



December 2008

"...Let us move on these powerful days, these days of challenge to make America what it ought to be. We have an opportunity to make America a better Nation."

Martin Luther King, Jr. The Mountaintop Speech, 1968.

Dear friend,

2009 will be a very special year with a new President and the prospect of positive change touching all of us. It will be a turning point in our history, the beginning of an era when grassroots leaders from all backgrounds will be more needed than ever. We need an informed, inspired and activated citizenry to address the unprecedented crisis affecting our communities.

This is the reason behind the creation of the Grassroots Leadership Development Fund. At Grassroots Leadership Network(www.maringrassroots.org), we are working to raise \$50,000 for this fund in order to provide training scholarships for community leaders from diverse backgrounds and small grants for local grassroots groups working locally to address social inequalities such as the lack of affordable housing, healthcare, and economic development opportunities.

We will be launching this fund at the 11th Annual Marin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration on Monday, January 19, 2009, in Marin City. You're invited to be one of the initiators of this Fund and celebrate with other Marin community members the fact that we are *Realizing The Dream... Yes we can!*

Over 500 Marin residents, elected officials, grassroots organizations, media representatives, and other community members will participate in this event to honor the life and legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. and the work being done to realize his dream. Join us in this countywide event to celebrate the diversity in our community and show your support to the grassroots efforts being implemented every day to further the social justice movement.

In an effort to continue the work of Dr. King and make this a better nation for all, we need your support. Become a donor to the Grassroots Leadership Development Fund and help provide opportunities for information, education and advocacy activities support to local grassroots leaders. You will find sponsorship opportunities and the benefits available at each level enclosed.

Invest in your community TODAY to make a better future for tomorrow. Thanks in advance for your contribution. We hope to thank you publicly on Martin Luther King Day!

Sincerely,

John Young
Executive Director