



Nomination Form 2023

Nominations due or postmarked by March 17th, 2022

v♥**olunteer**
WEST VIRGINIA



Jim Justice
Governor of West Virginia.

Greetings from the Governor

Dear West Virginians:

Our great state is full of amazing men and women who volunteer their time to help their fellow citizens. As your Governor, I am honored to announce that we are now accepting applications for the 2023 Governor's Service Awards. These awards are given to individuals and groups who demonstrate the true spirit of volunteerism.

This is a wonderful opportunity to share the stories of everyday heroes in the Mountain State. If you know an outstanding individual or group who shines as a volunteer superstar, I encourage you to nominate them for these awards.

If we don't hear from you, we might miss an opportunity to honor someone who truly deserves it. Make sure to submit your nominations by March 17th, 2023.

For more information about this program, please contact **Volunteer West Virginia**, the State's Commission for National and Community Service, at 304-558-0111 or visit <https://volunteer.wv.gov>.

I look forward to your submissions. Thank you for helping to shine a light on West Virginia's volunteers and their inspiring stories!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jim Justice".

Jim Justice
Governor

AWARD CATEGORIES

Awards may be presented to nominees in each of the following categories for significant volunteer service contributions in 2022.

Because the goal of the Governor's Service Awards is to recognize outstanding and extraordinary volunteer service efforts, awards are not always given in all categories. More than one award may be made per category.

Youth

Recognizes young individuals aged 6-18 who made significant contributions in 2022 through outstanding volunteer efforts..

Adult

Recognizes the outstanding volunteer contributions of an individual aged 19-59 for volunteer service in 2022.

Senior

Recognizes the outstanding volunteer contributions of an individual aged 60 or older for volunteer service in 2022.

Lifetime Achievement

Recognizes an individual who, over the course of his or her lifetime, has made significant contributions to West Virginia through volunteer efforts.

Group

Recognizes a group, organization, project based-team, family, or business providing outstanding volunteer service in 2022.

Governor Jim Justice and Volunteer West Virginia, the State's Commission for National and Community Service, in celebration of volunteers across West Virginia, invite nominations for the 2023 Governor's Service Awards.

Every day, extraordinary individuals and groups, effect real change in their communities through volunteer service.

ELIGIBILITY

- Any individual, organization, group, family, or business in West Virginia actively engaged in voluntary service benefiting the state may be nominated.
- Except for Lifetime Achievement, nominations must include significant activities occurring during 2022.
- Employees and members of the board of Volunteer West Virginia and the Office of the Governor are not eligible to receive an award and may not submit a nomination.
- Posthumous nominations are not eligible.
- Individuals and groups that have received an award in the last ten years are not eligible for consideration.

General Information

- Recipients of the Governor's Service Award will receive the award at a ceremony on June 15, 2023 at the Culture Center in Charleston.
- Volunteer West Virginia cannot respond to queries about specific nominations.
- Submitted materials cannot be returned.
- No more than three nominations may be submitted by the same nominator.
- Decisions of the independent panel of judges are final.
- A list of the 2023 Governor's Service Award recipients will be posted on Volunteer West Virginia's website by May 5th, 2023 on www.volunteer.wv.gov.

They are the catalysts that help people and groups move past their differences to build shared understanding and solve common problems. Volunteers give West Virginia hope for the future.

Volunteer West Virginia mobilizes resources, promotes an ethic of service, and empowers communities to solve problems and improve the quality of life for individuals and communities.

NOMINATION CHECKLIST

All nominations must be complete in one package when submitted. Any materials received separately will not be processed or considered in the judging.

Please include the following:

○ Official Nomination Form

Indicate the award category in the left-hand column of the form and complete all the information requested. For individuals, please indicate the nominee's age. For groups, identify a contact person who will represent the group at the awards ceremony.

○ The Statement

Attach a narrative statement of 500 words or less that describes the nominee's community service activities and that illustrates how those activities address the community's needs. In the review process, the judges use the statement criteria listed below. Please be sure to address each of these criteria within the statement. Include specific information on how and when the activity began.

○ Supporting Materials

Up to five 8.5" x 11" pages (front and back) of supporting materials may be submitted along with the nomination form. Do not submit electronic media, display materials or scrapbooks. All submitted materials become the property of Volunteer West Virginia and will not be returned.

Helpful Hints

Responses to the criteria questions should be specific and should highlight the special qualities, impacts, and commitment that make the nominee's service unique. Well-written nominations with supporting materials score higher with the review panel.



STATEMENT CRITERIA

Please remember that the reviewers' only knowledge about the nominee's volunteer efforts is through the material submitted with the nomination. Your 500-word statement should address the following criteria that will be used in reviewing and judging the nominations:

Community Need

What community need did the nominee address? How did the nominee recognize the need? What motivated the nominee to become involved in the volunteer activities? Why did the nominee believe this activity was important?

Achievement

What did the nominee do to meet the community need through volunteer service? With the exception of Lifetime Achievement, the nomination should be made primarily for the actual accomplishments achieved in the 2022 calendar year. The statement might answer such questions as:

- What significant event occurred for which the nominee was responsible?
- How many people were served?
- Did the nominee recruit other volunteers to help with the project?
- What long-term impact has the volunteer activity had on the community?

Ongoing Involvement

What is the nominee's ongoing involvement? Is the service hands-on and ongoing or outstanding service for a short-term crisis?

Impact

What difference was made in the community or the state because of what the nominee did? Be specific.

Creativity

How was the nominee creative in performing volunteer service, in such areas as building community support, generating resources, recruiting volunteers, developing partnerships? How did the nominee overcome any challenges to perform the service?

*Celebrating
West Virginia Volunteers*