

Legislation to expand these programs and create programs for Congressional elections needs your support. Learn more at [democracy-nc.org](http://democracy-nc.org).



## "In the future, we must become intensive political activists."\*

- ◆ The public program for NC judges will only work if you do your part: Mark a check off box on your NC income tax form for a *Public Campaign Fund* (see #4 inside).
- ◆ North Carolina also has public financing programs for some executive branch offices and for one city. Legislation to expand these programs and create programs for Congressional elections needs your support. Learn more at [democracy-nc.org](http://democracy-nc.org).

- ◆ As Dr. King said, our vote means little if we don't have leaders to vote for. The high cost of campaigns squeezes out many good candidates. A public financing program lets a diversity of qualified candidates compete and it encourages them to focus on voters, not big donations.
- ◆ All four African Americans elected to seats on NC's top courts after 2002 used a public financing program. Under this public funding program, candidates can

### SPEAK UP: CHANGE THE SYSTEM

- ◆ Let people know that every vote matters. For example, if just 5 voters for Barack Obama in each precinct had not voted, he would have lost in North Carolina.
- ◆ Correct anyone who says a person with a criminal record can not vote in NC. Truth: A person with a misdemeanor conviction never loses the right to vote. A felon who finishes all parts of a sentence, including probation, can register like any NC citizen; no special document is needed.
- ◆ Tell teachers and youth leaders about an exciting new law that lets 16 and 17 year olds pre-register to vote in NC (see #2 inside).
- ◆ Be a paid poll worker or be active in voter education in your area. Call Democracy NC or the NAACP for info (see back for phone #s).

### SPEAK UP: EDUCATE VOTERS

- ◆ African Americans, youth and supporters of Dr. King's vision of a just society will decide the outcome of 2010's election; it depends on if they vote in big numbers (like in 2008) or stay home! "By the power of the vote," King said, "we will transform" society. Here are a few ways you can increase turnout in 2010:
- ◆ Let people know that every vote matters. For example, if just 5 voters for Barack Obama in each precinct had not voted, he would have lost in North Carolina.
- ◆ Correct anyone who says a person with a criminal record can not vote in NC. Truth: A person with a misdemeanor conviction never loses the right to vote. A felon who finishes all parts of a sentence, including probation, can register like any NC citizen; no special document is needed.
- ◆ Tell teachers and youth leaders about an exciting new law that lets 16 and 17 year olds pre-register to vote in NC (see #2 inside).
- ◆ Be a paid poll worker or be active in voter education in your area. Call Democracy NC or the NAACP for info (see back for phone #s).

"We must do more than register and more than vote; we shall have to create leaders who embody virtues we respect, who have moral and ethical principles we can applaud."\*

"If we are united, we can get many of the things that we not only desire but which we justly deserve."\*

### SPEAK UP: EVERYONE COUNTS

The Census will send homes the 2010 Census survey in March – it's just 10 questions. Your answers are private and confidential. It is vital that you fill out the survey and tell others to fill theirs out. Your community will lose if they don't. Why?



- ◆ **Money.** The number of people counted in the Census affects how much government money your area gets for schools, job training, health care, roads... The total is \$1,500 per person, so helping 100 people be counted in your area adds \$150,000 a year!

- ◆ **Power.** The Census count will change the district lines for many elections, from City Hall to the legislature to Congress. You could gain more political power if your neighbors are all counted.

- ◆ **Future.** Planners use the Census to decide where to put a new hospital or grocery store. Organizing to get everyone counted helps your area!

For more information, call:

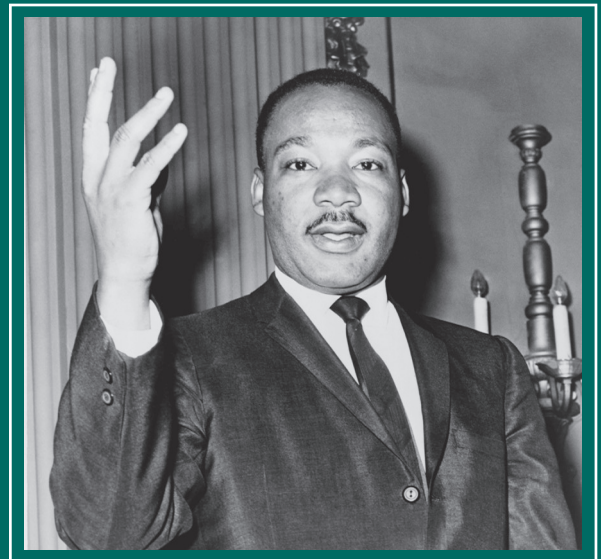
- ▶ NC NAACP at 919-682-4700 or
- ▶ Democracy North Carolina at 919-286-6000; [democracy-nc.org](http://democracy-nc.org)

\*Quotes from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

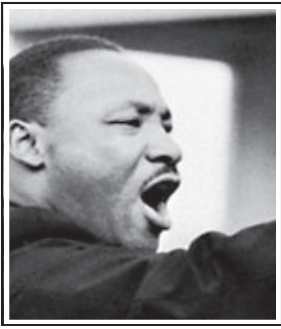
Prepared by Democracy NC, 2010

## Lift Every Voice ...

"The day we see the truth and cease to speak is the day we begin to die."\*



Five Ways to Meet the Challenge Of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



# Five ‘Positive Actions’ for 2010

*“Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable.... Every step toward the goal of justice requires [the] passionate concern of dedicated individuals.... This is no time for apathy or complacency. This is a time for vigorous and positive action.”*

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in *Stride Toward Freedom*, 1958

## 1 Come to “H K on J 4” On Feb. 13 in Raleigh

*This is no time for complacency.* The exciting new H K on J coalition in NC has already achieved victories. But the reality of schools being resegregated, the broken criminal justice system and the economic crisis all serve as a clarion call that more must be done – now! Led by Dr. William Barber and the NC NAACP, the H K on J coalition involves 80 organizations united in support of a broad 14-point People’s Agenda for diverse schools, health reform, affordable housing, worker fairness, voting rights, environmental justice, and more.

H K on J begins with a mass rally and continues all year. **Come to the rally at 9:30 am, Feb. 13 at Chavis Park (505 MLK Jr. Blvd.), Raleigh, and march to the NC Legislature at 10:30. Be a part of a vital new movement for change.**

For details, go to [www.HKonJ.com](http://www.HKonJ.com) or call 1-866-NC-NAACP toll free.

## 2 Help Young People Use A New Law To Get Involved

*Human progress is not inevitable.* Each generation must teach the next about the importance of civic responsibility. A new NC law can help address the low rate of voting among youth. The new law does not change the voting age but it (1) allows 16 and 17 year olds to pre-register to vote, (2) encourages teaching in schools about registration and voting, and (3) requires local boards of elections to hold registration/pre-registration drives in high schools each year.

Most students are 16 when they take Civics or get a driver’s license at the DMV, so it’s an ideal age to sign up future voters. Do you know a teacher or youth group leader interested in preparing teenagers to be first-class citizens? Tell them that the groups listed on the back have resources for youth projects.

## 3 Follow Dr. King’s Advice To Become A “Political Activist”

*The passionate concern of dedicated individuals.* Dr. King calls us to become vigorous advocates to “achieve many far-reaching changes.” Get involved with civic groups in your area, help organize a coalition for voter turnout, attend a workshop about the H K on J agenda or the 2010 Census or other topics. Contact the groups listed on the back of this brochure about many local programs or for a speaker.

## 4 Say “Yes” For Fair Elections

Because who gets elected is key, please look hard for this box ►►► on your NC income-tax form.

**When you mark “Yes,” it costs you nothing.** Your tax or refund is the same. YES shows support for a Public Campaign Fund.

The Fund (1) pays for a Voter Guide to inform us about state candidates and (2) gives those candidates the option of using public campaign funds if they limit spending and refuse big donations.

The Fund helps a wider diversity of candidates serve in office, particularly those who don’t have big-money connections.

**N.C. PUBLIC CAMPAIGN FUND**  
Mark “Yes” if you want to designate \$3 of taxes to this special Fund for voter education materials and for candidates who accept spending limits. Marking Yes does not change your tax or refund

You                      Your Spouse  
● Yes   ○ No            ● Yes   ○ No

## 5 Tell Others Why The Census Is Important

*A time for positive action.* The 2010 Census survey will arrive by mail in March. In the 2000 Census, people of color and low-income residents were “under counted” in NC and that resulted in their communities losing their fair share of money for schools, housing, job training, senior centers, etc. (See the back of this brochure for more details.)

Dozens of churches and local groups are helping spread the word about the importance of getting a full Census. Citizens & non-citizens all count. Call Democracy NC about ways your group can participate in “Count All Souls” or distribute free literature. Call 919-286-6000 or visit [www.democracy-nc.org](http://www.democracy-nc.org).