

Governor's Volunteerism & Community Service Awards

Nominate someone you know!

People across Virginia make a difference in the lives of others, every day. Individuals, groups, and organizations invest their time and talent in helping others and creating positive change right where they live. In ways big and small, volunteers serve others in a multitude of ways – often without fanfare or recognition. Presented by Serve Virginia and the Virginia Service Foundation, these awards recognize and celebrate the impact of Virginia's outstanding volunteers.

BACKGROUND & BENEFITS

The Governor's Volunteerism & Community Service Awards recognize Virginians who serve across the Commonwealth. These awards recognize some of the millions of generous Virginians who offer their time and talents to others each year. It spotlights the ways that dedication, innovation, and generosity can improve life for all Virginians. Selected honorees are recognized by the Governor and invited to an awards ceremony at the Executive Mansion. All nominees will be recognized on the Serve Virginia Honor Roll.

THE PEOPLE WE SEEK

We are seeking nominations for people and groups from across Virginia going above and beyond through service and volunteerism. Consider nominating individuals or groups that truly make a difference in the community, whether through volunteering with an organization or through more informal service, like helping out a school PTO or serving as a youth basketball coach. These awards recognize the outstanding service of Virginians who dedicate themselves in service to others.

Nominate Someone Today!

If you know someone who consistently serves formally or informally – and makes a significant impact through their service – nominate them! One honoree will be recognized in each category. Nominees must live and serve in Virginia to be eligible. You can nominate a person or group starting May 14, 2025.

AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN IN THESE CATEGORIES

Group Awards

- Independent Group (family, friends, informal group)
- Community Organization (nonprofit or government)
- Faith-Based Group (spiritual community)
- Educational Organization (K-12 school or higher ed)
- Small Business (for-profit, 0-50 employees)
- Corporation (for-profit, 51+ employees)

Individual Awards

- Youth (aged 18 and under)
- Young Adult (aged 19-30)
- Adult (aged 31-59)
- Senior (aged 60+)

Past Award Honorees

Newport News Shipbuilding

Newport News Shipbuilding gives back to the community by preparing underserved students for college and the workforce through initiatives like STEM mentoring, career awareness programs, teacher internships, and experiential learning.



Bezawit Getachew Mulatu

Bezawit Getachew Mulatu serves as a first responder with the University of Richmond Emergency Medical Services and the Tuckahoe Volunteer Rescue Squad, and as a volunteer clinician at CrossOver Health Ministry and with the Virginia Medical Reserve Corps.



About Serve Virginia

Serve Virginia aspires to build a culture of service and volunteerism in all corners of the Commonwealth by inspiring individuals and organizations to engage, connecting them with the resources they need to make a difference, and celebrating the tremendous impacts we make together.



Nomination deadline: June 23, 2025

Got questions about the process?

Email sarah.lawson@dss.virginia.gov for more information.

Ready to nominate a person or group?

Scan the QR code or visit our website to learn more:

ServeVirginia.org/governors-awards



About the Virginia Service Foundation

The Virginia Service Foundation supports the activities of the Governor's Advisory Board on Service and Volunteerism, promoting volunteer involvement, civic engagement, and citizen participation to serve the needs of the Commonwealth of Virginia and its communities.

SERVEVIRGINIA.ORG/GOVERNORS-AWARDS