

# Alton, Edwardsville, Hamel Residents Named in 10th Annual Governor's Volunteer Service Awards

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SPRINGFIELD – The Serve Illinois Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service (Commission) will present 27 Illinoisans and businesses with the Governor's Volunteer Service Award during a special event at the Old State Capitol in Springfield on April 9, 2019 at 1 p.m. The award recognizes volunteers and volunteer programs that have made a difference in Illinois and highlights the importance of volunteerism and community service.

“This recognition highlights some of the great volunteerism efforts around the state, as well as recognizes businesses that support volunteer efforts. These honorees truly embody the spirit of service,” said Commission Executive Director Scott McFarland. “Having the award recipients at the 10th annual event where we've recognized more than 200 such efforts is truly our honor.”

The Commission received more than 150 nominations in six categories (adult, AmeriCorps, business, senior, Senior Corps, and youth) from the Commission's five service regions across the state (East Central, Northeast, Northwest, Southern, and West Central). Commissioners reviewed the applications and selected 27 award winners.

The following are the 2019 Governor's Volunteer Service Award recipients. More information about the recipients is on the Serve Illinois website at [www.Serve.Illinois.gov](http://www.Serve.Illinois.gov).

## East Central Award Recipients

**Adult:** Ryan Scritchlow - Bloomington  
For service to: Habitat for Humanity

**AmeriCorps:** Carlos Ortega - Mattoon  
For service to: Mattoon in Motion

**Business:** Horace Mann – Springfield  
For service to: Springfield Public Schools

**Senior:** Diane Wilhite – Champaign  
For service to: Grand Prairie Friends

**Senior Corps:** Susan Elke – Effingham  
For service to: FISH Human Services

**Youth:** Elizabeth Ann Weidner – Dieterich  
For service to: University of Illinois Extension Effingham County

### **Northeast Award Recipients**

**Adult:** Terri O'Neill Borders – Lemont  
For service to: Lemont Township/Village of Lemont

**AmeriCorps:** Alfreda Baran – Chicago  
For service to: Illinois JusticeCorps

**Business:** West Monroe Partners – Chicago  
For service to: Community Health

**Senior:** John (Jay) Olriksen – Schaumburg  
For service to: Hanover Township

**Senior Corps:** Toni Lieteau – Plainfield  
For service to: Catholic Charities

**Youth:** Arnav Bedi – Naperville  
For service to: PowerMinds NFP

### **Northwest Award Recipients**

**Adult:** Audrey Adamson – Moline  
For service to: Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois

**AmeriCorps:** Sergio Herrera - Des Plaines  
For service to: Illinois Campus Compact-Rockford University

**Senior:** Les Virtue - Galena  
For service to: Galena Area EMS District

**Senior Corps:** Gary Winkie – Rockford  
For service to: AARP

### **Southern Award Recipients**

**Adult:** Janet Scheller – Hamel  
For service to: Hamel Elementary School

**AmeriCorps:** Pasha McNeil - Washington Park  
For service to: Dunbar Elementary School

**Business:** ARTIGEM Replacement Services – Belleville  
For service to: Franklin Neighborhood Community Association

**Senior:** Darlene Azar – Edwardsville  
For service to: Franklin Elementary School

**Senior Corps:** Ophelia Jackson – Alton  
For service to: Foster Grandparent Program-Lovejoy Elementary

**Youth:** Isaiah Haynes - East St. Louis.  
For service to: East St. Louis School District 189

### **West Central Award Recipients**

**Adult:** Leslie Murphy – Mapleton  
For service to: Illini Bluffs Elementary PTO

**AmeriCorps:** Kari Rogers – Canton  
For service to: SIU School of Medicine, Office of Regional Programs

**Senior:** Virginia Schneider – Princeville  
For service to: Illinois Valley Fuller Center for Housing

**Senior Corps:** Barbara Richmiller – Quincy  
For service to: Adams County RSVP

**Youth:** Sierra Lucie – Basco  
For service to: Hancock Village

Additionally, nomination forms are now available for the Commission's companion awards program, the Governor's Hometown Awards. The Governor's Hometown Awards program gives formal recognition to communities that contributed to their community's quality of life via projects that had strong volunteer support, met a need, and made a definitive impact. Nominations for the Governor's Hometown Awards are due July 25 and are available at [www.serve.illinois.gov](http://www.serve.illinois.gov).

The Serve Illinois Commission is a 40-member (25 voting and 15 non-voting), bipartisan board appointed by the Governor and administered by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). Its mission is to improve Illinois communities by enhancing volunteerism and instilling an ethic of service throughout the state.