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**YMCA MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. INSPIRATIONAL WEEKEND KICKS OFF
WITH ACCLAIMED POLITICAL ADVISOR AND KING SPEECH WRITER**

*JM Family Enterprises, Miami HEAT, FPL, Broward College, Ocean Bank Support
Inspirational Breakfast, Luncheon and MLK Day of Service In Honor of King Legacy*

SOUTH FLORIDA, December 18, 2017 – The YMCA of South Florida will hold its **14th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Inspirational Weekend January 12-15, 2018**. The tribute to Dr. King's Legacy started as a breakfast in Broward County, but has grown over the years to include a luncheon in Miami and a Day of Service. The weekend of activities consists of a Breakfast in Fort Lauderdale presented by JM Family Enterprises and a Luncheon in Miami presented by the Miami Heat on January 12, and the YMCA MLK Day of Service presented by FPL, Broward College and Ocean Bank throughout South Florida on January 15.

"The YMCA has a long, rich history of bringing people of all faiths and backgrounds together," said Sheryl A. Woods, CEO & President of the YMCA of South Florida. "Dr. King grew up playing basketball and other activities at the Butler Street YMCA in Atlanta where he held many civil rights meetings, so the Y is a strong supporter of unity and equality. And now, to have Clarence Jones as our keynote speaker, someone who knew Dr. King well and helped with I Have a Dream, one of his most famous speeches, is quite special."

The YMCA will bring together hundreds of top business and community leaders over the Inspirational Weekend paying tribute to Dr. King. The Y, with the generous support of presenting sponsors JM Family Enterprises and the Miami HEAT, welcomes inspirational speaker Clarence B. Jones for the breakfast and luncheon. Jones has served as a political advisor, counsel and assisted in the drafting of the celebrated "I Have a Dream" speech for the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Then, on the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday, community residents have an opportunity to give back and Stand for Something as YMCAs throughout South Florida honor Dr. King's community spirit. Hundreds of volunteers will mobilize through the YMCA MLK Day of Service projects sponsored by FPL, Broward College, Ocean Bank, and others at sites throughout South Florida where they can volunteer.

BREAKFAST: The breakfast will take place at 7:30 a.m. Friday, January 12, at First Baptist Church of Fort Lauderdale, 301 E. Broward Blvd., Fort Lauderdale.

LUNCHEON: The luncheon will take place at 11:30 a.m. Friday, January 12, at AmericanAirlines Arena, 601 and XFINITY East Plaza, 601 Biscayne Blvd., Miami.

The breakfast and luncheon will each include a Spirit Award recipient who has shown commitment to the ideals of social activism, civic engagement and diversity championed by Dr. King; as well as a Youth Leadership Award and scholarship.

DAY OF SERVICE: The Day of Service projects will take place on the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday, January 15, at various locations around Broward and Miami-Dade counties, from 9 a.m.

to 1 p.m. Visit www.ymcastandforsomething.org for locations and registration.

For Breakfast, Luncheon, or Day of Service sponsorships, contact Aimee Fretwell at 954.357.0289 or afretwell@ymcasouthflorida.org. Proceeds benefit Y programs serving those in need.

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About the YMCA of South Florida

The Y is a leading nonprofit committed to strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Every day, the Y works hard to build healthy, confident, connected and secure children, adults, families and communities through over 200 afterschool, preschool, special needs, sports, camp and youth programs, family centers, and senior health outreach sites. To learn more, visit www.ymcaofsouthflorida.org, connect on Facebook or Twitter, or call a Y near you.