

## **A Day On**

by Lawrence Green, AmeriCorps member

On a very snowy Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 2008, a local group of AmeriCorps members from Lewis-Clark Service Corps offered their services to City Light, a live-in program through the Boise Rescue Mission helping women overcome problems with addiction. In honor of making MLK, Jr. Day a “day-on” rather than a “day-off,” the members planned to touch up and paint various rooms, as well as a mural designed by one of the members. Residents, several AmeriCorps alums, Kelly Houston and other volunteers attended to participate in the endeavor. The event even attracted media attention with the presence of Boise news channels KTVB and KTRV.

From 9am to 7:30pm AmeriCorps members and other volunteers worked diligently to beautify the facility. Painting of the kitchen and two other rooms lasted all day. The mural, which one of the AmeriCorps members designed, was truly a group effort. Residents and volunteers all put their hand to painting the happy scene of children playing outside of City Light.

Although there was a lot of difficult work involved, everyone felt good about what was accomplished that day. Not only were the rooms looking better or well on their way, but groundwork for friendships was laid and the opportunity for rare interactions created. It truly was a memorable “day-on” for everyone involved.