

# **New Bedford's Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration Set for Jan. 20**

Mayor Jon Mitchell is pleased to join with the Greater New Bedford Area Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee in welcoming the public to attend the "Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Remembrance Celebration." The celebration will be held on Sunday, January 20 , 2019 from 4:00-5:30 p.m. at the Tifereth Israel Congregation, 145 Brownell Avenue in New Bedford.

"New Bedford's annual celebration to honor Dr. King's legacy is an important time for us to reflect on his message of peace and understanding, which unites all Americans," said Mayor Jon Mitchell.

Dr. King was an integral part of the Civil Rights Movement which laid the foundation for the theory and practice of inclusion and diversity in American society and around the world. Though he was assassinated fifty-one years ago, in 1968, Dr. King's dream lives on, touching the hearts and minds of people throughout the world.

The theme for New Bedford's 2019 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Remembrance Celebration is "Where Do We Go From Here?" and was selected by the committee to raise the question of how to speak out against injustice and oppression in the spirit of Dr. King's message. The 2019 keynote speaker will be Rev. Sharyn Halliday, Pastor of Bethel AME Church in New Bedford.

Other program highlights include musical selections by the Deliverance Gospel Choir, Vanessa Marques, and the chorus from James B. Congdon School in New Bedford. The program will also include the announcement of the 2019 Annual Essay Contest winners—a special feature of the annual event for the last 12

years.

All are encouraged to attend the program. For more information contact Marci Pina-Christian or the Department of Community Services at (508) 979-1464.