**For Immediate Release**

**Contact:** Ashley Strickland
**Phone:** (904) 359-KIDS (5437)
**Email**: Ashley@malwashington.com

# Media Advisory

## Alumni Event & 15 Days of Community Service Kick off MWKF's 15th Anniversary Celebration

**Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 13, 2011-** 2011 marks the 15th year that the MaliVai Washington Kids Foundation has been providing after school and summer camp youth programs in the Jacksonville community. Numerous events will be planned during the year to celebrate their 15th Anniversary. Festivities kick off on Saturday, January 15th with an Alumni Reunion at the Youth Center and is followed by 15 days of community service by MWKF youth.

Each year, as part of their Servathon celebration, the MaliVai Washington Kids Foundation youth perform a variety of community service projects for the local community. The staff and students take a hands-on approach to give back to the community which has given them so much. Servathon has been in place since MWKF began its programs in 1997 with projects that include conducting FREE tennis clinic to local youth enrolled in partner organizations and special needs children of Hope Haven Children's Clinic. The organization's board members and volunteers will also lend a helping hand during Servathon. Local partner organizations are also excited to work with the students on this wonderful celebration of volunteerism and service.

The mission of the MaliVai Washington Kids Foundation is to develop champions in classrooms, on tennis courts and throughout communities. MWKF is a local, non-profit youth development organization which operates the TnT (Tennis-n-Tutoring) daily afterschool program. The TnT program serves 160+ underserved youth in the community and provides free homework assistance, tennis lessons and life skills classes to youth in grades Kindergarten-High School. MWKF also offers competitive tennis programs, a summer camp, community partnerships and outreach programs.

**When:** January 17th-February 4th

**Where:** MaliVai Washington Youth Center & Various Local Organizations

***Please see Servathon schedule below***

# Servathon Schedule of Events

- **January 17th-Feb 1st** : The entire organization will collect Dimes to support the March of Dimes
- **January 18th**: 3rd & 4th grade students will write encouraging letters to Soldiers deployed overseas
- **January 24th**: 3rd grade students will make Peace bracelets for battered women and children
- **January 26th**: A group of middle/high school students will play and work with the special needs students of the Development Learning Center
- **January 26th**: A group of middle/high school students will help prepare meals for the homeless at the Sulzbacher Center
- **January 28th**: 5th grade students will perform a neighborhood clean up around the Durkeeville community
- **January 31st: February 4th**: The entire organization will collect teddy bears for the youth of Lea's Place. Lea's Place serves as a sanctuary for children who are victims of abuse and neglect and have been removed from their home.
- **February 1st**: 5th grade students will hand out informative flyers on heart disease and breast cancer to the Durkeeville community
- **February 2nd**: A group of middle/high school Students will read to Kindergartners enrolled in John Love Elementary Team-UP program
- **February 4th**: Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd graders will create Valentine's Day cards for the elderly of Edgewood Nursing home

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**For more information about this event, please contact Ashley Strickland at (904) 359-KIDS (5437) or Ashley@malwashington.com.**

1096 W. 6th Street Jacksonville, FL 32209 (904)359-KIDS (5437) (904)301-3789 Fax