

THE 1989 PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER ACTION AWARDS

*Throughout our history Americans have reached out in service to others, near and far, and thereby strengthened their communities, our country, and the entire world. From the smallest acts of kindness to the dedication of a lifetime, volunteers respond in times of joy and tragedy alike.**

President Ronald Reagan

From the early patriots striving to build a free nation to neighbors helping in community barn-raising to present day neighborhood and community groups, one common trait has continued to distinguish the American people—the desire to help one's neighbor through volunteer service. Today nearly half—or 89 million—adult Americans volunteer in time of emergency or disaster as well as in addressing longstanding community problems. They give of their time and talents through their churches, social clubs and civic organizations . . . they help as individuals and in groups. The recipients are family, friends, neighbors, total strangers. Volunteer service is such an integral part of the American way of life it often goes unnoticed and unrecognized.


The President's Volunteer Action Awards were created in 1982 to honor those individuals and groups who make unique contributions to their communities through volunteer service and to focus public attention on these outstanding and innovative volunteer efforts. In April 1987 President Reagan signed an Executive Order formally establishing the President's Awards Program.


The 130 recipients of the first seven President's Awards have included established national organizations with thousands of volunteers, newly developed grass roots movements with national scope, local organizations and groups of volunteers, individuals, groups of labor union volunteers and major corporate employee volunteer programs. Some of the award winners are well known; others, known only to those with whom they work. In 1988, the first Ronald Reagan Award for Volunteer Excellence was presented to Mrs. I.E. Williams, one of the winners of the President's Award. The special award represents the highest achievement in community service as demonstrated by a special pioneering spirit, innovative ideas and a lifetime commitment to volunteerism.

Anyone may nominate an individual or group involved in volunteer activity for the President's Award. Specific guidelines governing the nomination process are on pages 2 and 3 of this form.

The President's Volunteer Action Awards will be presented at the White House during the spring of 1989.

The President's Awards Program is cosponsored by VOLUNTEER—The National Center and ACTION.

 VOLUNTEER—The National Center, a private, nonprofit organization, was created in 1979 to strengthen the effective involvement of all citizens as volunteers in solving local problems. Among the wide range of technical assistance and support services VOLUNTEER offers to volunteer-involving organizations are the National VOLUNTEER Conference, a variety of publications on citizen involvement, *Voluntary Action Leadership* (quarterly magazine for volunteer administrators), a wide range of information, consulting and training services as well as sponsorship of demonstration projects and national volunteer advocacy and public awareness activities. VOLUNTEER is the national sponsor of the Volunteer Connection, a national media volunteer recruitment campaign.

 ACTION is the lead federal agency for volunteer service. It fosters and expands voluntary citizen participation by using public and private sector resources and by coordinating its efforts with other federal agencies. ACTION addresses current and emerging needs by utilizing to the fullest advantage the energy, innovative spirit, experience and skills of Americans to serve local communities and the nation. ACTION supports more than 400,000 volunteers through its Foster Grandparent, Retired Senior Volunteer, Senior Companion, Volunteers in Service To America (VISTA), the ACTION Drug Alliance and the Student Community Service programs.

*From the President's 1988 National Volunteer Week statement.

General Information

- An individual or group may submit separate nominations for as many different individuals or groups as desired.
- Only nominations accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped postcard will be acknowledged. Because of the volume of nominations, the President's Awards screening committee will not be able to respond to any queries regarding the nomination form or the status of a specific nomination.
- A list of the recipients of the 1989 President's Award will be sent to those who include a self-addressed stamped envelope marked "WINNERS."
- Pertinent supplementary material may be submitted along with the nomination form. See "Procedures for Completing Nomination Form" (page 3) for guidelines. All nominations must be complete in one package when submitted. Separate letters, materials and other documents received later will not be processed or considered in judging.
- Nominations should be no larger than 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x11". The "Official Nomination Form" should be detached from the complete form and should be the top document in the packet. Please staple materials in the upper left corner.
- All entries and supplementary materials become the property of VOLUNTEER and will not be returned. Materials will be held by VOLUNTEER for six months following completion of the judging process.
- The screening committee may request additional information from applicants or references for the judges' consideration.
- All nominations must be submitted in English to be considered for the President's Award.
- Decisions of the judges are final. All entries for the 1989 President's Volunteer Action Awards must be postmarked before midnight, **January 17, 1989.**

Who is Eligible for the President's Volunteer Action Awards?

- Any individual, group or family actively engaged in volunteer activities that benefit the community, state or nation may be nominated.
- For those individuals or groups who are paid any amount for activities for which they are nominated (other than reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses), the nomination statement must clearly indicate the extent of salaried or stipended activities.
- Individuals involved in "work released time" and student course credit are eligible but must clearly indicate that in the nomination statement.
- Except for the International Volunteering category, all volunteer activities must be performed within the United States or its territories.
- No employees of immediate relatives of VOLUNTEER or ACTION or members of VOLUNTEER's Board of Directors or ACTION's National Volunteer Advisory Council may be nominated for awards.
- Recipients of previous President's Awards are ineligible for the 1989 awards.

Submitting the Nomination

Send all entries to:

The President's Volunteer Action Awards
Post Office Box 37488
Washington, DC 20013

Do not send entries to VOLUNTEER or ACTION.

Entries must be postmarked by midnight, January 17, 1989.

Procedures for Completing and Submitting the Nomination Form

In order for a nomination for the President's Awards to be considered, page 4 of the nomination form must be completely filled out and a statement of not more than 500 words describing the nominee's activities must be attached. In addition, a nomination may include appropriate supportive materials (described in C below).

(A) The Nomination Form

Item I. Indicate the individual or group's complete name, mailing address and telephone number. If the nominee is a group, indicate the name of the appropriate contact person within the group along with his/her address and telephone number.

Item II. Awards will be made in the following categories:

- **Arts and Humanities**—cultural enrichment
- **Education**—pre-elementary, elementary and secondary education, informal and supplementary education services
- **The Environment**—volunteer service resulting in significant enrichment and conservation of the environment; recreation
- **Health**—medical care, mental health and developmentally disabled services, community mental health
- **Human Services**, to include **Jobs** and **Material Resources**—volunteer services to youth, family and elders; employment, job creation and training, economic development; food and nutrition, clothing and furnishings, housing, transportation, consumer protection; areas not specifically covered by other categories
- **International Volunteering**—ongoing volunteer work performed by individuals or groups whose primary residence or headquarters is within the U.S. or its territories and benefiting the residents of foreign countries or ongoing volunteer work performed within the U.S. or its territories and benefiting the residents of foreign countries
- **Mobilization of Volunteers**—to address a variety of problems
- **Public Safety**—crime and delinquency prevention, justice services, protective services, disaster relief, fire protection
- **Youth**—volunteer services by youth to age 25
- **Workplace**—volunteer activities sponsored by or supported by either a corporation or labor union. NOTE: Nominations must be submitted on special Corporate or Union nomination forms.

Check the most appropriate category. Some nominations can fit appropriately into more than one category. Please choose the category you feel most appropriate. Categories are meant as guidelines for the selection process; thus, where appropriate, the selection committee may choose to put a nomination into more than one category.

Item III. Indicate name, address and telephone number plus title and organization (if appropriate).

Item IV. Since award finalists' references will be contacted for verification of the scope and extent of activities, it is important that this section be completed. Nominations with fewer than three references will be disqualified.

Item V. In the space provided describe the goals of the volunteer activity nominated.

Item VI. Enter the name of the individual or group being nominated and signature of the person making the nomination. Nominations not signed by the nominator will be disqualified. A person may nominate him/herself.

(B) The Statement

Because nominations will be judged based on specific criteria, the statement of activities (of not more than 500 words) attached to the nomination must address the following items:

Community need for the activity—How important was the activity to the overall welfare of the community? For example, establishing an education and training facility for handicapped children in a town where there was none would be a more important contribution than expanding an existing recreation program.

Recipients' need for the activity—This may or may not be different from the community need. A facility which serves handicapped children may be equally important to both the recipients of the service and to the general public. In some cases, however, such as providing access to a kidney machine, the recipient's need for the service is total, while the community's need for kidney machines may be slight in relation to other needs.

Scope of the activity—The concern here is with the potential impact of the activity or service. Something that is national or regional in impact is not necessarily "better" than something that is local. Projects of very limited scope, however, such as sponsoring an annual picnic for 50 senior citizens, would not be considered to have a major impact.

Achievement—Actual accomplishments of the voluntary activity or service should be considered, as opposed to the stated goals or objectives of the project.

Unusual challenges overcome—Such challenges might include public apathy or hostility toward the project or program, a critically limited supply of resources, or a handicap on the part of the person or persons doing the volunteer work.

Method—Method relates basically to the way in which the activity or service was performed. Consideration should include the vigor, efficiency and overall organization of the effort; the extent to which the individual or group marshalled other volunteer resources in support of the effort; and, where appropriate, evidence of broad community or grassroots support for the activity or service.

Innovation—Innovation takes into consideration the degree to which the service or activity represents a new use of volunteers in a certain capacity and/or a significantly new approach to solving a particularly pressing problem.

(C) Accompanying Materials

Not more than 10 pages of supplementary material may be submitted along with the nomination. Accompanying materials can include letters, testimonials, news clippings, pamphlets, etc. Do not submit tapes, cassettes, display materials, films, scrapbooks, books, etc. as they will not be considered in judging the nomination. All materials submitted become the property of VOLUNTEER and will not be returned; thus, when preparing accompanying materials, keep the materials cost to a minimum and submit photocopies when possible.

I. NOMINEE: Please specify if nominee is an individual _____, a group _____, or a family _____.

NAME: _____

If individual, indicate Mr., Ms., Miss, Mrs.;
If nominee is group, enter full name of group.

(Area Code) Phone Number

If nominee is group, enter name of contact person.

(Area Code) Phone Number

Complete address

City

State

Zip

II. CATEGORY: Check one. Some nominations will fit appropriately into more than one category. Please choose the category you feel most appropriate. Categories are meant as guidelines for the selection process; thus, where appropriate, the selection committee may choose to put a nomination into more than one category.

_____ Arts and Humanities
_____ Education
_____ The Environment
_____ Health
_____ Human Services, Jobs and
_____ Material Resources

_____ International Volunteering
_____ Mobilization of Volunteers
_____ Public Safety
_____ Youth

III. NOMINATOR:

Name: _____

(Area Code) Phone Number

Title and organization, if appropriate.

Complete address

City

State

Zip

IV. VERIFICATION: In order to qualify for consideration, a nominee must have three references who may be contacted to verify the scope and extent of the nominee's volunteer activities. References should be persons familiar with the volunteer accomplishments for which the person is being nominated and may not include the nominee or any person related to the nominee.

Name: _____

(Area Code) Phone Number

Complete address

City

State

Zip

Name: _____

(Area Code) Phone Number

Complete address

City

State

Zip

Name: _____

(Area Code) Phone Number

Complete address

City

State

Zip

V. SUMMARY: In this space describe in one sentence the goals of the activity for which the nomination is being made. Then attach a 500-word statement that addresses the criteria outlined in section B on page 3.

VI. NOMINATION: I hereby nominate _____

Name of individual or group nominated for the President's Volunteer Action Award.

Signature of Nominator

Date





1111 NORTH 19TH STREET, SUITE 500
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22209
703/276-0542; FAX 703/528-6021

CHAIRMAN
HONORABLE GEORGE ROMNEY
PRESIDENT
KERRY KENN ALLEN

October 31, 1988

TO NATIONAL VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS

I am very pleased to announce the 1989 PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER ACTION AWARDS PROGRAM. This is the eighth year that VOLUNTEER has taken the lead in sponsoring the program in cooperation with the White House Office of Private Sector Initiatives and ACTION. In April 1987, President Reagan signed an Executive Order formally establishing the program. That order reads, in part: "The President's Volunteer Action Award is hereby established for the purposes of recognizing outstanding voluntary contributions by individuals and organizations toward helping others in our society, and of demonstrating to all Americans what can be accomplished through voluntary action."

Let me call your special attention to the YOUTH CATEGORY. We have had excellent individual and group winners in the category since it was established several years ago, but we are working this year to increase the number of nominees. Because we do receive fewer nominations for that category than one like Human Services, the chances of being among the finalists is increased substantially!

President Reagan presented the 1988 awards to fifteen individuals and organizations, two corporations and one labor union at a White House luncheon on June 10. While the award winners were in Washington, they visited with their Representatives and Senators and attended a special dinner at the Mayflower Hotel. The recipients of the President's Volunteer Action Awards continue to reflect the wide diversity of today's volunteer community. With the publicity that they receive, they serve as models of what can be accomplished by concerned and involved citizens. If you would like a copy of the 1988 awards book, check on the enclosed form.

In order to get the word of the program out as broadly as possible, we would like your help in announcing it to your own network. Enclosed you'll find several nomination forms. We would be happy to provide the form in quantity to send to your own membership list (or we'll mail the forms if you provide us with labels). To order forms, use the form below or call Barbara Watkins at VOLUNTEER. For any announcement in your organizational newsletter, please mention the deadline for nominations - JANUARY 17, 1989 - and the special address to request nominations:

President's Volunteer Action Awards
Post Office Box 37488
Washington, D.C. 20013

We appreciate your help in announcing the 1989 President's Awards Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard C. Mock". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R".

Richard C. Mock
Vice President, Public Information

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

September 15, 1988
CONTACT: Richard Mock
703-276-0542

PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES 1989 VOLUNTEER AWARDS

The President today announced the eighth annual President's Volunteer Action Awards Program to honor outstanding volunteer achievement by individual citizens and organizations. One of two major recognition programs created by the President to promote private sector initiatives, the program began in 1981 and was formally established by Executive Order in April 1987.

The awards will be presented at a White House ceremony next spring. Award categories include the arts and humanities, education, the environment, health, human services, international volunteering, mobilization of volunteers, public safety, youth and the workplace.

In 1988, to recognize the leadership that the President has provided in promoting volunteering in America, the organizers of the Volunteer Action Awards created the Ronald Reagan Award for Volunteer Excellence to be presented to the winner of the President's Volunteer Action Award whose contribution to voluntarism exhibits the special pioneering spirit of innovation set forth by the President.

VOLUNTEER - The National Center, a nonprofit volunteer support organization, administers the program in cooperation with ACTION, the federal domestic volunteer agency, and the White House Office of Private Sector Initiatives. Funding for the program is provided by private sector corporate and foundation sponsors.

M O R E

In announcing the 1989 President's Volunteer Action Awards program, the President said, "Throughout our history Americans have reached out in service to others, near and far, and thereby strengthened their communities, our country, and the entire world. From the smallest acts of kindness to the dedication of a lifetime, volunteers respond in times of joy and tragedy alike."

VOLUNTEER, a national organization supporting greater citizen involvement in community problem-solving, provides technical assistance to volunteer involving organizations, public agencies, unions and corporations. It works closely with a network of over 300 associated Volunteer Centers and more than 1,500 other local, state and national organizations. VOLUNTEER is the sponsor of the Volunteer Connection, a national media volunteer recruitment campaign.

ACTION is the lead federal agency for volunteer service, fostering and expanding voluntary citizen participation by using public and private sector resources and by coordinating its efforts with other federal agencies. Its major programs include the Foster Grandparent, Retired Senior Volunteer, Senior Companion, Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA), the ACTION Drug Alliance and the Student Community Service Programs.

A list of last year's recipients is attached. Nomination forms can be obtained by writing: The President's Volunteer Action Awards Program, P.O. Box 37488, Washington, D.C. 20013. The deadline for submitting nominations for the program is January 17, 1989. For additional information, contact Richard Mock of VOLUNTEER at (703) 276-0542.

M O R E

PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER ACTION AWARDS
1988 AWARD RECIPIENTS

ALABAMA

Kaye Kiker, York, was instrumental in the formation of Alabamians for a Clean Environment and has been a leader in educating local residents about the impact of the nation's largest toxic waste landfill which is located in their county.

CALIFORNIA

SHARE, Inc., Los Angeles, an organization of 100 women from the entertainment industry, annually raises over \$1 million through special events to provide funding to 28 organizations serving mentally handicapped and abused children.

FLORIDA

Operation Comeback, Orlando, sponsored by a community college, involves students as one-to-one counselors for troubled young people who participate in community service projects as a way of providing positive experiences and building self esteem.

Arnolta Williams, Jacksonville, now 91 years old, has been a volunteer leader in Jacksonville's black community since 1920 and her message of moderation and conciliation is credited with the continued racial harmony in the city during the 1960s. Mrs. Williams is also the first recipient of the Ronald Reagan Award for Volunteer Excellence which recognizes the highest achievement in community service.

INDIANA

The 1987 International Summer Special Olympics Committee, Inc., South Bend, involved over 23,000 volunteers in the Games during which 5,000 mentally handicapped athletes from all 50 states and 50 foreign countries participated in 14 Olympic type sports.

ILLINOIS

Verlyn R. and Martha J. Roskam, Glen Ellyn, founded Educational Assistance Ltd., a unique barter program that matches contributed surplus corporate goods with colleges interested in purchasing them, with the cash value given as scholarships to needy students.

LOUISIANA

Red River Revel Arts Festival, Shreveport, annually involves over 3,000 volunteers in the eight-day festival which provides a variety of arts experiences for the 300,000 people who attend and a fundraising opportunity for 24 nonprofit organizations.

MARYLAND

Roberta R. Roper, Upper Marlboro, founded the Stephanie Roper Committee and Foundation in memory of her murdered daughter to develop and guarantee victims' rights in the court system and to provide assistance to crime victims and their families.

M O R E

MINNESOTA

First Bank System Community First Program, St. Paul, involves over 2,000 employees as community volunteers in 23 service programs which provided nearly 600,000 hours of volunteer services in 1987.

NEW YORK

Thomas W. Evans, New York, founded the Mentor Program, which matches high school students with 24 law firms to teach them the workings of the law, and has been a leader in the development of the National Symposium on Partnerships in Education.

Zachary Fisher, New York, has been the leading force in the development of the Intrepid Sea-Air-Space Museum located on the USS Intrepid and of the Veterans Bedside Network and formed the Elizabeth and Zachary Fisher Armed Services Charitable Foundation.

Time, Inc. Time To Read, New York, involves 500 employee volunteers who tutored over 600 functionally illiterate adults and young people in reading at 20 sites in 15 cities in 1987 using specially developed curricula and reading materials published by Time Inc.

NORTH CAROLINA

Mission Air Ministries, Charlotte, founded in 1983, provides no cost transportation to hospitals and medical centers for over 200 people each year.

OHIO

Barberton Council of Labor, Barberton, has developed a free medical clinic for unemployed residents of Summit County, which has a 33% unemployment rate.

TEXAS

Margaret Gallimore, Dallas, a registered nurse, has housed over 20 people with AIDS in her home, providing meals, cleaning, serving as family for the residents and making the funeral arrangements for those who have died in her home.

Dr. Luis A.N. Gomez, El Paso, prior to his death in June, provided no-cost medical care to more than 50 people with leprosy in Juarez.

Robert Mosbacher, Jr., Houston, was instrumental in the development of the InfoNet Task Force which provides referral and information services to the unemployed and the After School Partnership which serves latchkey children at 14 sites.

KOREA

Harriet Hodges, Seoul, has developed a network of 15 children's hospitals across the U.S. that provide life-saving heart surgery for needy Korean children, arranging transportation and treatment for over 2,000 children in the past 15 years.

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