Volunteer Southern Arizona
HANDS ON NETWORK

Celebration of Service 2011

Award Categories and Selection Criteria

VOLUNTEER IMPACT AWARDS

These awards honor volunteers who have given outstanding service in one of Volunteer Southern Arizona's impact areas – Economy, Education, Environment, Disaster Preparedness/Response, or Health. Nominees must have been actively involved, taken initiative, and used creative methods to address a community challenge.

Youth Award- Presented to an individual age 18 or younger whose volunteer service during the previous 18 months demonstrates the award category guidelines

Adult Award- Presented to an individual age 19 or older whose volunteer service during the previous 18 months demonstrates the award category guidelines

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Outstanding Volunteer in Economy (Youth and Adult)

- Honors a volunteer for outstanding service related to improving economic well-being and security of economically disadvantaged individuals or communities

Outstanding Volunteer in Education (Youth and Adult)

- Honors a volunteer for outstanding service related to improved educational outcomes for individuals, especially children.

Outstanding Volunteer in Environment (Youth and Adult)

- Honors a volunteer for outstanding service related to increased energy and water efficiency, renewable energy use, or improving at-risk ecosystems, and/or supporting increased citizen behavioral change leading to increased efficiency, renewable energy use, and ecosystem improvements.

Outstanding Volunteer in Emergency Preparedness (Youth and Adult)

- Honors a volunteer for outstanding service in helping a community and/or organizations prepare, respond, recover and mitigate disasters and increase community resiliency

Outstanding Volunteer in Health (Youth and Adult)

- Honors a volunteer for outstanding service in enabling seniors to remain in their own homes with the same or improved quality of life for as long as possible; increasing physical activity and improve nutrition in youth with the purpose of reducing childhood obesity; and/or improving access to primary and preventive health care.

Community Volunteer of the Year (Youth and Adult)

- Address a specific need in the community
- Nominee was actively involved and took initiative
- Involves a significant amount of volunteer time
- Nominee used creative methods to solve community problems
- Activity or service produced positive change and provided an example to others

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Volunteer Southern Arizona Ellen Hargis Award (Adult)
Recognizes and honors an administrator of a volunteer program who reflects the high ideals of the profession and whose dedicated efforts allow volunteers to produce significant achievements. The selection criterion includes:

- Effective use of leadership skills and quality of performance in administering the volunteer program.
- Creative management of people, resources, and opportunities.
- The ability to assess the needs, goals, and motives of volunteers and to inspire volunteers
- A thorough understanding of the organization's goals and objectives and how to achieve them through the effective involvement of volunteers.
- The ability to match the organization's and the volunteer's needs in a way that is advantageous to both.
- The ability to excel at the multi-faceted responsibilities of a volunteer program administrator.

Outstanding Civic Organization
Recognizes and honors a civic or membership organization for outstanding volunteer service in the community in the last 18 months. The selection criteria include:

- Percentage of members involved in the service project or initiative
- The ability to match the organization's mission with a project or initiative that meets a significant community need or challenge
- Demonstrated positive impact of the service project or initiative

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Outstanding Employee Volunteer Program
Recognizes and honors businesses or corporations for outstanding employee volunteer service in the community, organized by the company, in the last 18 months. The selection criteria include:

- Percentage of employees involved in the service project or initiative
- The ability to match the core business with a project or initiative that meets a significant community need or challenge
- Demonstrated positive impact of the service project or initiative

There will be three categories for this award

- Small business – less the 100 employees
- Mid-size business – 100-500 employees
- Large business – more than 500 employees

Outstanding Nonprofit Board of Directors
Presented to a board of directors of a nonprofit organization whose exemplary service during the last 18 months has contributed in a distinguished way to enhancing the quality of life in our community. The selection criteria include:

- The board of directors is a good model for other nonprofit boards to emulate
- Board members provide strategic and visionary leadership
- The board is actively and effectively involved in planning, supporting and evaluating all of the activities of the organization
- Board members possess the skills and resources that ensure fulfillment of the organization's mission
- The board has developed a diversified funding base for the organization sufficient to carry out its mission in the community
- The board of directors is comprised of a diverse group of community members located in Southern Arizona