

Brian Bennett receives MLK Diversity Award

By LOUISE WREGE
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BENTON TOWNSHIP — The Rev. Brian Bennett of Overflow Church in Benton Harbor received the 14th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Diversity Award on Monday at Lake Michigan College.



BENNETT

Bennett is the founder and executive director of Overflow Christian Community Development Association, which operates several job training programs in Benton Harbor. They include the Mosaic Resale Store and Cafe Mosaic, Harbor Shine, Youth Shine and Harbor Market.

“Our God is for all people,” Bennett said as he accepted the award. “Not only is he for all people, but the foot of the cross is the most level ground. Regardless of race and class, we find unity there. And the idea of building bridges has stayed with me.”

The award was presented during the college’s 20th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Ceremony and Awards. Volunteers stayed after the ceremony to create more than 200 bags of dry bean soup, which were to be given to area food pantries.

Also at the event, the winners of the LMC Student Speaking Competition read their winning essays. Christian Haaack won first place and second place went to Trajan Smith.

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Jeremiah Burkett of Baroda is helped by his grandmother, Paget Clark of Stevensville, as he adds beans to a bag of dry soup mix at Lake Michigan College in Benton Township on Monday. Volunteers made more than 200 bags of dry soup to be given to area food pantries after the 20th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and Awards Ceremony at LMC.