By Monday, 05 October 2015 05:39 -

RALEIGH, (SGRToday.com) - Awareness and appreciation of the life and philosophy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. That's the aim of a state grant program for schools and nonprofits announced by the Department of Administration.

Applications must be postmarked no later than October 30, 2015.

The theme of the Martin Luther King Commission for FY 2015-2016 Martin Luther King, Jr. Grant Program is Content of Character, which references Dr. King's famous quote about his dream that children will be judged by the content of their character, not the color of their skin.

The Commission will award a total of two or three grants ranging from \$1,500 to \$3,000 each to not-for-profit organizations, including, but not limited to, educational institutions, community-based organizations and churches.

Submitted ideas must reach children under 14.

Eligible activities may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- -- Developing and delivering replicable school performances about the positive aspects of non-violent behavior
- -- Utilizing performances or other media to present the peer-to-peer counseling that is effective in reducing the long-range emotional and physical impacts of bullying, recommending guidance for handling situations where bullying exists
  - -- Creating mentoring and tutorial programs to enhance learning for special needs children.