



# PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

## 2006 State Report

### California

The President's Volunteer Service Award is an initiative of the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation in conjunction with

Corporation for  
**NATIONAL &  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICE** 

**USA**   
**Freedom Corps**  
Make a Difference. Volunteer.

administered by Points of Light Foundation & Volunteer Center National Network.

[www.PresidentialServiceAwards.gov](http://www.PresidentialServiceAwards.gov)



June 19, 2006

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

We are pleased to provide you with this first Annual State Report presented by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation.

The State Report provides a summary of your state's commitment to the President's Volunteer Service Award Program since its inception in 2004. The Council works in partnership with businesses, nonprofit groups, schools, and other organizations across the country to honor local volunteers with the Award. More than 16,000 organizations across the nation have recognized over 400,000 Americans with this honor.

Citizens of all ages and backgrounds are giving of their time and talents to improve lives and strengthen communities. In 2005, more than 65 million Americans volunteered to help their neighbors and communities through service. The President's Volunteer Service Award is one way we pay tribute to these volunteers.

The 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 American spirit, and to encourage all Americans to improve their communities through volunteer service. The Award is given to individuals, families, and groups that have demonstrated outstanding volunteer service and civic participation over the course of a 12-month period.

Today, we challenge you to help advance this national volunteer recognition movement and celebrate the volunteer contributions of your residents especially during National Volunteer Week. I hope your office will join us in honoring your state's most valuable assets – volunteers.

Sincerely,

Kari Dunn  
Executive Director

**PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD STATISTICS**  
**October 1, 2004 – April 14, 2006**

**National Statistics**

Number of Certifying Organizations		Number of Awards Presented					
2006	1,510		<b>Bronze</b>	<b>Silver</b>	<b>Gold</b>	<b>Lifetime</b>	<b>Total</b>
2005	7,682	<b>2006</b>	36,163	18,554	28,093	11,090	<b>93,900</b>
2004	6,418	<b>2005</b>	73,851	37,847	55,972	32,197	<b>199,867</b>
2003	1,385	<b>2004</b>	38,686	26,436	34,040	11,538	<b>110,700</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,995</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>148,700</b>	<b>82,837</b>	<b>118,105</b>	<b>54,825</b>	<b>404,467</b>
Hours Served by Awardees (By Age)							
	<b>Ages 5-14</b>	<b>Ages 15-25</b>	<b>Ages 26-64</b>	<b>Ages 65+</b>	<b>Total</b>		
<b>2006</b>	859,503	3,852,879	72,125,017	70,247,750	<b>147,662,149</b>		
<b>2005</b>	2,074,400	6,990,129	31,029,401	79,432,771	<b>119,526,701</b>		
<b>2004</b>	290,654	747,079	8,451,545	56,811,121	<b>66,300,399</b>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,224,557</b>	<b>11,590,087</b>	<b>111,605,963</b>	<b>207,068,642</b>	<b>333,489,249</b>		
Number of Awards in Presidential Priority Service Area							
		<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>Total</b>		
	<b>Youth Achievement</b>	20,493	46,725	9,924	<b>77,142</b>		
	<b>Parks and Open Space</b>	4,033	4,175	515	<b>8,723</b>		
	<b>Healthy Communities</b>	70,115	88,442	32,186	<b>190,743</b>		
	<b>Public Safety and Emergency Response</b>	12,013	8,113	1,198	<b>21,324</b>		

**California's Statistics**

Since 2004, 31,144 citizens of California have received the PVSA recognizing 28,115,256 hours of service.

Number of Certifying Organizations		Number of Awards Presented					
2006	179		<b>Bronze</b>	<b>Silver</b>	<b>Gold</b>	<b>Lifetime</b>	<b>Total</b>
2005	933	<b>2006</b>	5,183	2,503	5,288	936	<b>13,910</b>
2004	677	<b>2005</b>	6,796	2,221	3,775	994	<b>13,786</b>
2003	153	<b>2004</b>	1,357	533	1,047	511	<b>3,448</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,942</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>13,336</b>	<b>5,257</b>	<b>10,110</b>	<b>2,441</b>	<b>31,144</b>
Hours Served by Awardees (By Age)							
	<b>Ages 5-14</b>	<b>Ages 15-25</b>	<b>Ages 26-64</b>	<b>Ages 65+</b>	<b>Total</b>		
<b>2006</b>	101,806	668,441	726,519	11,357,634	<b>13,080,901</b>		
<b>2005</b>	196,474	791,946	2,069,083	6,264,003	<b>9,328,506</b>		
<b>2004</b>	29,489	152,082	384,733	4,724,191	<b>5,705,849</b>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>327,769</b>	<b>1,612,469</b>	<b>3,180,335</b>	<b>22,345,828</b>	<b>28,115,256</b>		

## Award recipients in your state:



### **Betty White Ludden (Los Angeles, CA)**

*Certified by: County of Los Angeles*

Betty White, winner of six Emmy Awards, is one of television's most beloved actresses and favorite volunteer hero of animals. Betty's love for animals started as a toddler when her father took in stray animals during the 1930's Depression and she has remained a tireless advocate for the four-legged set. She is a member of the board of trustees for the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association and volunteers with the Morris Animal Foundation and American Veterinary Association. For 10 years she was the host for "The Pet Set," a television show featuring celebrities talking about their animals and how to care for them. She has three animals: a Shih Tzu, a Golden Retriever and a Himalayan cat.

### **Lowell Meyer (Los Angeles, CA)**

*Certified by: Catholic Big Brothers Big Sisters*

Lowell, a 66 year-old teacher in the LA Unified School System, has been a Big Brother mentor with Little Brother Christian for over a year. Christian, a bright, diligent, and caring 11-year old boy, has a terminal form of muscular dystrophy, which has recently placed him in a wheelchair. Lowell had already spent 11 years of his career in physical education with disabled adults and youth. He saw Christian's potential and eagerly accepted the match with him. Because of his disability, Christian had struggled to be respected by his peers and make meaningful friends. His Big Brother Lowell began showing Christian many of the places and things he had not yet had the opportunity to experience. As Lowell noted, "Probably the most important moment of the whole year was when Christian said, 'Thanks for changing my life and making it so much better. You are like a father to me.'" Lowell is also the author and publisher of 18 children's books. In his spare time, he volunteers as a barber who travels to the residences of senior citizens and disabled men to provide hair cuts.

## **How you can use the President's Volunteer Service Award in your state:**

- On your state's website, promote your state's President's Volunteer Service Award winners, and include a link and banner for the President's Volunteer Service Award.
- Issue a press release highlighting outstanding volunteers and encouraging others to volunteer and aspire to receive the President's Volunteer Service Award. For a sample press release, please visit [www.pointsoflight.org/programs/seasons/nvw/tools.cfm](http://www.pointsoflight.org/programs/seasons/nvw/tools.cfm)
- Challenge local and state governmental offices to register as Certifying Organizations for the President's Volunteer Service Award and issue 25 Awards by 2007 National Volunteer Week
- Encourage organizations (e.g., nonprofits and businesses) to sign up as Award partner organizations by distributing a special invitation during National Volunteer Week
- Whether or not you have a governor's volunteer awards program, consider partnering with us to deliver a statewide volunteer recognition program modeled after the President's Volunteer Service Award. For an example of a state's volunteer award program, please visit <http://www.PresidentialServiceAwards.gov/S/California/>
- Register your state as a Certifying Organization and start recognizing your volunteers with this Presidential recognition. For more details, please contact Tomme Beevas at 202-729-8018 or [TBeevas@PointsofLight.org](mailto:TBeevas@PointsofLight.org).

## **About the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation:**

President George W. Bush established USA Freedom Corps in January of 2002, and he called on all Americans to serve a cause greater than themselves. One year later, he created the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation to help recognize the contributions of America's volunteers. The Council strives to promote and recognize outstanding volunteer service and raise awareness of the many ways in which Americans can help meet the needs of individuals within their communities and around the world. The Council brings together leaders from business, entertainment, sports, education, government, nonprofits, and the media, each of whom has demonstrated a commitment to service and volunteering in his or her own life. For more information about the President's Council and its members, please visit [www.volunteer.gov](http://www.volunteer.gov).