



NEWS RELEASE

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FLORIDA VOLUNTEER MONTH TO HONOR FLORIDA'S SUPERHEROES: VOLUNTEERS

Governor Charlie Crist and the Florida Cabinet officially designate April to be Florida Volunteer Month ...

TALLAHASSEE – In April, organizations and individuals across Florida will join together to recognize and celebrate the millions of volunteers who are changing lives and strengthening communities. To commemorate this celebration of volunteerism, Governor Charlie Crist and the Florida Cabinet will officially designate April as Florida Volunteer Month at the April 3 cabinet meeting. The Cabinet Resolution, sponsored by Agriculture Commissioner Charles Bronson, is the official kick-off of the monthlong Florida Volunteer Month celebration.

“As governor, I have seen firsthand the amazing power of volunteers,” said Governor Charlie Crist. “Volunteers represent the very best of the human spirit and the very best in each of us.”

Florida Volunteer Month was created to highlight the many ways volunteers positively impact their communities, to encourage citizens to volunteer, and to remind the private sector that volunteerism is good for business. This year’s theme, “Florida’s Superheroes: Volunteers,” recognizes that volunteers have the **power** to better the lives of others simply by offering their time.

Sponsors of Florida Volunteer Month are urging individuals statewide to join the volunteer movement and experience the mental, physical, and professional benefits that volunteering can offer such as an increased self-esteem, improved health, and marketable job skills. Businesses can also experience the advantages of volunteering by implementing an employee volunteer program. Studies have shown that companies with employee volunteer programs report lower employee turnover rates, higher morale, and better community relations.

(more)



“Volunteers dedicate so much of their time and energy to improving our communities and deserve to be recognized for their hard work,” said Wendy Spencer, Chief Executive Officer of The Governor’s Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service, **Volunteer Florida**. “The dedication of volunteers helps each community in Florida to flourish.”

For more on Florida Volunteer Month and a list of links to volunteer resources and opportunities, please visit Volunteer Florida’s Web site at volunteerflorida.org.

The Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service (Volunteer Florida) 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 youth to seniors to people with disabilities; promotes volunteerism for disaster preparedness and response; and helps to strengthen and expand Volunteer Centers in Florida.

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