

This is a news release that you can use for you organization to inform the community of National Volunteer Week. This news release was provided by the Points of Light Foundation & Volunteer Center National Network. Simply change the information that is in parenthesis and bolded.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

(your name here)

(Your telephone number here - include a cell phone # or a number to a voicemail you check regularly and your e-mail address; also include a number where you can be reached on the day of your event.)

(Your organization's Web address here)

EDITOR'S NOTE: For interviews with President's Volunteer Service Award recipients or experts on volunteering, contact Kisha James at the Points of Light Foundation (202-729-6015) or KJames@PointsofLight.org.

**(Name of your organization) Celebrates (Name of your town)
Volunteers during National Volunteer Week, April 23-29**

(Your City, State) (Date of Release) – (Name of your town) volunteers who tirelessly work to improve our community will be honored during National Volunteer Week, April 23 - 29. ***(Name of your organization and partners, if any)*** will host a National Volunteer Week ceremony on ***(include specific time and date of recognition event)***.

The National Volunteer Week theme, "Inspire By Example" truly reflects the power volunteers have to inspire the people they help and to inspire others to serve! National Volunteer Week is sponsored by the Points of Light Foundation & Volunteer Center National Network.

"Volunteers perform countless acts of service and are one of America's most valuable assets," said Robert K. Goodwin, president and chief executive officer of the Points of Light Foundation. "During the past year, volunteers nationwide have reached out to their neighbors both near and far especially during the aftermath of the hurricanes on the Gulf Coast. National Volunteer Week is the ideal time to honor volunteers meeting community needs around the country and calling the public's attention to their tremendous contributions."

During National Volunteer Week, thousands of volunteers nationwide will receive presidential recognition for their service through the President's Volunteer Service Award – the most prestigious volunteer award currently associated with the White House. Like National Volunteer Week, this award seeks to inspire by example, honoring

the service of our country's most committed volunteers and sharing their achievements to encourage more Americans to volunteer.

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(Name(s) of your volunteer(s) that are being or have been honored with the President's Volunteer Service Award) from (name of town) were awarded the President's Volunteer Service Award this year. This award is issued by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation on behalf of the President of the United States to recognize the best in the American spirit and encourage all Americans to contribute to their communities through volunteer service.

These volunteers will be recognized at **(Name of your organization)**'s National Volunteer Week ceremony. In addition, **(Add any information on local volunteer awards that will be presented at the ceremony and the recipients of these awards).**

National Volunteer Week began in 1974 when President Richard Nixon signed an executive order establishing an annual celebration of volunteering. Every president since has signed a proclamation promoting the week.

"We hope that National Volunteer Week will motivate others to volunteer their time and talent to help our country's most vulnerable residents – the homeless, the hungry, the elderly, at-risk youth, and the disabled," concluded Goodwin.

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(Insert a general statement about your organization or Volunteer Center here.)

The Points of Light Foundation & Volunteer Center National Network supports the vital work of millions of volunteers, who are helping to solve serious social problems in thousands of communities nationwide. To be connected to a local Volunteer Center and learn more about the volunteer opportunities in your community, call 1-800-Volunteer or visit www.1-800-Volunteer.org.

The President's Volunteer Service Award is an initiative of the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation in conjunction with the Corporation for National and Community Service and the USA Freedom Corps and is administered by the Points of Light Foundation & Volunteer Center National Network. Visit www.PresidentialServiceAwards.gov or call 1-866-545-5307 for more information on the Award.

