

*2008 Governor's Awards
for Outstanding Volunteer Service*



Reception and Awards Ceremony

Governor's Mansion
Frankfort, Kentucky

Friday, May 8, 2009

Awards Ceremony 2 p.m. EDT
Reception immediately following

Your host

Kentucky Commission on Community
Volunteerism and Service

Welcome

Welcome to the 2008 Governor's Volunteer Awards presentation and celebration.

Now in its 14th year under the direction of the Kentucky Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service (KCCVS), the awards program offers a rare glimpse into the lives and achievements of Kentuckians who serve without expectation of compensation, recognition or commendation.

It's been our distinct privilege over the years to recognize a few of the thousands whose volunteer service contributes immeasurably to a better Kentucky.

We're so glad you're here to join us in honoring the latest Governor's Volunteer Awards recipients.

Schedule of Events

Welcome:

- Eileen Cackowski, Director, Kentucky Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service

Opening Remarks:

- Janie Miller, Secretary, Cabinet for Health and Family Services

Award Presentations:

- Martha Layne Collins, Governor of Kentucky (1983-87)
- Heather French Henry, Miss America 2000, Master of Ceremonies

Event Photographer: Angela Baldrige

Program and Event Coordinator: Shannon Ramsey

2008 Make A Difference Day Award Recipients

The KCCVS traditionally sponsors a campaign to collect as much canned beef stew, canned goods and other nonperishable food as possible as part of its Make A Difference Day observance. Collected food is donated to food pantries and emergency feeding centers in the communities where the food is collected. KCCVS hosts one beef stew/food drive involving our Kentucky AmeriCorps programs and another among Cabinet for Health and Family Services' community-based service regions.

The Make A Difference Day Awards are traveling awards, meaning the award is presented to and remains with the winning program or regional office for one year, then, travels to the next year's winning program and region. If a program or regional office sweeps the competition three years in a row, the award becomes its to keep permanently and a new award is presented to the winner the following year.

On Make a Difference Day 2008, Department for Community Based Services (DCBS) regional offices and AmeriCorps programs, in friendly competitions, collected 71 TONS of food to distribute to local food pantries and emergency feeding centers - enough food to feed 283,880 Kentuckians an 8-oz. serving! This is more than the 2006 estimated population of Lexington. If all 283,880 Kentuckians were standing in line for their serving of food, that line would be more than 100 miles long!

The AmeriCorps programs also participated in various service projects in their areas.

Service Region: Eastern Mountain Service Region



The Eastern Mountain Service Region collected almost 65,000 ounces of food – more than half the total collected by all participating regional DCBS offices, enabling area food banks to feed more than 8,000 Kentuckians! Susan Howard is the Service Region Administrator.

AmeriCorps Program: MSU Corps



Morehead State University's MSU Corps collected more than 878,000 ounces of food – more than 40 percent of the total collected by all participating AmeriCorps programs combined -- enabling area food banks to feed more than 109,500 Kentuckians. This equates to almost 27.5 tons!

The MSU Corps also participated in various service projects including Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training, care packages to soldiers, school supply drive, Halloween party for the Shelter of Hope, two winter coat drives, clothing drive, adopt-a-family project and electronic scrap collection. Sherrie Bennett is the program director of MSU Corps.

AmeriCorps Program: The Learning Corps



The Learning Corps, based in Owensboro, collected more than 841,000 ounces of food – almost 40 percent of the total collected by all participating AmeriCorps programs combined, enabling area food banks to feed more than 105,000 Kentuckians. This equates to more than 26 tons!

In 2007, The Learning Corps collected almost 300,000 ounces (68 percent of the total collected by participating programs) and more than 165,500 ounces, 59 percent, in 2006. In addition to the gratitude of the KCCVS and those their efforts benefited, the program's outstanding performance for three consecutive years enables The Learning Corps to retire the special Make A Difference Day Traveling Award. Shannon Bailes is the program director of The Learning Corps.

2008 Governor's Volunteer Award Recipients

Challenge Award



Mark Neblett of Mount Washington is passionate about keeping kids safe on the Internet and preventing suicide. He worked to lobby legislators to pass laws that protect children from cyberbullies and cyberpredators. The final passage of HB 91, the Bully Bill, was in part due to the public awareness Mark brought to the issue after the suicide deaths of his 17-year-old daughter, Rachael, and her friend, Kristin.

Mark co-founded a nonprofit organization, Make a Difference for Kids, which promotes awareness and prevention of cyberbullying and suicide. Mark also serves on Kentucky's Juvenile Justice Advisory Board and on the iJam advisory team for the Internet Safety Initiative with Kentucky Child Now, the Kentucky Attorney General's Office and the Kentucky Department of Education.

He also diligently works to train parents and children on cyberbullying and teen suicide and is a certified trainer for Question, Persuade and Refer Gatekeeper Suicide Prevention.

Mark was nominated by Sheila Stanton, Jefferson County Public Schools training specialist.

Director of Volunteers Award



Jenny Yee Greber is the Volunteer Services Manager for the Wave Foundation in Newport, a nonprofit education foundation in partnership with the Newport Aquarium. Since 1999, Jenny has recruited 3,300 volunteers who have donated more than 237,500 hours to the Newport Aquarium. That equates to an annual average of 350 volunteers serving in 85 different positions.

She developed a college internship program which counts as credit toward graduation and coordinates the volunteer diving program with more than 150 volunteers. Jenny prepares and coordinates quarterly recognition events for volunteers.

Jenny is the past president of the Cincinnati Association of Volunteer Administrators, the Membership Chair of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums Volunteer Administrators and a founding member and current secretary of the Conservation Committee at the Newport Aquarium, a component of the Wave Foundation.

Jenny Yee Greber was nominated by Karen Berger-Ducat, Wave Foundation volunteer and Susan Bushey, Cincinnati Association of Volunteer Administrators president.

Faith-Based Individual Award



Brittany Nicole Richardson is an integral part of the children's ministries at Community Christian Academy. She helps with the kids' camp outreach, praise and worship teams, IMPACT youth programs, and Christmas and Thanksgiving outreaches. She is a co-founder, choreographer and team leader for Standing, an interpretive ministry team that travels to various regions in Kentucky to perform at churches and youth-oriented events to help motivate and change the lives of fellow teens.

Brittany is a lead vocalist with the Chapel Choir and an aspiring actress, playing lead roles in her school's major theatrical productions. She is also involved with the church and school mentoring programs, focusing on assistance with homework, music, vocal training and other basic needs.

As if that wasn't enough, she is a member of the Christian Honor Society which is involved in community oriented projects. Brittany served an impressive 737 hours of community service in 2008.

Brittany Nicole Richardson was nominated by Renee McClanahan, Community Christian Academy guidance counselor.

Faith-Based Group Award



Church Under the Bridge, Inc.

of Lexington began its ministry in May 2003 with volunteers from four local churches. Its mission was to minister to the physical and spiritual needs of the homeless and marginally housed living in inner city Lexington.

Today it ministers every Sunday to over 200 homeless guests with 10 core volunteers and 30-50 volunteers from 16 rotating churches. The ministry provides worship services, music and prayers followed by Bible study, a free hot meal, packaged lunch bags to go and services such as medical, case management, prescriptions, bus tokens, haircuts, clothing and other personal needs.

Dedicated to the community, Church Under the Bridge shares its unused resources with the Men's and Women's Hope Centers, the Salvation Army, and the Catholic Action Center.

Using the annual dollar value for volunteer time plus an estimate of the cost of food and supplies, Church Under the Bridge contributed more than \$173,500 to the community in 2008.

Church Under the Bridge was nominated by Dr. Wendy Stivers, Church Under the Bridge board member.

National Service Individual Award



Francesca Pribble is an AmeriCorps*VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) member serving at the Americana Community Center in Louisville's South-end neighborhood. To date, she has recruited 75 volunteers to the center, two and a half times her original goal of 30. Francesca interviews, places, trains, evaluates and recognizes recruited volunteers. She strengthens volunteer support by recruiting at high schools, local universities and businesses, and through volunteer opportunity presentations.

She manages the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance project, which has a goal of serving 700 people. Francesca was the lead organizer of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service project, coordinating more than 100 volunteers. She assisted in obtaining a grant from the Staples Foundation that awarded Americana \$5,000 for school supplies. Francesca organized a "Back to School Bash" with Ernst and Young interns, who donated almost \$900 in supplies and more than \$230 in cash. Francesca was involved in the planning and oversight of the grand opening of Americana's new rain garden. She also secured volunteers and \$1,778 of in-kind donations for Americana's Fall Carnival attended by 165 youth.

Francesca Pribble was nominated by Helmer Duverge, Americana Community Center director of Family Initiatives.

National Service Group Award



The Jeffersontown High School Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) cadets of Louisville has community service as one of the key elements of their mission.

Cadets visit a local nursing home monthly to interact with residents in activities such as bingo, karaoke, arts and crafts, and one-on-one visits. In honor of Veterans' Day, cadets present a "Pageant of Flags" in every resident's room where they explain the origin and purpose of each historic flag displayed. During the Christmas holiday, cadets visited six local nursing homes, distributing Christmas cards and singing carols.

Jeffersontown High School JROTC cadets participate in the Toys for Tots program each year by distributing lists to patrons of Toys R Us stores and collecting toys that are purchased. Cadets also sort, select and package toys for the program. They often "adopt" a family themselves and purchase toys and clothes with their own money.

Cadets also serve as color guard at ball games, parades, meetings and other events throughout the community. From August through December 2008, they served 7,500 hours, exemplifying their commitment to serving their neighbors and their country.

The Jeffersontown High School JROTC cadets were nominated by Marie Swanson, Jeffersontown High School JROTC Parents Association president.

Nonprofit Group Award (Tie)



Knox County UNITE Coalition of Barbourville is a nonprofit agency consisting of a core group of roughly 50 volunteers. It recruits hundreds of additional volunteers throughout the year for various activities. UNITE (Unlawful Narcotics Investigations, Treatment and Education) works with schools, churches, civic organizations, businesses, elected officials and the general public to preempt and stop the illegal use of drugs and alcohol within Knox County.

The Knox County UNITE Coalition sponsored a youth production of "Alcohol and Autos, Crossin' the Line" with a grant from the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky and engaged around 300 students in a faith-based basketball/cheerleading league. They have hosted the "Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs" program, which provides free fishing lessons and character education; a free "Shoot Hoops, Not Drugs" basketball camp; and a "Tee Up for UNITE" golf program, all with goal of helping educate kids about the dangers of illegal drugs and alcohol. These are just a few of the community events sponsored by the Coalition.

The Knox County UNITE Coalition was nominated by Claudia Gibson Greenwood, Knox County UNITE Coalition co-chairwoman.

Nonprofit Group Award (Tie)



St. Vincent Mission, Inc. of David in Floyd County is a nonprofit outreach organization established in 1968 by the Brothers of Charity in Philadelphia. Programs of the Mission include a food pantry, used store, emergency assistance, annual Christmas store, scholarship program and a home repair program.

In 2008, St. Vincent Mission's Home Repair Program hosted 328 volunteers from across America to repair homes of low-income, disabled and elderly people in Floyd County. As a result, 35 homes were repaired at a cost of more than \$36,000, with volunteers raising most of that funding. Using the annual dollar value for volunteer time, St. Vincent Mission contributed more than \$228,500 to the community through the Home Repair Program.

Repairs included building accessible ramps, installing or repairing porches, replacing doors, building room additions, replacing drywall, completing plumbing and electrical work, installing exterior siding, repairing gutters, replacing or repairing roofs and ceilings, repairing or replacing floors and carpeting, installing windows, stairs and insulation, and painting.

The St. Vincent Mission, Inc. was nominated by Joyce Mitchell, St. Vincent Mission social services coordinator.

Corporate Award



Kentuckiana Roofing Co., Inc. of Louisville is a roofing company specializing in repair and installation of residential and commercial roofing, gutters and other home improvements. The company has provided pro-bono roof installation on all houses built by Habitat for Humanity of Metro Louisville since 2003. This equates to 134 roofs at an average cost of \$1,100, with donated services valued at \$28,600 for 2008 and nearly \$150,000 since 2003.

Prior to Kentuckiana Roofing's involvement with Habitat, volunteers installed the roofs, but it was a very slow process, not only because volunteers were unskilled, but also because it was difficult to find volunteers willing to work on a roof. At a celebration marking the 100th roof installed for Habitat, Kentuckiana Roofing made the commitment to install the next 100 roofs.

And to solidify their commitment to helping others in their community, Kentuckiana Roofing also participates in New Direction Housing Corporation's annual Repair Affair, a one-day blitz dedicated to house repair needs of elderly and disabled homeowners with low income.

Kentuckiana Roofing was nominated by Rob Locke, Habitat for Humanity of Metro Louisville executive director.

Volunteer Service Award



Edward Kirby volunteers at the Center for Accessible Living in Louisville. Since 2005, he has given more than 1,500 hours to the First Impression Suit Closet, which collects and provides professional clothing for low-income job seekers, many of whom are veterans, ex-felons or homeless men trying to start fresh. Edward has grown the operation from a 6-foot, self-service closet holding approximately 50 suits to 256 feet of hanging space with well over 1,000 suits, shirts, slacks and other professional clothing items.

As a homeless veteran, Edward was one of the program's first suit recipients. After becoming self-sufficient, he began volunteering at the program. His ability to empathize with the men allows him to assist without offending or disrespecting the clients served. Edward also devised a process to donate lower-end pieces of clothing to several homeless groups, including the Lord's Kitchen where he volunteers as well.

He volunteered more than 400 hours of service in 2008 and personally suited 352 men, including seven local youth from the YouthBuild Louisville program, who wore suits chosen with his assistance when they met President George W. Bush.

Edward Kirby was nominated by Keith Hosey, Center for Accessible Living associate director.

Youth Volunteer Service Award (Tie)



Katlyn Marie Farris of Louisville is an avid volunteer for school, church and community activities, giving more than 120 hours of community service in 2008 and performing more than 450 hours over the past three and a half years.

Her volunteer activities include service to Beta Club, Dare to Care Food Bank, Student Council and National Guard Readiness Team. She tutors students and serves on the Jefferson County School System High School Superintendent Advisory Board. Katlyn is a Presidential Classroom-Future World Leaders Summit Scholarship recipient and holds a 3.85

GPA while taking mostly core-advance classes. She is the President of the National Honor Society, a Governor's Scholar and has helped with the Toys for Tots and the Salvation Army's Angel Tree programs.

On top of all that, she is a senior billet in the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps with responsibility for more than 160 cadets and directly controls a staff of 20 cadets responsible for unit administrations, operations and logistics. Katlyn teaches, trains and directs five platoon commanders each of whom is responsible for 30-35 cadets.

Katlyn Farris was nominated by Jimmy Wallace, Jeffersontown High School guidance counselor.

Youth Volunteer Service Award (Tie)



Erin Oakley of Cadiz is class valedictorian, Outstanding Senior, member of the Kentucky New Era All Star Academic and the Cadiz/Trigg County Chamber of Commerce Youth Leadership Teams, and president of the Beta Club and the high school Service Learning Council. Erin works with other Service Learning Council members to operate an after school tutoring and mentoring program at the local housing authority, meeting weekly for one and a half hours to work with children and their families.

Erin also assists with summer camps in partnership with the housing authority and the Lighthouse Family Resource Center and was a lead camp counselor for the CSI: Health and Wellness camp with 50 second- through fifth-graders. She also helps at Vacation Bible School, Trigg County Days of Service, American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, and the Helping Hands Food Center.

Erin is a recipient of the Kentucky Community Education Association Youth Leadership Award and the Bronze and Silver President's Volunteer Service Award. She is on track to receive the Gold President's Service Award.

Erin Oakley was nominated by Brenda Southwick, Trigg County Public Schools community education director.

Lifetime Achievement Award



Merrill A. Winchester, M.D.

has been providing access to health care in McCreary County since 1959 when he founded the family practice Winchester, Patton and Burgess, PSC.

In 1982, Dr. Winchester cofounded and served as medical director of the nonprofit McCreary Christian Center, Inc., whose mission is to provide health care and medication to low-income and uninsured patients. When the center opened 27 years ago, about 160 people a month were seen at the clinic and 100 families used the food pantry as a resource. Today, 400 patients visit the clinic each month to receive exams, laboratory work and medication. The food pantry now

serves around 700 families. Since retiring in 2002, he has served as the primary volunteer medical provider at the clinic, seeing at least 50 patients each week. Dr. Winchester works tirelessly with businesses, individuals and grant writers to find additional funding for the center.

Dr. Winchester also co-founded the McCreary County Water District to provide clean drinking water and is a founder of the McCreary County Park, which provides family-oriented recreation. He serves as director of the Heritage Foundation, which promotes community preservation and education. The foundation is currently working to build new, subsidized apartments and secure free dental services for low-income patients.

Dr. Winchester is the past president and current director of the Baptist Medical/Dental Fellowship, past vice president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and a current Missions Committee board member, and past director of the Home Missions Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. He also serves as a deacon at the First Baptist Church in Stearns and is Chairman of the Board for McCreary Bancshares Corporation and the Bank of McCreary County.

In addition to all the care he provides his home community, Dr. Winchester makes at least one overseas mission trip each year to provide free medical services to patients in third world countries.

Dr. Merrill Winchester was nominated by Jennifer Duckett, AmeriCorps*VISTA member at the McCreary Christian Center, Inc.

Governor Martha Layne Collins

Martha Layne Collins, serving from 1983-87, was Kentucky's first and only female governor. Highlights of her term included the passage of a \$300 million education reform package and laying the economic groundwork for Georgetown's Toyota Motor Manufacturing Kentucky, Inc. After her service to the commonwealth, Gov. Collins was president of Saint Catharine College for six years and held various positions in residence at other Kentucky colleges and universities. She is currently Executive Scholar in Residence at Georgetown College. Gov. Collins has received numerous awards, including the Volunteers of America Award and the special Millennium Celebration Award from the Kentucky Commission on Women. She also was named a University of Kentucky Distinguished Alumnae. Gov. Collins is married to Dr. Bill L. Collins and enjoys the company of her five grandchildren.

Heather French Henry

As the daughter of a disabled Vietnam veteran, Heather French Henry has experienced the pain and suffering that can come with military service. After being crowned Miss America 2000, she traveled cross-country visiting veterans' facilities, but her platform often took her to our nation's capital to lobby for veterans' issues. Heather still travels nationally to raise awareness and funding through the Heather French Foundation for Veterans, Inc. She is dedicated to raising patriotism by educating about the sacrifices made by those who have served our nation. Heather is the only reigning Miss America to win the Woman of Achievement Award, honoring her accomplishments on veterans' issues during her reign. Heather lives in Louisville with her husband, Steve, and their two daughters.

Janie Miller

Janie Miller was appointed secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services by Gov. Steve Beshear in January 2008. Miller brings more than 30 years of experience to the position, including 21 years developing and administering health care programs. Her career also includes more than 15 years of service in the former state Cabinet for Human Resources. Miller holds an undergraduate degree in social work from Eastern Kentucky University.

Remembering Robley Rex



Robley Henry Rex, Kentucky's only surviving WWI-era veteran, died April 28 in Louisville, just four days short of his 108th birthday. Robley was well-known for his volunteer service to other veterans. Continuing to volunteer at the Louisville VA Medical Center well after his 100th birthday, Robley had logged more than 14,000 hours at the center as well as more than six decades of service with the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). A multiple award winner for service on and off the battlefield, Robley was beloved for his quick wit, magical smile and unflinching kindness. Robley was a Lifetime Achievement Award recipient of a 2007 Governor's Volunteer Award. He was presented the award at his 107th birthday party. Robley was named National Volunteer of the Year in 2005 by the national VFW.



The Kentucky Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service is a statewide, bi-partisan group comprised of at least 15 members, appointed by the governor, with diverse service and volunteerism

backgrounds. The KCCVS actively engages citizens in community service opportunities that enable volunteers, organizations and businesses to share ideas and effectively collaborate to address Kentucky's needs.

The KCCVS supports volunteerism and national service through grants, awards and special initiatives. The KCCVS administers the state AmeriCorps program, Volunteer Insurance program, Volunteer Recognition program, Governor's Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service and other initiatives.

Please visit the KCCVS Web site at www.volunteerKY.ky.gov.

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