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**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF CENTRAL ALABAMA – HONORS DR. KING  
WITH A DAY OF SERVICE AT THE JOHN A. WILLIAMSON BGC**

**BIRMINGHAM, AL - (January 23, 2014)** - To make Martin Luther King Day a "day on, not a day off," the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Alabama marked the holiday with some much need "Winter Cleaning". This Hands on Birmingham project brought together Club members, staff and volunteers to honor Dr. Martin Luther King through a day of service while reinforcing the importance of giving back.

"Boys & Girls Clubs are recognized not only for impacting the lives of the youth they serve, but also for instilling in our youth a sense of civic responsibility," said Ashley Lindsay, Community Relationship Manager, which coordinated the service project. "We saw this as a time to serve with people of all ages and backgrounds. The best way for young people to learn about Dr. King's legacy is to get involved themselves."

Approximately 10 students from Miles, Lawson State and University of Alabama at Birmingham; as well as some Club youth who are members of our Keystone and Torch Clubs volunteered their time from 1pm-4pm painting, organizing and cleaning our program areas. They also washed the club van and removed debris from the play field.

The service project was one of hundreds of activities held in states and cities nationwide to honor the legacy of Dr. King. In 1994, Congress passed the King Holiday and Service Act, directing the King Center and the Corporation for National and Community Service to carry out a day of service reflecting Dr. King's life and teachings.

Tom Cleckler, BGCCA Executive Director, said, "Martin Luther King said, 'Everybody can be great, because everybody can serve.' We honor the life and legacy of Dr. King by doing things that help others and strengthen communities."

*About Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Alabama Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Alabama (BGCCA) exist to provide boys and girls ages six to 18 with a place to learn, grow, and succeed. The oldest Boys & Girls Club in the Southeast, BGCCA has been serving the children in the Birmingham and surrounding communities for 113 years. The Club currently has 9 clubs in 4 counties providing a safe, positive environment promoting Education, Character and Leadership Training, and Healthy Lifestyle Habits. [www.BeGreatBirmingham.org](http://www.BeGreatBirmingham.org)*

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