

## Project 351

### Ambassadors Kick off Year of Service with Governor Baker



Bryce Maloney, Anthony Matimu, Glory Tran, and Drusilla Wilson are four eighth graders from Worcester Public Schools Sullivan Middle School, who were selected to join more than 380 other young leaders from across the Commonwealth to participate in Project 351. Project 351 is statewide youth-led service initiative and nonprofit organization that develops a new generation of community-first service leaders through a yearlong engagement of eighth grader Ambassadors from every city and town in Massachusetts. On January 28th, these students kicked off a transformative year of service as Project 351 Ambassadors at an annual day of celebration and service in Boston.

Project 351's 2018 Launch & Service Day, convened by Governor Charlie Baker, united the eighth class of eighth grade service Ambassadors, who honored the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with a day of enrichment, community building, and team-based service across Boston. This year's launch included a morning kick-off at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum and high impact service across Boston.

Together, the 2018 Ambassadors impacted thousands of people through service at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. K-8 School, Cradles to Crayons, Greater Boston Food Bank, Pine Street Inn, and "Service Village" at the State House. "This was a great day for these Worcester Public Schools students. All of the eighth graders were very excited about having had the opportunity to make an impact on their community through community service," reported Bryce Maloney. Drusilla said, "The day was life changing because I do not have many opportunities to do things for others."

Following Launch Day, Ambassadors are invited to lead their schools and communities in a Spring Service Project that hones social and emotional learning, promotes inclusion and unity, and fosters civic responsibility among their peers and neighbors.

The Worcester 2018 Ambassadors have planned to collect **children's socks for Cradles to Crayons, from March 12<sup>th</sup> to April 6<sup>th</sup>**. If you are interested in donating, there will be a drop off box in the main office at Sullivan Middle School. Please consider helping these enthusiastic eighth graders in their service project. Or you may contact their teacher mentor, Mrs. Patricia Ryan, [ryanpa@worc.k12.ma.us](mailto:ryanpa@worc.k12.ma.us).

Thank you.

