



PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

2006 State Report

Illinois

The President's Volunteer Service Award is an initiative of the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation in conjunction with

Corporation for
**NATIONAL &
COMMUNITY
SERVICE** 

USA 
Freedom Corps
Make a Difference. Volunteer.

administered by Points of Light Foundation & Volunteer Center National Network.

www.PresidentialServiceAwards.gov



June 19, 2006

The Honorable Rod Blagojevich
Governor
State Capitol
202 State House
Chicago, IL 62706

Dear Governor Blagojevich:

We are pleased to provide you with this first Annual State Report presented by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation.

The State Report provides a summary of your state's commitment to the President's Volunteer Service Award Program since its inception in 2004. The Council works in partnership with businesses, nonprofit groups, schools, and other organizations across the country to honor local volunteers with the Award. More than 16,000 organizations across the nation have recognized over 400,000 Americans with this honor.

Citizens of all ages and backgrounds are giving of their time and talents to improve lives and strengthen communities. In 2005, more than 65 million Americans volunteered to help their neighbors and communities through service. The President's Volunteer Service Award is one way we pay tribute to these volunteers.

The Award is issued by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation on behalf of the President of the United States to recognize the best in American spirit, and to encourage all Americans to improve their communities through volunteer service. The Award is given to individuals, families, and groups that have demonstrated outstanding volunteer service and civic participation over the course of a 12-month period.

Today, we challenge you to help advance this national volunteer recognition movement and celebrate the volunteer contributions of your residents especially during National Volunteer Week. I hope your office will join us in honoring your state's most valuable assets – volunteers.

Sincerely,

Kari Dunn
Executive Director

PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD STATISTICS
October 1, 2004 – April 14, 2006

National Statistics

Number of Certifying Organizations		Number of Awards Presented					
2006	1,510		Bronze	Silver	Gold	Lifetime	Total
2005	7,682	2006	36,163	18,554	28,093	11,090	93,900
2004	6,418	2005	73,851	37,847	55,972	32,197	199,867
2003	1,385	2004	38,686	26,436	34,040	11,538	110,700
Total	16,995	Total	148,700	82,837	118,105	54,825	404,467

Hours Served by Awardees (By Age)					
	Ages 5-14	Ages 15-25	Ages 26-64	Ages 65+	Total
2006	859,503	3,852,879	72,125,017	70,247,750	147,662,149
2005	2,074,400	6,990,129	31,029,401	79,432,771	119,526,701
2004	290,654	747,079	8,451,545	56,811,121	66,300,399
Total	3,224,557	11,590,087	111,605,963	207,068,642	333,489,249

Number of Awards in Presidential Priority Service Area				
	2006	2005	2004	Total
Youth Achievement	20,493	46,725	9,924	77,142
Parks and Open Space	4,033	4,175	515	8,723
Healthy Communities	70,115	88,442	32,186	190,743
Public Safety and Emergency Response	12,013	8,113	1,198	21,324

Illinois' Statistics

Since 2004, 10,474 citizens of Illinois have received the PVSA recognizing 11,451,447 hours of service.

Number of Certifying Organizations		Number of Awards Presented					
2006	47		Bronze	Silver	Gold	Lifetime	Total
2005	240	2006	687	564	1,259	389	2,899
2004	205	2005	2,380	1,314	2,324	541	6,559
2003	37	2004	194	260	405	157	1,016
Total	529	Total	3,261	2,138	3,988	1,087	10,474

Hours Served by Awardees (By Age)					
	Ages 5-14	Ages 15-25	Ages 26-64	Ages 65+	Total
2006	4,126	79,583	1,284,810	2,746,604	4,126,822
2005	28,598	1,167,474	441,599	4,450,013	6,090,084
2004	10,160	10,998	385,882	816,001	1,234,541
Total	42,884	1,258,055	2,112,291	8,012,618	11,451,447

Award recipients in your state:

Natasha Phillips (Forreston, IL)

Certified by: Boys & Girls Club of Freeport

Natasha Phillips began serving her community at the tender age of six. Today, as a 17 year old, she has volunteered more than 4,000 hours of community service. With a very busy school schedule she still finds time to volunteer much of her time to mentoring, through the Boys and Girls Club in Freeport, and has helped create a Forrestville Summer Youth Program to promote activities for the youth in her own community. Natasha is also a member of the Honor Roll Society, Who's Who Among American High School Students, Volunteer Jr. Staff at the Boys & Girls Club of Freeport, the president of her local 4-H club, a reporter of the Federation Club, Junior Staff at the 4-H State Advisory Board, 2005 Miss Ogle County Fair Queen, Youth Advisory Board for the Youth Crime Watch of America. Natasha also adopted several grandmothers in the surrounding community.

Cameron Yager (Lake Forest, IL)

Certified by: Girl Scout Troop 3011

Cameron Yager of Lake Forest turned her love for animals and concern for their welfare toward a goal to make a difference in the plight of abandoned and stray cats and dogs. She logged over 250 hours through the donation of her time at the Heartland Animal Shelter, cleaning cages, washing dogs, collecting carloads of supplies and the donation of a computer for the office, and spending a Christmas morning at the shelter to feed and care for the animals. Cameron fostered three feral kittens unaccustomed to human interaction, for four weeks. Not only did she acclimate them to human contact and medicate them through illness, she ultimately returned three delightful, loving kittens that were all adopted. Although fulfilling all the requirements for her Girl Scout Gold Award, Cameron continues to donate countless hours at Heartland and has taken her experiences and knowledge on the road by educating younger scouts.

How you can use the President's Volunteer Service Award in your state:

- On your state's website, promote your state's President's Volunteer Service Award winners, and include a link and banner for the President's Volunteer Service Award.
- Issue a press release highlighting outstanding volunteers and encouraging others to volunteer and aspire to receive the President's Volunteer Service Award. For a sample press release, please visit www.pointsoflight.org/programs/seasons/nvw/tools.cfm
- Challenge local and state governmental offices to register as Certifying Organizations for the President's Volunteer Service Award and issue 25 Awards by 2007 National Volunteer Week
- Encourage organizations (e.g., nonprofits and businesses) to sign up as Award partner organizations by distributing a special invitation during National Volunteer Week
- Whether or not you have a governor's volunteer awards program, consider partnering with us to deliver a statewide volunteer recognition program modeled after the President's Volunteer Service Award. For an example of a state's volunteer award program, please visit <http://www.PresidentialServiceAwards.gov/S/California/>
- Register your state as a Certifying Organization and start recognizing your volunteers with this Presidential recognition. For more details, please contact Tomme Beevas at 202-729-8018 or TBeevas@PointsofLight.org.

About the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation:

President George W. Bush established USA Freedom Corps in January of 2002, and he called on all Americans to serve a cause greater than themselves. One year later, he created the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation to help recognize the contributions of America's volunteers. The Council strives to promote and recognize outstanding volunteer service and raise awareness of the many ways in which Americans can help meet the needs of individuals within their communities and around the world. The Council brings together leaders from business, entertainment, sports, education, government, nonprofits, and the media, each of whom has demonstrated a commitment to service and volunteering in his or her own life. For more information about the President's Council and its members, please visit www.volunteer.gov.

