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## Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno Joins Paterson Youth Council to Commemorate Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Monday, January 19, 2015

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**Trenton, NJ** – In honor of national Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno today attended the Paterson Youth Council's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Recognition Awards Ceremony, held by and for the young people of Paterson.

"In the spirit of Dr. King's final sermon known as "The Drum Major Instinct," today we recognize the living drum majors, those who shall find greatness through service to others," said Lt. Governor Guadagno. "The young men and women of the Paterson Youth Council exemplify this lasting legacy - that community service can be a powerful force to bridge economic and social divides. On this national day of service, it is only right to honor these inspiring young people by recommitting ourselves to advancing the legacy of Dr. King's immortal words."

Organized by the New Jersey Community Development Corporation (NJCDC), the Paterson Youth Council is a citywide organization where young people between the ages of 13 and 19 develop independence and leadership skills through service learning and community involvement. In addition to active service in their school communities, Youth Council members attend City Council and Board of Education meetings and discuss and present policy proposals.

"Today's event is about young people recognizing other young people who do good work each day to honor the legacy of Dr. King," said Robert Guarasci, CEO of NJCDC. "On this national day of service, we are particularly proud that Lt. Governor Guadagno can join us to celebrate Paterson's best and brightest young people who are making a difference in their community."

The Recognition Ceremony honored four students for their extraordinary community service activities and for maintaining strong academic standing as they actively make a difference in Paterson. Mr. Gilman J. Choudhury from Paterson Public Schools and non-profit organization Halls That Inspire also received awards for their service.

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More information on the Paterson Youth Council can be found on its website at: <http://www.njcdc.org/youth/paterson-youth-council/>.

Those interested in seeking volunteerism opportunities in New Jersey or who wish to learn more about the efforts of the Governor's Office on Volunteerism are encouraged to visit [www.volunteerism.NJ.gov](http://www.volunteerism.NJ.gov).

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