



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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GOVERNOR

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Dear Friends:

Service to others is a significant part of our Kentucky heritage, from the earliest settlers who helped one another survive to modern-day pioneers blazing trails of service and meeting needs that may otherwise go wanting, especially during the economic challenges we face today. Volunteerism, community service, and neighbor-helping-neighbor are cornerstones of Kentucky culture.

Each year we recognize extraordinary Kentuckians, who like their parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents before them, humbly and quietly achieve greatness through selfless service to others. This spring, we will present the 2008 Governor's Awards for Outstanding Volunteer Service to another group of deserving Kentuckians who exemplify the spirit of neighbor helping neighbor. In anticipation of that special event, I ask for your help.

Since 1994, the Governor's volunteer awards program has honored adults and youth who serve their fellow Kentuckians in extraordinary fashion, without expectation of reward or commendation.

Nominations are now being sought for the 2008 awards. Please accept this invitation to participate by nominating one or more individuals or groups, whether adults or youth, for the volunteer service awards.

More information is enclosed, including criteria for each award category. Information and nomination forms are also available at www.volunteerKY.ky.gov. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact the Kentucky Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service at (800) 239-7404 or by email at KCCVS@ky.gov.

Thank you for helping to recognize your fellow Kentuckians who personify the spirit of volunteerism and community service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven L. Beshear".

Steven L. Beshear

2008 Governor's Awards



2008 Governor's Awards for Outstanding Volunteer Service

General Information and Category Criteria

The Governor's Awards for Outstanding Volunteer Service, administered by the Kentucky Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service, celebrates the volunteer efforts of thousands of Kentuckians. The 2008 awards will be presented at a ceremony in May 2009.

Eligibility

- Individuals and groups may be nominated in only **one** category. Self-nominations are accepted.
- Members and staff of the KCCVS, its awards committee and judges are not eligible to nominate or be nominated.
- Individuals or groups who volunteer as part of work-release and/or for course credit are eligible. However, they may not receive compensation other than reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses to be eligible for this awards program.
- Programs using "living allowances," (such as AmeriCorps) are eligible. However, these applications are judged based on nominee involvement in addition to national service assignments.
- Governor's Award recipients from the previous five years are ineligible for the 2008 awards program. A list of the previous award recipients can be found on the KCCVS Web site, www.volunteerKY.ky.gov.

Judging

- A panel of judges with significant experience in volunteerism and/or service carefully reviews every application.
- Staff reserves the right to reassign a nomination to a more appropriate category.
- Judges may opt not to issue awards in every category.
- Award winners are based on the highest average scores out of 100 possible points.
- In the event of a tie/close score, the geographical area served will be considered.
- Decisions of judges are final.

General Information

- With the exception of the Lifetime Achievement Award and the Director of Volunteers Award, nominations must focus on service activities that occurred **in 2008**.
- With the exception of the Kentucky Ambassador Award, volunteer service must have been performed in **Kentucky**, serving primarily Kentuckians.
- Information from nominations may be released to the media and elected officials.
- Nomination packets must be postmarked or received by close of business, 4:30 p.m. on ~~Feb. 18, 2009~~. No exceptions will be made. **Deadline has been extended to Feb. 25, 2009.**

Thank you for your interest and participation.

Awards Categories and Criteria

Please read carefully – award categories and criteria have changed.

Volunteer Service Award: Recognizes an individual who has met a community need in an innovative and effective manner. The nominee may have demonstrated exceptional ability and have made a great impact through changed lives and/or community conditions as a result of service efforts.

Youth Volunteer Service Award: Recognizes a youth (ages 18 and younger) who has demonstrated significant contributions to volunteer efforts/programs. The nominee may serve as a model and inspiration to other volunteers.

Challenge Award: Recognizes an individual who has overcome significant personal obstacles in order to engage in volunteer service. These obstacles may include anything from physical and/or mental challenges to significant time constraints.

Director of Volunteers Award: Recognizes a paid staff member who exemplifies good management skills in volunteer training, risk management, screening, recognition, evaluation and retention of volunteers. (Can come under the title Director of Volunteers, Manager of Volunteers or other related title).

National Service Award: Recognizes an individual member and/or group of members of a National Service program (AmeriCorps, AmeriCorps VISTA, AmeriCorps NCCC or Senior Service Corps) who have demonstrated outstanding volunteer service over and beyond the requirements of the designated program.

Corporate Award: Recognizes a business that has made a substantial impact through innovation, volunteer hours, number of volunteers, monetary support, etc. May recognize the historical record of supporting volunteerism through policies and practices. The nomination must be able to demonstrate ongoing community or statewide impact.

Nonprofit Organization Award: Recognizes a nonprofit organization that manages an exceptional volunteer program that has made a significant impact on the community.

Faith-Based Award: Recognizes one individual and/or one group that volunteers through a faith-based community organization. Nominees may serve members of or populations outside the service-sponsoring faith community. The nomination must demonstrate significant volunteer outreach.

Lifetime Achievement Award: Recognizes a lifelong commitment to volunteerism and community service at a variety of levels. Nominees must have made a substantial and sustained impact in the community as a result of their service efforts.

Kentucky Ambassador Award: Recognizes a Kentuckian whose primary volunteer service is outside of Kentucky and/or the United States. A Kentucky Ambassador nominee must have provided outstanding volunteer service and through this service, promoted Kentucky as a Commonwealth of Caring.



#988 The Kentucky Commission on
Community Volunteerism and Service
275 E. Main St., Mail Stop 3W-E
Frankfort, KY 40621

The Kentucky Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service is a statewide, bi-partisan group of at least 15 governor-appointed members with diverse backgrounds in service and volunteerism. The KCCVS actively engages citizen in community service opportunities that enable volunteers, organizations and businesses to share ideas and effectively collaborate to address Kentucky's needs. In addition to the Governor's Awards for Outstanding Volunteer Service, the KCCVS also hosts a number of annual statewide activities designed to facilitate the development of volunteers and program staff. KCCVS funding is provided by the Corporation for National and Community Service and the Kentucky General Assembly.

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