICDHR Board Member), Rev. Clyde H. Brooks (ICDHR Chairman), 2013 Chicago King Dinner Honoree Maureen O'Brien (Global Leadership Women's Forum), 2013 Chicago King Dinner Co-Hosts from Motorola Solutions, Inc. Toni L. Carter-Coleman and John Tilton Pierce

REVEREND CLYDE H. BROOKS SPEAKS AT THE BOEING COMPANY



Rev. Clyde H. Brooks, ICDHR Chairman, was invited by the Boeing Company to address Freedom and Equality in the United States since the passage of the Emancipation Proclamation.

In his remarks, he stated that freedoms gained as a result of Lincoln's brave action were being subverted from within.

He pointed out that the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) that sought to limit the rights of the freed Negro slave has been replaced by beneficiaries of Lincoln's action.

For the full text speech of Rev. Clyde H. Brooks February 23, 2013 speech at The Boeing Company, please visit the ICDHR website at <http://www.icdhr.org>.

SAFE STREETS

“The Movement”

(continued from page 7)

The mission of **SAFE STREETS** is to provide a common “destination” for young people to succeed, with the support of caring adults who will provide diverse platforms of opportunity, which will prepare youth for leadership.

It is our belief, that when provided the information, tools and understanding of what opportunities exist for **EVERYONE**, then different choices will be made and ultimately; lives will be changed.

SAFE STREETS is **NOT** just a program; it is a “Movement” that is based on a continuum of opportunities and experiences that will augment stereotypes and will enhance and expand options for young people in planning their futures.

Professionals from across the Country are committed to being a part of the “army” that it will take to create **SAFE STREETS** for everyone. The areas that will be covered are:

Life Skills – Intense training will be provided to address life’s “Issues” and providing constructive options to address conflict, diversity, environmental deficiencies, self-esteem and other issues that will impede growth, if not addressed. “From the Barrio” by Robert Renteria will be the core books series and curricula utilized in this area. Additional resources will also be integrated into this first and most important step in the goal of reaching **SAFE STREETS**.

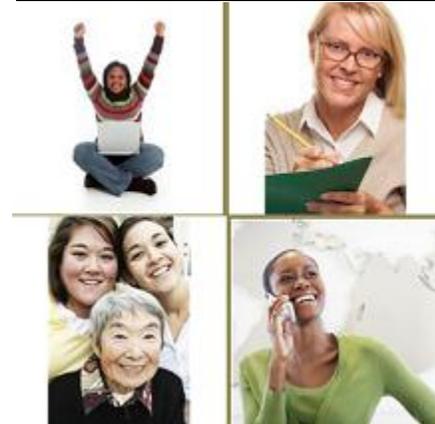
Mentoring – “Provocative” options will be utilized to ensure that **SAFE STREETS** is able to get to the “core” of life’s issues and experiences, in order to change the “direction” of our youth who are walking around lost in a culture of darkness. “Informed and experienced” professionals will not only provide mentoring and support, they will consistently monitor the progress and ultimately; the success of each participant that each person knows that there is someone at **SAFE STREETS** that is walking with them, towards their destination.

Entrepreneurship – Many young people have natural “leadership” capabilities, albeit using those skills for “alternative” purposes. **SAFE STREETS** will provide the key strategies and knowledge of what it takes to become a “successful” entrepreneur by working with each participant (individually and collectively) as they begin to build their small business by developing a business and marketing plan as well as being able to create an “end product or service” that will be showcased in a culminating event in which the public will be invited to see what products and services these new entrepreneurs have developed, and support their growth by purchasing (therefore “investing”) in their dreams.

Artistic Expression – Professionals in the areas of music, dance, entertainment and visual art will work with each participant to create authentic “avenues” to express their hope, dreams, thoughts and visions of the future. The “business” of entertainment will also be addressed whereas many of our kids have an interest in various aspects of this industry.

(continued on page 9)

ICDHR LAUNCHES A NEW WOMEN'S INITIATIVE: "YOUUnique"



"YOUUnique" is a women's institute that fosters entrepreneurship, health/wellness, education and financial security.

Throughout the world, women are still battling to keep families together, find gainful and equitable employment, manage health care and attain post-secondary educational opportunities.

Every situation is different or “unique” although the fundamental issues are global.

The Institute is being formed to address these disparities through education, exposure and information for women in order to impact families and individuals across the State of Illinois and globally.

For more information about the “YOUUnique” Women's Institute, please visit the ICDHR website at <http://www.icdhr.org>.



“The Movement”

(continued from page 8)

Financial Management – Understanding how to create “wealth”, not just a job or a paycheck but how to manage the financial resources that you’ve gained by making “informed” choices.

Internships – The adults (members of the “army”) will provide educational opportunities for the participants to learn each of their businesses, thus creating a “real world classroom” in various mediums.

Scholarships – There are many “post-secondary options” available for young people that include college, but are not exclusive to a four year institution. The core belief of **SAFE STREETS** is that all young people need a “written plan” (a road map) which includes traditional education, trade and vocational training. Scholarship money will be raised, grants will be written to support the “plan” that includes money for tuition, books, housing, transportation and overall living expenses. There is evidence that many of our young people don’t attend or end up not finishing their academic endeavors because they don’t have the funding or are unaware of the monies available to support themselves. In order for the participants to “stay” on **SAFE STREETS**, it is imperative that the “plan” includes assuring that the financial mandates are considered and addressed.

ICDHR TO SEND HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



ICDHR is in the second year of working with the University of Illinois to encouraging high school seniors to enter a school of higher learning. The university has pledged a dollar for dollar match for students recruited, enrolled and accepted in the university. Students who have a letter of acceptance from the university and who meet ICDHR requirements should contact ICDHR prior to August 1, 2013.

**ICDHR PARTNERS
WITH COMCAST AT
COMCAST CARES
DAY 2013 AT
DVORAK PARK**



Comcast Cares
NBCUniversal Volunteers

**Saturday, April 27, 2013
8:30 am – 3:00pm**

**Registration
begins at 8:00 am.**

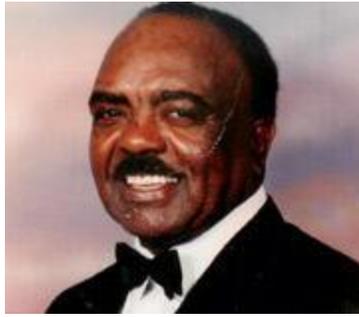
On Comcast Cares Day, Comcast employees, their families and friends will work alongside Resurrection Project and other Pilsen community volunteers to beautify the park by painting benches and a mural, landscaping and cleaning up the park.

Other sites will include the 16th street corridor from Racine to Blue Island and Plaza Tenochtitlan (18th & Blue Island)

**Dvorak Park (kick-off site)
1119 W. Cullerton
Chicago, IL 60608**

**For more info contact
ICDHR Board Member,
Michero B. Washington at
847-971-0185 or send email to
michero.icdhr@ymail.com.**





BUSINESS LEADERS TO HONOR REVEREND CLYDE H. BROOKS

Under the leadership of John Burgess (Managing Director, International Services Associates), Terry AnCel (President, Hayes Mechanical) and other business leaders, the ICDHR will celebrate Rev. Clyde H. Brooks 50 years of service to the organization on June 8, 2013. This year marks the 50th anniversary of Reverend Brooks' work in promoting civil rights and economic advancement for thousands of minorities, women and others. His work began upon graduation from Western Illinois University and continues until this day. When the homes of Mexican Americans were destroyed in Elk Grove Village, Rev. Brooks was there to move them into the Holiday Inn, raise funds and assist

with daily needs. He established the Sidewalk Academy, a series of meetings involving both sides of the argument for freedom and justice at the high school, thereby raising funds to pay the hotel bills, provide food while at the same time, educating community residents and leaders to the issues affecting the poor and minorities. Despite great obstacles, he rallied land owners to donate land to build temporary housing for the displaced families and challenged those who used bulldozers to destroy the homes, which we converted chicken shacks, of the affected families. His greatest foe was the church, who was willing to provide food and clothes but not address the institutional problem that kept some people in poverty. Because of his dedication, he was asked to lead the charge in developing a paper, entitled "the Role of the Catholic Church in a Time of Change."

Working with Chicago Westside companies and organizations, Rev. Brooks created the Sears Play lot Program that provided youth a place to play after Sears employees vacated the parking lots and helped to expand the Sears Lawndale Art Fair. It was in this capacity that he was assigned to assist Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his family. At the time, his responsibility was to meet Dr. King and his family at the airport and take them back and forth to shop and the airport. Dr. King and his family had moved into a rundown apartment on Chicago's Westside to demonstrate the need for affordable and suitable housing. It was this experience that brought Rev. Brooks into a working relationship with Dr. King. Dr. King and his successors asked Rev. Brooks to lead the Chicago Office of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) where he worked with Civil Rights giants such as Ben Branch, C.T. Vivian and others. He later served as a member of the national SCLC Board of Directors, the only organization that Dr. King Led during his life.

Because of the challenges affecting thousands of minorities, he formed the Minority Economic Resources Corporation (MERC), a not-for-profit organization which organized the purchasing, employment and human resources departments of major suburban corporations into vital task forces to address the need for diversity inclusion in employment and purchasing. Nearly every major suburban corporation were members of MERC. As a result, over the more than 35 years of this initiative, thousands of minorities and women found employment and millions of dollars in purchasing opportunities were created.

Reverend Brooks will be honored in April, 2013 by major corporations and community leaders. Interested persons should contact the ICDHR for more information. During his 51 years of labor, Rev. Brooks was elected to represent small businesses at the White House Conference on Small Business, appointed by former Governor Jim Edgar to the Illinois Prisoner Review Board and the Illinois Human Rights Commission. He has served as a consulted to the Illinois Department of Corrections and a host of other endeavors.

A highpoint of his work was the creation of the Behavior in Research organization in cooperation with the University of Chicago. This effort served the needs of former drug addicts and convicts by creating training and employment opportunities. Several gas stations were secured where work was used as a therapeutic instrument to change behavior. As a community organizer, Rev. Brooks joined the ranks of Marillac House, a Catholic Settlement House on Chicago's Westside to help form block clubs and building councils in CHA public housing. His journey has included teaching in the Chicago Public School System, an instructor at Harper College, a probation officer for the County of Cook, and a Cook County Deputy Sheriff where he retired after 20 years. As a result of a spine infection in 1998, Rev. Brooks retired. However, bored with recuperation, he returned to creativity by forming the Illinois Commission on Diversity and Human Relations, a position which he currently serves as Chairman. As an ordained minister of the Gospel of Jesus for more than 30 years, Rev. Brooks uses scripture to teach about financial investment, maintaining good health, personal responsibility and problem solving. Reverend Brooks is among the very few remaining warriors of critical change. His eyes light up when he walks down the street and meets someone whose life has changed to the better as a result of his efforts. As one great leader said about Rev. Brooks, "here is a man whose life has truly helped so many."