

The OCBI Tipping Point

“The tipping point is that magic moment when an idea, trend, or social behavior crosses a threshold, tips, and spreads like wildfire.”

Malcolm Gladwell



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Welcome to “The OCBI Tipping Point.”

We hope that you find it very informative as we explore all possibilities to keep our constituency and the general public informed about all matters that affect Black folk in the state of Iowa.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Ceremony

Almost one year exactly before Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. died, he made this extraordinary statement: “These are revolutionary times; all over the globe men are revolting against old systems of exploitation and oppression. The shirtless and barefoot people of the world are rising up as never before. The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light. . . *We must move past indecision to action [emphasis mine].* . . If we do not act, we shall surely be dragged down the long, dark, and shameful corridors of time reserved for those who possess power without compassion, might without morality, and strength without sight.”

We all know conscientious citizens who live here in the great state of Iowa who have consistently and courageously lived out the vision of moving past indecision to action. Some are moving and eloquent speakers, and others live quietly from day to day. But in the final analysis, we know and love these individuals because of their service to community and because of their great love for their neighbor. They live right next door to us in cities like Burlington, Dubuque, Cedar Rapids, Waterloo, Sioux City, Fort Dodge, Iowa City, Davenport, Des Moines, just to name nine. We want to recognize these special individuals to keep the King vision alive, and continually remind the rest of us of the challenge to talk less about our pain and to talk more about our plan to make life better for all Iowans.

Please think critically about those deserving individuals in your community who represent the spirit of the life of the great Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and nominate them! More information about nominations is below. See you on **January 21, 2008!**

ICSAA

Iowa Commission on the Status of African Americans

The Iowa Commission on the Status of African-Americans is accepts nominations for the following awards;

1. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Lifetime Achievement - recognizes individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to Dr. Kings' vision, helping others, cultural awareness, diversity, active community participation and promoting racial equality of all people in Iowa.

2. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Service Project - recognizes individuals and/or organizations who are/have participated in a service project that has strengthened their Iowa community, such as mentoring, reading to children at community centers or shelters, restoring schools, building playgrounds, and organizing neighborhood watches, etc.

Nomination forms must be postmarked by December 20, 2007. The awards will be presented at the 19th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday Ceremony on January 21, 2008.

If you have any questions, please call the division office at 515-281-7283 or toll-free at 800-351-4659.



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The Ongoing Covenant with Black Iowa: Helping the Culver/Judge Administration
Create One Iowa with One Unlimited Future