



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SUSAN B. TOWLER, OF JACKSONVILLE, APPOINTED TO GOVERNOR'S
COMMISSION ON VOLUNTEERISM AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Governor Jeb Bush appoints Susan B. Towler, Executive Director of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida's The Blue Foundation for a Healthy Florida, to Volunteer Florida.

TALLAHASSEE — Governor Jeb Bush recently appointed Susan B. Towler, of Jacksonville, to the Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service (Volunteer Florida). Towler will serve a three-year term.

Towler is the first executive director for The Blue Foundation for a Healthy Florida, established in 2001 as the philanthropic affiliate of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida. She is also Vice President, Community Affairs, for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida (BCBSF) and has responsibility for all of the company's community investment programming.

Actively involved in the philanthropic sector, Towler is a member of the Council on Foundations, the Southeastern Council of Foundations, and the Florida Philanthropic Network. She currently is a board member of the Nonprofit Center of Northeast Florida and is chair of the United Way's Life: Act 2 Culture Shift Committee. Susan is a graduate of Leadership Florida and currently serves as Fundraising Chair.

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TOWLER APPOINTED TO VOLUNTEER COMMISSION

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Towler also is an accredited member of the Public Relations Society of America, where she served as president of the North Florida chapter in 1996. She currently serves as a member of the University of Florida Public Relations Advisory Board. She was named a “Woman of Influence” by the Jacksonville Business Journal in 2004 and an “Up and Comer” by the same publication in 2003.

"Susan's work with the Blue Foundation for a Healthy Florida has positioned her to see many needs in Florida," said Volunteer Florida Chief Executive Officer Wendy Spencer. "Her knowledge of Florida's communities and her support of volunteerism will contribute greatly to the mission of Volunteer Florida."

Volunteer Florida Commissioners drive Volunteer Florida's mission, and are actively involved in volunteer and service activities. They are a diverse, bipartisan group of citizens appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Florida Senate, who serve a three-year term.

The Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service was established in 1994 by the Florida Legislature to administer grants under the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993. The Commission grants funds to Florida AmeriCorps and National Service programs; encourages volunteerism for everyone from youths to seniors to people with disabilities; promotes volunteerism in emergency management and preparedness; and helps to strengthen and expand Volunteer Centers in Florida.

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