

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**CONTACT:** Tim Smith  
[t.smith@neu.edu](mailto:t.smith@neu.edu), 617.257.7999

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL “OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE” MOBILIZES YOUTH ACROSS STATE TO EFFECT COMMUNITY CHANGE**

DORCHESTER, MA — The Massachusetts Promise Fellowship, an AmeriCorps organization that places Fellows who commit to a year of service at non-profit organizations, schools, and city agencies across Massachusetts to create, lead, and manage youth development projects, will host Opportunity To Serve, their second annual statewide day of service today at five locations across the state. The event will mobilize more than 250 volunteers of all ages to participate in Boston, Brockton, and Fall River. Millions of children and youth in the United States and in more than 80 countries are planning service and service-learning projects that highlight the positive contributions young people make throughout the year as a part of the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual Global Youth Service Weekend.

Last year, the Massachusetts Promise Fellowship celebrated its tenth year as a program by participating in Global Youth Service Day with the first annual Opportunity To Serve. This year, they have expanded on last year's event with a new initiative that incorporates youth voice throughout the process. This has involved the creation of a Youth Board that has overseen the project since its inception, taking the lead on all planning, marketing, & recruitment. Today's event will consist of five individual projects taking place simultaneously across the state, selected through a competitive RFP process, with proposals that were co-written by youth and reviewed by the Youth Board. The Youth Board has also been integral in planning today's events through promotion, logistics, and volunteers.

**The Opportunity To Serve: World Cup Boston 2010 Service Learning Celebration** will be a soccer field restoration project at Franklin Field and the adjacent Boys and Girls Club. The day will have three separate components: 1) field restoration, 2) soccer clinic/game playing, and 3) workshops to take place within the Boys and Girls Club. All participants will be on a rotating schedule and will attend five forty minute stations with work shops hosted by Artists for Humanity, Girls Leap, ALPHFA, SAP Book Project, OriginNation, Peace First, South African Partners, Soccer 1, America SCORES New England, and SportsinSociety.

**WHO:** Youth & Adult Volunteers, AmeriCorps Members & Alumni, area college students  
**WHAT:** Opportunity To Serve: World Cup Boston 2010 Service Learning Celebration  
**WHERE:** 15 Talbot Avenue Dorchester, MA 02124  
**WHEN:** Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Registration at 9:15am, Projects ongoing 9:30am – 4pm

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**The Massachusetts Promise Fellowship** believes that all young people in the Commonwealth have a right to the resources that they need to be successful in life, including a caring adult, a safe place, a healthy start, an effective education, and an opportunity to serve. We deliver these 5 promises to youth by training emerging leaders who commit one year of service to support and provide these needed resources to youth throughout the Commonwealth. For more information, visit [www.masspromisefellows.org](http://www.masspromisefellows.org).