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Gov. Beshear Opens Nominations to Recognize Contributions of Volunteers

Nomination deadline for Governor's Service Awards is Nov. 15

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Oct. 8, 2024) – If you know an extraordinary Kentuckian or group that works diligently to improve the lives of others, now is the time to nominate them for the Governor's Service Awards.

This is the 29th year for the annual service awards, which recognize the contributions of Kentuckians to their fellow citizens. Each year, a special ceremony is held to publicly honor the recipients and others who have given to their communities through volunteering and service without expectation of reward or commendation.

“I always look forward to this event because at its core, it embodies what Team Kentucky is all about and that’s being there for our neighbors,” said Gov. Andy Beshear. “If you know selfless individuals or organizations that have made a significant impact in your community, please take a few minutes to fill out and submit a nomination form to help give them a chance to receive well-deserved recognition.”

To honor individuals and groups and to highlight the impact of volunteerism and service, Serve Kentucky, an agency of the cabinet, is accepting award nominations. Submit nominations [online](#) or learn more at serve.ky.gov. The award nomination deadline is Friday, Nov. 15.

“We’re grateful to have wonderful volunteers across the state who understand that if something affects one of us, it affects all of us.” said Cabinet for Health and Family Services Secretary Eric Friedlander. “Thank you to all of Kentucky’s volunteers for your commitment – for going above and beyond the call of duty. Your work makes a difference in the lives of our communities every single day.”



To qualify, volunteer service must have been performed in Kentucky, serving primarily Kentuckians. Individuals and groups may be nominated in only one category. Award categories spotlight the contributions of individuals, businesses and groups. Volunteer Awards include youth, adult, senior and veteran. Group awards include general, youth, nonprofit, civic association and faith-based. Other categories honor national service, such as AmeriCorps and lifetime achievement.

This year, a new category has been added. The Disaster Relief Service Award recognizes an individual or team who has demonstrated exceptional courage, dedication and selflessness in the face of disaster. Whether through immediate response efforts or long-term recovery, this volunteer has gone above and beyond to provide critical support, resources and aid to communities in need during times of crisis.

Serve Kentucky Executive Director Joe Bringardner said the state service commission advocates for and helps support effective volunteer program management, administers Kentucky's AmeriCorps national service programs and recognizes volunteer service across the state through its annual Governor's Service Awards. Working together – through communication, cooperation and collaboration – volunteers can improve their own lives as well as the lives of others in their communities.

“Volunteerism makes a significant impact on Kentucky's ability to meet so many local needs,” said Bringardner. “Whether it be volunteer service, national service, military service or public service – it is invaluable, and it is our honor to show appreciation for those who give their time to improve the lives of fellow Kentuckians.”

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Information on how the state is working to improve the lives and health of our people is available at [CHFS.ky.gov](https://www.chfs.ky.gov). Follow the cabinet on [Facebook](#), [X](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).