



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**BEVERLY HOUGLAND, OF OSCEOLA COUNTY, APPOINTED TO GOVERNOR'S
COMMISSION ON VOLUNTEERISM AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

*Governor Charlie Crist appoints Beverly Houglan, CEO of the
Osceola County Council on Aging, to Volunteer Florida.*

TALLAHASSEE — Governor Charlie Crist recently appointed Beverly Houglan, of Osceola County, to the Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service (Volunteer Florida).

Houglan is the CEO of the Osceola Council on Aging. She has been with the Council for 24 years, first as a Program Director, then as Executive Director since 1990. She has a Master of Arts Degree in Education from Eastern Kentucky University. In 1998, Ms. Houglan received the Osceola County Distinguished Leader Award. She has brought leadership, innovation, fiscal responsibility and vision to an organization that has seen a 26 percent increase in unduplicated clients in the last year alone. The Council manages 30 different programs and last year provided services to more than 52,000 unduplicated clients.

The leadership Houglan provided during the 2004 hurricanes is well-known. The Council on Aging operated three special-needs shelters in partnership with the Osceola County Health Department and provided around-the-clock services to more than 28,000 seniors during the storms and recovery. Houglan also chairs the County Long Term Recovery Committee that addresses and funds unmet disaster needs in Osceola County.

(more)



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HUGLAND APPOINTED TO VOLUNTEER COMMISSION

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Houglund also is actively involved with the Health Issues Task Force, which focuses on the health needs of seniors aged 55 to 64 who do not have health insurance.

“I am thrilled to welcome Beverly to Volunteer Florida,” said Volunteer Florida Chief Executive Officer Wendy Spencer. “Her experience working with people with disabilities and special needs, especially as it relates to emergency management, along with her experience managing an AmeriCorps program will be an extraordinary asset to our organization.”

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.

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; supports the Governor’s priorities through the creation of innovative volunteer programs, and helps to strengthen and expand Volunteer Centers in Florida.

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