



Commonwealth of Kentucky  
Office of the Governor

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Parry Barrows**  
**502.564.2611**  
**502.382.6876**

**Jill Midkiff**  
**502.564.7042**

**Anya Weber**  
**502.564.6786**

**First Lady Honors State's Outstanding Volunteers**  
*2010 service recognized*

**FRANKFORT, Ky. (June 2, 2011)** – Sixteen groups and individuals from across the state were honored for their volunteer contributions today at a ceremony held at the Governor's Mansion in Frankfort.

First Lady Jane Beshear and Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) Deputy Secretary Eric Friedlander presented the 2010 Governor's Awards for Outstanding Volunteer Service at the ceremony. The Kentucky Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service (KCCVS) coordinates the annual awards program.

Mrs. Beshear called the commitment of the award winners exemplary. "This group of honorees is an inspiration for the entire commonwealth," she said. "You embody the finest examples of service to your fellow Kentuckians. I congratulate you for putting the needs of others first."

CHFS Secretary Janie Miller said the honorees show how one person can make a tremendous difference in the lives of others. "In a time when many programs that serve vulnerable Kentuckians are facing budget and staffing cuts, these groups and individuals have certainly heeded a call to action and are filling needs that may otherwise go unmet," she said.

The Governor's Office launched the volunteer awards program in 1975. Since 1995, KCCVS has administered the program.

A panel of independent judges with experience in volunteerism and/or service chose award recipients in 13 categories. Two additional achievement awards were also presented to honor groups for their participation during the state's "Make A Difference Day" food drive last October.

This year, a special "First Lady's Award" was added to honor a Kentuckian who has gone the extra mile to assist youth at risk of dropping out of high school. The award also complements Mrs. Beshear's Graduate Kentucky initiative, which is a statewide program that focuses on dropout prevention and increasing graduation rates in public schools.

Bill Burch, of Ashland, received the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Below is a complete list of all the award winners and their nominators:

### **2010 Governor's Awards for Volunteerism and Service**

- **Bill Burch**, Lifetime Achievement Award  
Ashland (Boyd County), Nominated by Janet Wente
- **Jana Buxton**, Challenge Award (Tie)  
Frankfort (Franklin County), Nominated by Doris Thurber
- **Tom Stokes**, Challenge Award (Tie)  
Shepherdsville (Bullitt County), Nominated by Ruthe P. Holmberg
- **United Parcel Service (UPS)**, Corporate Award  
Louisville (Jefferson County), Nominated by Ruthe P. Holmberg
- **Disciples for Habitat**, Faith-Based Group Award  
Lexington (Fayette County), Nominated by Rob Turner
- **Patriot Guard Riders of Kentucky**, Group Volunteer Service Award  
Radcliff (Hardin County), Nominated by Major General Edward Tonini
- **Lindsey Wilson College Bonner Leaders**, Group Youth Volunteer Service Award  
Columbia (Adair County), Nominated by Amy Thompson-Wells
- **Hannah Rae Mael**, National Service Award  
Louisville (Jefferson County), Nominated by Mara Maldonado
- **Helping Hands of Trigg County**, Nonprofit Organization Award  
Cadiz (Trigg County), Nominated by Brenda Southwick
- **Edwin "Sy" Sypolt**, Senior Volunteer Service Award  
Florence (Boone County), Nominated by Dare R. Miller
- **Jim Garrett**, Volunteer Coordinator Award  
Frankfort (Franklin County), Nominated by John Heltzel
- **Ryan Worthen**, Volunteer Service Award  
Lexington (Fayette County), Nominated by Kelly Hamilton
- **Rachel Sawyers**, Youth Volunteer Service Award  
Albany (Clinton County), Nominated by Lisa Leslie
- **Thomas Schoolmaster**, First Lady's Award  
Winchester (Clark County), Nominated by Anita Bartey

### **Make A Difference Day Traveling Awards**

- ATEAM, AmeriCorps Program
- The Lakes Service Region, Department for Community Based Services Region

For more information about the awards program or KCCVS, please visit [www.volunteerKY.ky.gov](http://www.volunteerKY.ky.gov).

###

Follow First Lady Beshear on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Lady-Jane-Beshear/87068086785> and read the First Lady's blog at <http://blog.firstlady.ky.gov/default.aspx>.