



Volunteer Virginia

A newsletter for the service and faith community

Virginia Office on Volunteerism & Community Service | May, 2015

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Information is Good



Tell a friend or colleague about this issue.

Governor McAuliffe Honors Outstanding Volunteers

Governor McAuliffe honored the recipients of the 2015 Governor's Volunteerism and Community Service Awards at a special ceremony at the Governor's Mansion on April 30. The awards recognized individuals and organizations for their extraordinary volunteer efforts that make an impact on the lives of citizens throughout the Commonwealth. Winners this year included:



- **Will Salzmann** of Sterling (Youth Volunteer)
- **Mercy Chefs, Inc.** of Portsmouth (Faith-Based Organization)
- **V. Knight Bowles** of Goochland (Senior Volunteer)
- **The Mallory Family** of Beaverdam (Volunteer Family)
- **Big Brothers Big Sisters of James Madison University** of Harrisonburg (Educational Institution)
- **Dominion Resources** of Richmond (Corporation)
- **Virginia Dental Association Foundation Mission of Mercy** of Richmond (Community Organization)
- **Jacqueline Cheshire** of Great Falls (Adult Volunteer)

[Read detailed profiles of this year's winners.](#)

[See photos from this year's awards ceremony.](#)

Volunteerism Conference is Accepting Workshop Proposals

The Virginia Conference on Service and Volunteerism, September 30-October 1 in Roanoke, has issued its CALL FOR PRESENTERS! We are seeking experienced, dynamic presenters on a wide variety of topics during this two-day event. The target audience includes volunteer coordinators from nonprofit and government agencies, managers and executive leaders, and national service members. Workshop presenters receive discounted registration to the conference! You'll find more information and an easy submission form at this link. Please also share with your favorite trainers! Submit a workshop proposal by June 1. [Submit a workshop proposal by June 1.](#)



Exhibitor Registration is also NOW OPEN for the conference. This year's event will give organizations access to the volunteer and human service sector from across Virginia. Register online through [Black Tie America](#). Additional information for exhibitors can be found on vaservice.org. **Early Bird Registration will begin for individuals June 15.**

Don't Miss These Funding Opportunities

MLK Day of Service Grants

The Corporation for National and Community Service has announced a new [Martin Luther King, Jr., Day of Service funding opportunity](#). Grants will mobilize more Americans to observe the holiday as a day of service in communities, to encourage those who serve to make a long-term commitment to service, and to bring people together to focus on service to others. Priority will be given to proposals that have plans to ensure people with disabilities are among those serving at their event. Applications are due June 2.



Youth Opportunity AmeriCorps

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) has released the [Youth Opportunity AmeriCorps Notice](#). Partnering with the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), this program is consistent with the missions of the OJJDP and CNCS and the My Brother's Keeper Initiative. The program will serve economically disadvantaged individuals (ages 16-24) who are disconnected from school or work at least six months prior to service and will specifically target those who have been adjudicated in the juvenile justice system. This program will provide these young people with the opportunity to participate in a national service program and receive meaningful mentoring while they are

View Past Issues

Miss an issue of *Virginia Volunteer*? View the [archives](#).

Contribute

Have a news item or calendar event you want to see on *Virginia Volunteer*? Send comments to info@vaservice.org

serving. Applications are due May 20.

40+ Virginia Community Leaders Honor National Service

Community leaders across the Commonwealth paused to honor national service April 7 for Mayors Day of Recognition for National Service and the first ever County Day for National Service. Local elected officials and other leaders visited program sites in their jurisdictions, served with programs and more. A special ceremony was held in Richmond where Mayor Dwight C. Jones paused to spotlight the impact of national service and thank those who serve. Service projects were also performed in several areas of the city. Mayors in 40 other Virginia localities also participated in events in their communities. [See photos from this year's events](#).



May is Community Action Month

[National Community Action Month](#) was created by the Community Action Partnership to reinforce Community Action Agencies' role helping low-income families achieve economic stability. All this month, Virginia's Community Action Agencies will make the Promise of Community Action -- to help people and change lives -- come alive by hosting events that help put a "face" on the families living in poverty and the dedicated individuals who are helping them escape it.



Nominate outstanding program participants and volunteers for the [Sargent Shriver Achievement and Jayne Thomas Grassroots Volunteer Recognition Awards](#). The Sargent Shriver Achievement Award recognizes and honors achievements by individuals who, with the assistance of a Community Action Agency, have changed their lives and achieved independence. The Jayne Thomas Grassroots Volunteer Recognition Award is given to an individual each year who has shown outstanding dedication and made extraordinary contributions to a Community Action Agency. Entries are due by June 5.

Opportunities to Support Summer Meals Programs

Could your organization help to provide summer meals to children this summer? The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) is looking for organizations to participate in the USDA Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). Participants will be reimbursed by the VDH for meals and some administrative costs, as well as receive technical assistance. All participating sponsors are required to attend training provided by the VDH. [More](#).



[Share Our Strength Grants](#) of up to \$3,000 are also available for organizations interested in starting, expanding, or strengthening their involvement with the SFSP or the National School Lunch Program Seamless Summer Option. Applicants should align with the [No Kid Hungry Campaign's](#) goals of access, education, and awareness. Applicants should use code VASUMMER2015 to create an account and file the grant application. Contact Eddie Oliver, Virginia No Kid Hungry Program Manager, with any questions related to summer grants or other resources for expanding meal programs at eddie.oliver@governor.virginia.gov or 804-692-2583.

National Service in Virginia

Virginia AmeriCorps Members & Alums Attend White House Event

Several AmeriCorps members and alums from Virginia were on hand May 1, at the White House for a special [Champions of Change](#) event. This event was one of a series of weekly events hosted by the White House to invite individuals making a difference in their communities to share ideas. AmeriCorps alum Abby Hanks, and Arlington Works! members Sara Fry, Kyle Huggins, Skye McDonald, Rachel LaCroix, Juan Zamarripa, Catherine Heisey, and Flor Cabrera were among the Virginians attending the event.



Grassroots Push to Promote Service Year for Students

[AskNot](#) is a student-run organization that advocates for and expands national service opportunities for college students. AskNot focuses on expanding national service opportunities for every college student in America, with hope that they will serve our country in either a military or civilian capacity for at least one year. As the movement envisions an



America united by young people of all educations and backgrounds, AskNot aims to help rebuild a national spirit of cooperation.

New Media Campaign Encourages Year of Service

The [Serve A Year](#) campaign is an effort to unite some of the biggest players in entertainment, technology, business, media, and nonprofits to inspire young Americans to spend a year in national service. The three-year media campaign will reach and inspire tens of millions of Americans – especially Millennials – to spend a year in service working on issues in education such as literacy, keeping students in school, and improving graduation rates while cultivating those who serve to be the next greatest generation. [View the Serve A Year PSA with Chelsea Clinton and Jimmy Kimmel.](#)



Plans Underway for Day to Serve

[Day to Serve](#), a regional community service blitz throughout the Mid-Atlantic area, will take place this year September 11-October 10, 2015. This unique initiative that transcends politics and religious differences, annually unites people of all faiths, races, cultures, and backgrounds with the shared goal of helping those in need and improving the communities where we live. The movement started in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and D.C., to motivate people to get involved in service events each year. Find out how your can be involved through participation, sponsoring an event, or becoming a partner.



Nonprofit Resources

Grants, Scholarships & Awards

- [Vaservice.org](#) features an up-to-date, searchable database of funding and grant opportunities for service organizations. Subscribe to the Funding and Grant newsfeed and never miss an opportunity!
- The [Homeless Veteran Reintegration Program](#) has announced \$4 million available to provide an estimated 2,000 veterans with job-driven training for in-demand jobs to help them successfully transition from homelessness to sustainable housing and good civilian jobs.
- The Administration for Community Living has awarded \$48 million to [State Health Insurance Assistance Programs \(SHIP\)](#) whose local offices provide free, in-depth counseling, education, and outreach to assist Medicare beneficiaries with their Medicare related questions.
- The [Sector Partnerships National Emergency Grant Program](#) is designed to help workers find new jobs by enabling states to develop innovative employment and training services that focus on enhanced regional and industry-specific collaborations.
- The [Film Your Faith Video Contest](#) from the 1st Amendment Partnership is looking for 60-second videos on your faith plus a meme or poster. Winners could receive \$20,000!
- The [National Child Awareness Month Youth Ambassador Program](#) is a year-long program for young leaders ages 16-22 to create change around issues facing youth. Ambassadors receive a \$1,000 grant, an all-expense paid leadership training in Washington, DC, and ongoing training and networking opportunities. Apply by June 10.

Training and Events

- [Vaservice.org](#) features a constantly-updated calendar of training opportunities and special events of interest to service organizations happening all over Virginia.
- [A Path to Hope Human Service Conference](#) will take place at Bluefield College in Bluefield, WV, May 15.
- HUD has launched its [50th Anniversary website](#). Check out success stories, videos, and resources in honor of half a century of helping house Americans.
- A [Teen CERT Webinar](#), May 14 from 2-3pm, will provide an overview of FEMA's Teen CERT program along with examples of how schools and districts are using Teen CERT to support their emergency preparedness and response efforts. Registration is required.

Resources and Data

- [Partnerships for the Common Good](#) is a resource from the White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships with information for faith-based organizations on everything from strengthening adoption to supporting veterans and military families.
- Virginia Community Capital's new interactive [Food Mapping Access Tool for Virginia](#) features Policy Map research and data.
- ConnectVA has launched their new and improved website [ConnectVA 2.0](#), which features a more user-friendly, interactive, and mobile optimized version of the resource hub.
- [State of the Pay for Success Field: Opportunities, Trends and Recommendations](#) is a new report detailing Pay for Success projects that have been in development and those nearing the implementation stage, as well as explore emerging themes and recommendations for the field moving forward.
- The [CDC's Winnable Battles Reports](#) show measureable progress in a number of areas, including decreasing deaths and injuries due to motor vehicle crashes, reducing the number of healthcare-associated infections, and lowering obesity rates.
- The [Healthy Aging Policy Brief](#) has been released by the White House Conference on Aging which examines how Americans can enjoy long and healthy lives by maximizing their physical, mental, and social well-being.
- [Resources for Youth with Autism Transitioning to Adulthood](#) from the Administration for Community Living includes tools to support youth, family caregivers, educators, policymakers and the many others who play a central role in successful adolescent transition.
- [Tax Stats Data for Exempt Organizations](#) is now available. Data includes financial data and other information from 500,000+ Forms 990 and 990-EZ filed by tax-exempt organizations and processed by the IRS during calendar year 2014.
- [8 Tools for Organizing Volunteer Programs](#) includes unique and tech-savvy ways to manage your volunteers.
- Check out the takeaways from [Pew Research Center's Social Media Survey](#).
- FEMA has compiled [Resources to be Financially Ready for Disasters](#), including an Emergency Financial First Aid Kit, Storing Critical Documents, and more.
- The [Resource Guide for Enhancing Community Relationships and Protecting Privacy and Constitutional Rights](#) is designed to help law enforcement officers build stronger community-police relations.
- These [Water/Pool Safety Resources](#) provide helpful information on how to keep safe this summer around water.
- This [Old House: A Home to Grow Old in Safety](#) details a list of low- and high-tech offerings to help seniors stay in their homes as they age.
- Download the [Guide to Virginia Protocols and Traditions](#) for information on everything from state government hierarchy to event etiquette.
- See who made the [2015 Niche Rankings Best High School Teachers in America List](#).
- [3 Ways Visuals Make an Annual Report Shine](#) from Network for Good suggests ways to make your annual reports have the greatest impact through the use of strong visuals.
- [10 Good Jobs That Don't Need a Degree](#) is a recent blog post on the U.S. Department of Labor's Blog.
- [3 Things to Know About Infographics](#) details some great resources and tools to make professional infographics to get your message across.

Upcoming Events

May

[National Older Americans Month](#)

[National Foster Care Month](#)

18-22 - [Senior Corps Week](#)

30 - [Old Town Manassas 5K Run/Walk & 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk](#)

June

[Summer Food Service Program](#)

[Let's Read. Let's Move.](#)

15 - [Virginia Volunteerism Conference Early Bird Registration](#)

20 - [World Refugee Day](#)

July

[Parks and Recreation Month](#)

9 - [GRAVA Conference](#)

REGISTRATION OPENS JUNE 15!



[Virginia Volunteerism & Service Conference](#)

September 30-October 1, 2015

Sheraton Roanoke Hotel, Roanoke, VA

Theme: Volunteers Are Everyday Heroes:

Serving Locally & Globally

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