



COMMERCE NEWS

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Commerce Secretary Gary Locke to Kick-Off President Obama's 'United We Serve' Initiative with Visit to Homeless Shelter

The nationwide call for community service will lead up to the National Day of Service and Remembrance on September 11th

WASHINGTON – In an effort to inspire Americans to serve their communities, Commerce Secretary Gary Locke will visit a homeless shelter Monday in Mesa, Ariz. as part of the President's summer service initiative 'United We Serve.' Monday is the official kickoff of 'United We Serve' – a call to all Americans to join a volunteer effort this summer and be part of building a new foundation for America, one community at a time.

A New Leaf's La Mesita shelter offers a variety of services including emergency housing, licensed childcare and job development in an effort to support homeless families with young children and facilitate their independence.

Representative Harry Mitchell of Arizona's Fifth District will join Secretary Locke at the shelter. Locke is one of several senior officials in the Obama administration, including fellow Cabinet members and the First Lady, who will be participating in service projects on Monday in communities across the country.

The President's call to participate in 'United We Serve' focuses on four key areas that can significantly impact communities: energy and the environment; health care; education; and community renewal. The initiative will continue through the National Day of Service and Remembrance on September 11th.

WHO: U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke
Representative Harry Mitchell (AZ-5th District)

WHAT: Visit to A New Leaf's La Mesita Family Homeless Shelter to kick-off President Obama's 'United We Serve' Initiative

WHEN: 11 a.m., Mon., June 22, 2009

WHERE: A New Leaf's La Mesita Family Homeless Shelter
2254 W. Main Street, Mesa, AZ 85203

This event is open to the press. There will be photo opportunities throughout the visit. For more information, contact the press office at 202-482-4883. For logistical information, contact Torrie A. Taj at A New Leaf at 480-464-4648 or via email at ttaj@TurnaNewLeaf.org.