



*The*  
*Governor's*  
*2015*  
*Volunteer Service*  
*Awards*

*April 21, 2015*  
*2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.*

Hosted by:

Serve Washington



# *Volunteer Recognition Ceremony*



## *Welcome*

*Nicole Trimble, Chair, Serve Washington  
Senior Advisor, Philanthropy Northwest*

## *The Power of Service and Volunteerism*

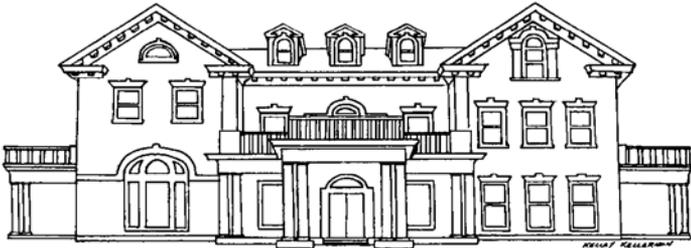
*Jay Inslee, Governor*

## *Presentation of Awards*

*Nicole Trimble, Chair, Serve Washington  
and  
Debbie Schuffenhauer, Executive Director  
Serve Washington*

## *Closing Remarks*

*Nicole Trimble, Chair*



*Executive Mansion*

## *Outstanding Volunteer Award Recipients*



**Braydon Anderson** **Tacoma**  
*Tacoma Latter Day Saints CERT*  
*Citizen Corps Program*

Braydon Anderson is exemplary in all assignments he is given as part of the Tacoma Latter Day Saints Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program. He became involved in CERT at age 14 and completed the BASIC training program. After his brother went missing in the

March 2011 tsunami in Japan, he learned the benefit of CERT skills, which aided his brother's safety and survival. Braydon immediately desired to coordinate TEEN CERT training and has actively been involved with emergency management ever since. He has been responsible for assisting with organizational programs, including developing new programs, advertising TEEN CERT activities and instructing. At 18, he completed the Washington state CERT Train the Trainer program and now instructs adult trainings for both Tacoma and Puyallup. Braydon has a long history of community involvement, including serving as a Page at the state capitol in Olympia, earning Eagle Scout honors and as a Tacoma youth group leader.



**Javier Berrios** **Redmond**  
*Redmond Police Department*  
*Citizen Corps Program*

Javier Berrios is an invaluable resource to the Redmond Community Emergency Response Team Program. For two years, Javier has taken personal time to work with students in the Redmond High School Teen program. His

dedication to the students is seen in his passion for preparedness and commitment to ensuring the students receive high quality instruction and hands-on practice in emergency response skills. Javier models professionalism, dedication and sets high expectations of students. He connects with students and is a genuine presence who cares about how they are doing both in and out of class. He is always approachable and happy to work with those who need more time and help to achieve the standard in a skill. He is held in high esteem and is admired by his students, peers and supervisors.

## *Outstanding Volunteer Award Recipients*



**Anthony Branton** **Tacoma**  
*Rebuilding Together South Sound*  
*AmeriCorps National Direct Program*

Anthony Branton has been a long time volunteer with Rebuilding Together South Sound. He has given numerous hours volunteering his plumbing skills to ensure safe and healthy housing for low-income homeowners throughout Pierce County, Federal Way and Auburn. He has gone above and beyond when asked for his help. He has never declined any homeowner that needed his help, has volunteered his labor and donated in-kind materials to help keep expenses down. His support of Rebuilding Together South Sound is immeasurable.



**Chris Brown** **Lynden**  
*Volunteer Center of Whatcom County*  
*Volunteer Center*

In late 2012, Chris Brown created GrowingVeterans.org, a non-profit organization that empowers military Veterans to connect with one another, grow food and grow their communities. Growing Veterans was inspired by conversations with fellow veterans and a shared desire to learn more about farming, nutrition, and chemicals in our food supply. Chris transformed these ideas into a non-profit that is determined to help fellow veterans experience a positive transition from military to civilian life through work at the farm located in Lynden. Growing Veterans has touched many who suffer from the shrouded isolation that post-traumatic stress disorder creates after traumatic experiences. By having veterans and the community sowing seeds in the fields together, lasting friendships are established and the gap between the military veteran and civilian populations is bridged. Chris was recognized in 2014 by HillVets100 as being one of the most influential veterans in the country. Chris is an AmeriCorps alum of the Washington Vet Corps

## *Outstanding Volunteer Award Recipients*



**Ross Brydges**                      **Mount Vernon**  
*Washington Service Corps/  
Community Action of Skagit County/  
AmeriCorps State Program*

Ross Brydges is a dedicated volunteer committed to making a difference in the lives of homebound seniors and disabled community members residing in Sedro Woolley, Mount Vernon, and Burlington. Ross has served as a volunteer for the Mobile Food program almost every Wednesday and Thursday for the past five years. On a weekly basis, Ross fills boxes with groceries from the Food Distribution Center and hand delivers to households currently in need of food assistance. Whenever the Food Distribution Center needs to make an emergency delivery, Ross is almost always within reach and has proven himself to be a valuable team player in the fight against hunger; he is a true treasure.



**June Campbell**                      **Bellevue**  
*United Way of King County  
Volunteer Center*

For three years, June Campbell has dedicated countless hours to the success and growth of United Way of King County's Free Tax Campaign. Her volunteer service represents the truest example of dedication, hard work, and compassion for the community. June has consistently looked for new ways to increase her own participation as well as community involvement in the program. In addition to her weekly shift for tax preparation, June has taken up a leadership position among her peers. This year, June serves as a trainer for new volunteers to the program, picks up extra shifts when times are busy, and was featured in a video about the campaign that highlights the importance of its work. June's support of the campaign showcases how important volunteers are not only for this campaign, but also for volunteerism in a larger context.

## *Outstanding Volunteer Award Recipients*



**Joseph Chang**                      **Federal Way**  
*Washington Service Corps/  
Multi-Service Center Education Department  
AmeriCorps State Program*

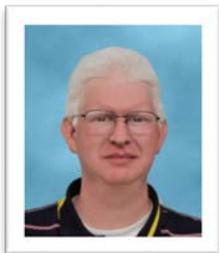
Joseph Chang's volunteer efforts in the educational program is his testimony. Joseph has been tutoring General Education Development (GED) students since 2012 and is their greatest supporter. His continued commitment and reliability is one of his most valuable assets and extends beyond expectations. In addition to tutoring, Joseph has assumed the responsibility of GED lab administrator within the agency. Joseph makes a difference in the lives of clients and is deeply dedicated to the success of his students.



**Sarah Clark**                                      **Auburn**  
*Muckleshoot Tribal School  
Citizen Corps Program*

Sarah Clark began an after school Youth Community Emergency Response Team club for Native students to introduce them to emergency management. She serves on the school's Safety Committee, and is helping rewrite the school's emergency plan. Sarah volunteers as a tutor to high school kids during lunch and after school to prepare them for the state tests and to get them ready for graduation. Sarah is a single mother of four children, yet finds time to help others.

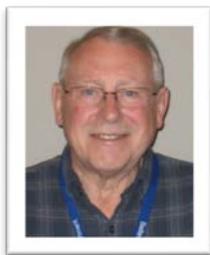
## *Outstanding Volunteer Award Recipients*



**Mike Crossley**  
*City of Issaquah  
Citizen Corps Program*

**Issaquah**

Mike has volunteered thousands of hours to the Issaquah community during the past seven years. Starting with the Community Emergency Response Team and as a radio operator, he moved his way into a pivotal role as Radio Officer for the City of Issaquah in 2010. As leader of the Issaquah Communications Support Team, he created communications plans and built a robust range of capabilities to ensure reliable alternative communications in times of need. Mike's team has designed, built and donated use of a custom communications trailer that serves the community during disasters and supports events around the state. His team is working on a second, more capable iteration to expand the city's disaster response capabilities. Mike is a member of the Issaquah Type IV Incident Management Team, Board Member of the Issaquah Citizens Corps, and serves as the Non-Medical Volunteer Coordinator for the Issaquah Medical Reserve Corps.



**Sydney Darlington**  
*Bellevue Police Department  
Citizen Corps Program*

**Bellevue**

Sydney (Syd) Darlington has been a Bellevue Police Department volunteer since 2009. In that time he has become an indispensable member of the Crossroads volunteer team, helping citizens who call or visit the Crossroads Community Station needing help with a wide range of police or general city concerns. Syd is the first to step forward to fill in for fellow volunteers and regularly helps out at various public events like National Night Out and the photo booth at the Bellevue Arts Festival. He generously offers his photography skills to document numerous special police department events like promotional and retirement ceremonies. In addition, he volunteers through his church and with Meals-on-Wheels. Syd is held in high regard by officers, staff and fellow volunteers.

## *Outstanding Volunteer Award Recipients*



**Jarrod Dibble**

*Snohomish County Medical Reserve Corps  
Citizen Corps Program*

**Marysville**

Jarrod Dibble has volunteered with the Snohomish Medical Reserve Corps since 2007. He demonstrates a strong work ethic, reliability and a dedication to serve. Jarrod was the very first volunteer who was in the Emergency Operating Center after the mudslide hit near Oso. He set up the call center and managed it pretty much 24/7. Jarrod has worked on every type of activation: multiple first aid stations, health screenings, the cold weather shelter, the Lost Person station at the fair, vaccination clinics and in the call center. He has helped at shelters in flooding events and has trained on the decontamination team with the local hospital. He helped to develop and deliver trainings to volunteers and is now working with Emergency Management in the creation of a new group of volunteers. Jarrod is an amazing young man who is an asset to his community!



**Ty Draszt**

*Washington Service Corps /  
Clark County Food Bank  
AmeriCorps State Program*

**Vancouver**

As the 2014 Farm Intern, Ty Draszt led groups of volunteers during farming and gleaning events and coordinated communication between Heritage Farm, farming partners, and Clark County Food Bank. Ty helped an AmeriCorps VISTA member expand and strengthen the food bank's Farming and Gleaning Program by playing an indispensable role in growing fresh produce for food-insecure families in Clark County. A former U.S. Marine, Ty served with immense humility and respect when mentoring at-risk students, working with WIC clientele, and leading groups of all ages and abilities. Through his consistent hard work, agricultural knowledge, and passion to serve and empower, Ty fully embodies and drives the food bank's mission of alleviating hunger and its root causes.

## *Outstanding Volunteer Award Recipients*



**Harriet Dunbar**

*Washington Reading Corps /  
Loon Lake School District  
AmeriCorps State Program*

**Loon Lake**

Harriet Dunbar has been an amazing help to Loon Lake Elementary School. She has spent at least two mornings per week since 2011 helping in classrooms, assisting both teachers and students. She can work with students, provide interesting presentations, or simply do the down and dirty work of printing and copying. Harriet is professional and dependable, and is a huge asset to the school.



**Ruth Dupuis**

*Regional Service Corps-AmeriCorps  
AmeriCorps State Program*

**Kennewick**

Ruth Dupuis has volunteered for Friends of the Mid-Columbia Libraries since 2007 and has been president since 2013. The Friends raise money for the system through in-branch book sale areas and two giant book sales a year. During Ruth's years of service, the Friends of Mid-Columbia Libraries has contributed nearly \$210,000 to the system. Money donated to Mid-Columbia Libraries is used for equipment, materials, and other needs of the library which are beyond the means of the Board of Trustees; sponsoring culturally-enriching community programs such as talks, exhibits, films, and story hours; and gifts of books and desirable collections.

## *Outstanding Volunteer Award Recipients*



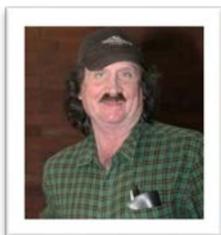
**Carole Eby**

*Cowlitz AmeriCorps Network  
AmeriCorps State Program*

**Kalama**

Carole Eby, the first director of the Cowlitz AmeriCorps Network (CAN), now retired, continues to help the CAN team in the office and at service projects. Most recently she helped with projects at the Wake Robin

Learning Center, an outdoor education program, and the Community House. In Kalama, she is on the library committee helping with the annual fundraiser, the Kalama Word Catcher, that gathers famous writers to host workshops with local writers. Carol painted historical murals in Kalama and weeded and pruned the city's landscaping. Through Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS), she has been a Big Sister for six years serving a young child with behavior and social disabilities. When the BBBS office in Cowlitz County closed, Carole continued her commitment to her Little Sister going to her classroom, taking her on outings, picking her up for lunch and purchasing meals or gifts at birthdays and holidays. Carole's heart is all about service to others.



**Jubal Gabel**

*Solid Ground  
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program*

**Auburn**

Jubal Gabel is a dedicated, committed volunteer with over 10 years of experience helping people in need at The Auburn Food Bank. Since joining the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, he has volunteered over 1,000 hours and has no intention of slowing down. A faithful, hardworking volunteer, Jubal often works long hours whether at the counter where he has firsthand contact serving clients as they make choices about their food needs, or working with the food bank driver picking up food donations, handling pallet size donations and an electric pallet jack. Jubal is a happy man who loves to have conversation with anyone he meets. Customer service is an important part of his work and Jubal goes above and beyond in making others feel listened to and valued. He is always "on call" and ready to help whenever he is needed!

## *Outstanding Volunteer Award Recipients*



**Kathleen Grier**

**Spokane**

*Washington Service Corps/  
KYRS Thin Air Community Radio  
AmeriCorps State Program*

For five plus years, Kathleen Grier has contributed her Fridays to KYRS Thin Air Community Radio. Drawn in by the community feeling of the radio station, Kathleen quickly became an essential member of the team, teaching herself bookkeeping and accounting in order to manage the station's finances. Her work has enabled the station to stay funded, organized, and on the air, allowing AmeriCorps and other volunteer projects to grow and succeed. She has also gone above and beyond to welcome new volunteers, offering rides and housing to those in need, leading bicycle tours of Spokane, and connecting other volunteers to the local arts and culinary scene. This year, Kathleen plans to train new volunteers to be able to take her place at Thin Air Community Radio.



**Tony He**

**Kirkland**

*College Access Now  
AmeriCorps State Program*

Tony He is one of College Access Now's (CAN) most valued volunteers. In one year, Tony has volunteered in multiple ways from career panels to event assistance, and has always been there when a helping hand was needed.

Tony is also an incredible ambassador and bridge builder for CAN – having brought in over 30 new CAN volunteers! Now, Tony volunteers every week working with juniors at Franklin High School, preparing students for the college application process to come their senior year and realizing their college dreams. Tony is one of the most positive, innovative, and caring volunteers at CAN. He always brings an amazing attitude to the program, which students and staff deeply admire. Tony, with his energy, passion and dedication, is an integral part of the team.

## *Outstanding Volunteer Award Recipients*



**Jeanette Hills**

*Washinton Service Corps/  
Transitions New Leaf  
AmeriCorps State Program*

**Spokane**

For the past four and a half years, Jeanette Hills has come in every Wednesday to wash dishes for the New Leaf Bakery, a food service job training program for women with barriers to employment. Not only does Jeanette keep the kitchen humming, but her presence brings a calming joy that is invaluable in the midst of the often frenetic activity that is part of a kitchen environment. Jeanette's work ethic is admirable, but beyond that, her steadiness, cheerful demeanor, and the true delight she takes in her work inspire staff and participants alike to be gentler, better team members. It is often said that in a commercial kitchen, the most important person is the dishwasher, yet this might also be the least celebrated member of a kitchen team. With an understated, but powerful grace, Jeanette is a true leader and model for all..



**Candy Johnson**

*Lutheran Community Services NW  
Senior Companion Program*

**Tacoma**

Candy Johnson has been volunteering as a Senior Companion Volunteer at Lutheran Community Services for over a year contributing more than 655 hours of time and has provided over 147 trips to eight seniors in Pierce County. Candy serves clients who are frail, vision impaired or who have chronic disabilities. She provides companionship as well as transportation to medical appointments and grocery shopping. Candy is steadfast and dedicated to her clients. She identifies her clients' needs and directs them to community resources. Candy's hard work has been featured in articles in the *Tacoma News Tribune* and *The Lutheran* magazine.

## *Outstanding Volunteer Award Recipients*



**Brian Lawler** **Bellingham**  
*Whatcom County Sheriff's Office –  
Division of Emergency Management  
Citizen Corps Program*

As a volunteer leader of the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office Auxiliary Communications Service, Brian Lawler has spent innumerable hours in designing, assembling, and maintaining the county's emergency radio communications system. He and his fellow volunteers took an empty van and made it into a well equipped mobile communications platform capable of functioning during all emergency conditions. When moving into the new Emergency Operations Center, he and his fellow volunteers also designed and developed the vital emergency communications room. An active amateur radio operator, Brian has done a yeoman's job in coordinating between the various amateur radio associations across the county. Over and above this effort, Brian has been an active Community Emergency Response Team volunteer instructor. He has been especially important in setting up and running seven final exercises over the past two years.



**David Marcus** **Olympia**  
*RSVP serving Lewis, Mason & Thurston Counties  
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program*

David Marcus is a survivor who wants to give back. He has been a volunteer driver for Catholic Community Services for the past nine years. Last year, he logged over 1,000 hours driving those in need to doctor appointments around Washington state. Marcus loves people. His passengers come from all walks of life and regale him with stories. He uses his people skills to interact with the most challenging passengers. Marcus himself needed transportation after suffering a heart attack years ago. He says volunteer drivers saved his life when he was in need. After retirement he became a volunteer driver himself. Isaac Aronson of Catholic Community Services says, "Dave Marcus is an exemplary volunteer. With a smile on his face he is eager to help 24/7. His zeal to serve is inspirational!"

## *Outstanding Volunteer Award Recipients*



**Key McMurry**

*Pacific County Emergency Management Agency  
Citizen Corps Program*

**Raymond**

Key McMurry has been instrumental in helping to educate and prepare the citizens of Pacific County in how to be resilient in the event of a disaster. Key has driven a campaign to have a Quake Catcher Network installed

around Pacific County to facilitate a better early earthquake detection system. She has, at her own expense, attended many classes to educate and prepare citizens to survive a disaster, and to help their friends and neighbors survive as well. Key has been a major cog in planning, promoting and teaching Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training for residents in the northern area of the county where CERT had not previously existed, and supporting CERT training in the rest of the county as well. Key has been a tireless and very welcome help in supporting the Pacific County Emergency Management Agency.



**Shirley Moss**

*Olympic Community Action Program  
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program*

**Port Townsend**

Shirley Moss manages 82 volunteers who run the Port Townsend Food Bank. She has recorded 30 plus hours per week since 2011 for a total of 3,612 hours since she walked

through the door. Her days are long: she is the only one who answers the phone, does all the ordering and pickups most days. She has helped create a community garden that provides fresh local produce for the Food Bank. Shirley, always sensitive to the needs of clients, organized an extra day - Saturday Food Bank for seniors and persons with a disability. Most impressively, the food bank runs incredibly smooth. Volunteers and clients speak of her dedication, huge heart, smiles for everyone, and attention to the needs of both volunteer and recipient. Everyone who works with Shirley at any level is amazed at her energy and caring attitude.

## *Outstanding Volunteer Award Recipients*



**Joan Olson**

**Silverdale**

*Harrison Medical Center*

*Retired and Senior Volunteer Program*

Joan Olson has donated approximately 2,200 hours as a volunteer at Harrison Medical Center's Labor and Delivery Registration Desk in Silverdale since 2003. Joan volunteered in order to give back to Harrison and its Home Health Services, which allowed her husband, Dr. Donald Lee Olson, to stay at home at the end of his life. Joan loves to read, garden and play bridge with friends but volunteering provides her a meaningful way to give back to others. She is a valued presence on Thursday mornings welcoming moms-to-be and visitors while helping to ensure the safety of patients and babies by checking ID's and providing visitor access. Registration staff considers Joan a trusted colleague who helps provide exceptional service.



**Edgar Padilla-Ramirez**

**Algona**

*Washington Service Corps/  
Federal Way Public Schools*

*AmeriCorps State Program*

Edgar Padilla-Ramirez has been a volunteer for the Federal Way Public Schools AmeriCorps program since he ended his second term of service as an AmeriCorps member in 2011. Edgar continues to give of his time so that students that attend the Westway After-School Program can improve their reading skills. He uses his skills as a bilingual speaker to communicate with Spanish-speaking parents so that they can be informed of program details and community resources. Edgar also volunteers at the Westway Parent Nights so that parents can see a friendly face and to help orient parents and to answer questions that they have. Edgar has also selflessly donated his time to produce videos and brochures that showcase the work AmeriCorps does in Federal Way. Whenever Edgar comes around, he brings joy and positivity to the team and to the students.

## *Outstanding Volunteer Award Recipients*



**Anne Peterson**

*Catholic Community Services  
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program*

**Brier**

Anne Peterson is the volunteer Executive Director of Concern for Neighbors Food Bank, but she will tell you that, first and foremost, she is a volunteer. Anne coordinates food drives with the warehouse supervisor and

Board Vice President, recruits volunteers, provides information to newspapers, newsletters and blogs regarding the food bank, writes grant requests, and speaks at schools and organizations when needed. She also purchases supplies and supplemental food items for the food bank, supervises all volunteers, coordinates sorting parties with the warehouse manager and volunteers, and provides back-up to the treasurer as needed. She responds to all emails and phone calls on a daily basis, and handles any complaints clients may have. In short, Anne is one busy woman, providing oversight to a multitude of functions that allow the food bank to run smoothly and efficiently.



**Pam Peute**

*Washington Service Corps/  
Family Support Center of South Sound  
AmeriCorps VISTA Program*

**Olympia**

Pam Peute began volunteering at the new family shelter in October 2014. She has taken on the role of Arts and Crafts Coordinator, working diligently to provide fun, original

holiday-themed projects on a regular basis that engage families who are faced with the stresses of homelessness. Since the start of her involvement, she has provided her creative services to 32 families - over 60 children! Pam works incredibly hard on her own time to sort, organize and do craft preparation. She generously coordinates her time with any volunteer or intern who is interested in learning from her, and is adaptable to the changing faces and work space available at the shelter. Pam skillfully and resourcefully utilizes the materials and donated items available, and provides an invaluable creative outlet to our families — with great appreciation from the children especially.

## *Outstanding Volunteer Award Recipients*



**Tim Potts**

**Spokane**

*Washington Service Corps/  
Free Rein Therapeutic Riding  
AmeriCorps State Program*

Tim Potts has been an outstanding volunteer at Free Rein Therapeutic Riding for the past two years. Free Rein is a Premier Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship center that offers adaptive riding and horsemanship programs to children and adults with disabilities, utilizing horses in the therapy process. In 2014, Tim logged in over 360 hours as a trained horse leader for the adaptive riding and military horsemanship programs. Tim mentors veterans, helps provide daily care for the therapy horses, and is always willing to lend a hand in training new volunteers. Free Rein relies on 140 volunteers per week to help provide a safe and engaging equine therapy atmosphere for over 70 riders. Tim's dedication to ensure Free Rein has the volunteer power to provide the best therapy possible puts him at the top of the list for outstanding service.



**Jackie Rae**

**Everett**

*United Way of Snohomish County  
Volunteer Center*

Jackie Rae wants Snohomish County to be a healthy and safe community today and in the future! She puts her words into action.

Jackie serves on the Snohomish County Labor Council and the Washington State Labor Council and is on the Education and Women's committees. These committees support issues of concern to working women, especially education and raising funds for scholarships for young people coming into the trades. Jackie donates her best efforts in vital community projects, volunteering each Christmas with Toys for Tots, assisting building wheelchair ramps, and helping the National Association of Letter Carriers as they gather food in the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. Jackie also volunteers on the Board of Directors of United Way of Snohomish County.

## *Outstanding Volunteer Award Recipients*



**Tammy Robinson**                      **Longview**  
*Life Works/Cowlitz AmeriCorps Network*  
*AmeriCorps State Program*

Tammy Robinson exemplifies what it means to be a servant for her community. She has a passion for investing in individuals and helping them grow and thrive. Tammy helped found the Cooking Class at Northlake

Elementary in Longview in 2010 - a program that Northlake 3rd graders participate in for four weeks, learning not only how to cook whole foods, but learning teamwork, sewing and other life skills. Tammy has been volunteering her time and energy with Lower Columbia School Gardens since 2010. Between June and October of 2014, she gave 277 hours of her time, a majority of which was spent at St. Helens Elementary Garden, working with students and families, and tending the garden. She also joined the planning committee for Project Homeless Connect in August 2014 and acted as a lead for the exit station during their recent event. Tammy is humble about her service to the community but contributes so much.



**Julie Scott**                                      **Chewelah**  
*Washington Reading Corps/*  
*Loon Lake School District*  
*AmeriCorps State Program*

Julie Scott is an amazing volunteer. She has volunteered full-time, 40 hours per week, at Loon Lake Elementary School since 1996.

This works out to roughly 27,360 hours, and that is probably on the low side. She assists in the kindergarten classroom, helps in the office, and does pretty much anything that anybody needs. What is more, she has an incredible sense of humor and always keeps us laughing. She is irreplaceable.

## *Outstanding Volunteer Award Recipients*



**Gwen Siviengxay** Pacific  
*Communities In Schools of Auburn*  
*AmeriCorps State Program*

Gwen Siviengxay has been volunteering as a tutor at Alpac Elementary. She works great with the children and makes sure they stay on task and finish their homework on time.

Gwen has proven her commitment and dedication to the program and has the best attendance. In addition to the tutoring program, she is also involved in volunteering at her high school and has applied to volunteer as a 5th grade camp counselor. The 5th graders at Alpac were so excited in the hopes she will be with them at camp because of her kind heart and they look up to her as a role model. At the age of 15, it is impressive how much Gwen commits to volunteering.



**Mary Strazer** Seattle  
*EarthCorps*  
*AmeriCorps State Program*

Mary Strazer has been a volunteer with EarthCorps for more than 15 years. She began in 2000 as an AmeriCorps member in the program serving a full term of 1700 hours. She graduated from the program with successful

performance and accolades. She continued volunteering with EarthCorps in various capacities, serving at weekend environmental stewardship events. In 2013, Mary and her family stepped up in a new way for EarthCorps, as a host to one of the international participants from Nigeria. Mary and her family opened their home for 18-months and provided a welcoming and supportive atmosphere, while exposing their guest to U.S. culture. Usually EarthCorps pays homestays \$500 a month for hosting, however, Mary and family waived this stipend every month, which saved EarthCorps \$9,000. Mary is a model volunteer, and EarthCorps could not do the work without volunteers like her.

## *Outstanding Volunteer Award Recipients*



**Rick Wallace**                      **Anacortes**  
*Skagit County Emergency Management  
Citizen Corps Program*

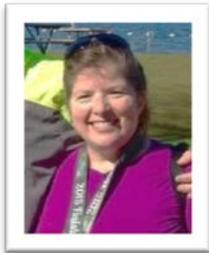
Rick Wallace started a grass roots preparedness movement in Anacortes. Rick teaches the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training on his own time and has worked tirelessly to get the word out to citizens on how to prepare for a disaster. He taught two CERT classes last year and plans to teach four more this year, all on volunteered time. As a retired firefighter he has continued his gift to the community by helping to spread the word about personal, family and community preparedness. He is a great asset to Skagit County.



**James Warren**                      **Vancouver**  
*Volunteer Connections –  
Human Services Council  
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program*

The Clark County Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), a program of the Human Services Council, was fortunate when James (Jim) Warren registered to be a volunteer in 2003. In any hectic volunteer situation, Jim is the calm, steady, and productive helper. Most traditional volunteer opportunities require a commitment to just one agency, but Jim chooses to be a “Special Event” volunteer and has contributed his efforts to 27 different agencies, multiple times. Jim has served with: Salvation Army, Clark College Foundation, Shared Hope International, and many more. Jim is also part of the annual Walk and Knock food drive which restocks food banks throughout the county. Agencies welcome Jim’s assistance for any volunteer project; they know it will be done correctly and on-time. Jim’s commitment to being where help is needed is a true gift to this community. Since registering in 2003, Jim has contributed about 2,395 hours of service.

## *Outstanding Volunteer Award Recipients*

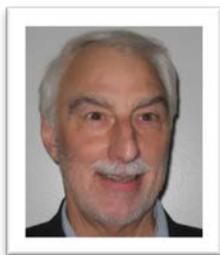


**Laurie Watson**

**Kent**

*Washington Service Corps/  
City of Auburn Emergency Management  
AmeriCorps State Program*

Laurie Watson has generously given her time to a number of organizations in and around the Auburn area including Auburn Emergency Management, Auburn Police Department, Green River Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol, and the King County Office of Emergency Management. As a registered City of Auburn volunteer, she has participated in many events, trainings, and activities. In Emergency Management she has taken Community Emergency Response Team training and continues to assist as new classes are in session, instructs First Aid/CPR/AED courses, assisted with the SR 530 landslide, and works diligently on office projects when needed. The Auburn Police Department has utilized her skill set to conduct fingerprinting, records management projects, and assistance with the Citizen's Academy program. She is a highly respected, reliable volunteer who works hard on every task she is given and truly loves helping where there is a need to be filled.



**Bruce Wendt**

**Issaquah**

*City of Issaquah  
Citizen Corps Program*

Bruce Wendt has played an integral role in Issaquah's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) since 2007. He takes advantage of training opportunities provided locally, through the state, and nationally through FEMA's Emergency Management Institute. Bruce served as Vice President of the Issaquah Citizen Corps Council for four years. In 2008, Bruce became the Issaquah CERT Program Coordinator, coordinating two CERT classes a year while serving as the primary instructor. He is a proponent of collaboration among CERT programs in the area and has actively supported the NW Citizen Corps Expo in various roles. He is a member of the Issaquah Type IV Incident Management Team, is a registered emergency worker, and participates on the Issaquah Communication Support team and the Medical Reserve Corps. A recipient of three Presidential awards for hours served, Bruce continues to volunteer at every opportunity, including doing off site recovery at the SR 530 landslide.

## *Outstanding Volunteer Award Recipients*



**Mary Wright** **Longview**  
*Lower Columbia Community Action Program*  
*Retired and Senior Volunteer Program*

Mary Wright has devoted her life to helping others. She worked as a licensed mental health counselor for over 25 years. After retiring, Mary provided free counseling to people unable to afford it. In 2005, Mary became a Statewide

Health Insurance Benefits Advisor (SHIBA). Every Friday, she provides free healthcare counseling to Medicare/Medicaid beneficiaries. When asked about being a SHIBA volunteer, Mary said, "It's a fulfilling position. I get to help people and serve a purpose. You have to keep up with current healthcare information and build a good rapport with agencies so that you help people the best you can." In 2013, Mary became a Service Officer with VFW Post 1035. On a weekly basis, she guides veterans through the complex paperwork necessary to access federal and state benefits. Mary has recently focused on informing and signing up Vietnam navy veterans whose Agent Orange compensation was denied until January 2015.



**Serve Washington**

**Changing Communities. Changing Lives.**







# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, since the early days of our nation, volunteers have helped us through our greatest challenges and triumphs – patriots fighting for our founding ideals, and other community members who come to the aid of neighbors in need; and

**WHEREAS**, while our nation continues on the road to economic recovery, volunteer service plays a vital role in addressing national and local challenges, and is an effective strategy to help unite communities while addressing critical unmet needs; and

**WHEREAS**, Washington's volunteers demonstrated their commitment to improving their communities and ranked 9<sup>th</sup> among the 50 states, according to the Volunteering and Civic Life in America report, which shows 1.82 million Washingtonians served more than 228 million total hours valued at \$5.1 billion; and

**WHEREAS**, engaged community members, many recruited by AmeriCorps; VISTA; Senior Corps participants; Citizen Corps; and the Volunteer Centers of Washington, are improving the lives of our state's most vulnerable residents by helping students improve their academic performance, preserving the environment, supporting veterans and military families, and contributing to our public safety by responding to disasters; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important to honor those who give of themselves for the betterment of their communities;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim April 21, 2015 as

### ***Washington Volunteer Appreciation Day***

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in recognizing and supporting those who volunteer and serve.

Signed this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2015

Governor Jay Inslee



# Celebrate Service

National Volunteer Week



## *Special Thanks:*

*Frances Munez Carter, Executive Residence Director*  
*Cuan Hoang, Mansion Chef*



Washington Association  
of Retired and Senior  
Volunteer Program Directors  
[www.warsvp-wa.org](http://www.warsvp-wa.org)



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