



NEWS RELEASE

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VOLUNTEER FLORIDA HONORS BREAST CANCER VOLUNTEERS WITH PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARDS

*Prestigious National Honor for Volunteer Service to be presented to
the Pink Tie Friends at Volunteer Florida's quarterly Commission
meeting. ...*

TALLAHASSEE – The Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service (Volunteer Florida) today announced it will award **15 Pink Tie Friends** volunteers with PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARDS, the highest national honor offered in recognition of volunteer service. To qualify for Gold, Silver or Bronze PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARDS, volunteers must have logged a specified number of volunteer hours over the course of a 12-month period. To qualify for the lifetime CALL TO SERVICE AWARD, volunteers must have logged **4,000** hours over the course of their lifetimes.

The Pink Tie Friends' mission is to provide financial support to individuals newly diagnosed with breast cancer that are uninsured or under-insured. The group has raised funds and awareness through the Calendar Girls Fighting Breast Cancer, the Pink Tie Gala, and the Pink Tie Music for Life Concert. Funds raised have already helped women through the financial burden of their treatment.

The AWARDS will be presented at Volunteer Florida's quarterly Commission meeting, to be held Tuesday, April 21 at the Hutchinson Island Marriott, located at 555 NE Ocean Boulevard. The meeting begins at 2 p.m. Eastern time, and the AWARDS will be presented at approximately 2:15 p.m.

The Pink Tie Friends who will receive the group award are: **Cindy Allen, Cheryl Caldwell, Tasha Chen, Valerie Collins, Patricia Harrison, Mary Lou Hawkins, Madeline Hermann, Deborah Hollister, Connie Karol, Stephanie Kumara, Robert Kunkle, Nancy Sailer, Judy Schilder, Carolyn Wilsey, and Ruth Woodbury.**

In addition to the group award, the following individuals will receive the PRESIDENT'S CALL TO SERVICE AWARD for a lifetime of service: **Cheryl Caldwell, Deborah Hollister, Nancy Sailer, and Patricia Harrison.**

(more)



“These recipients of the PRESIDENT’S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD are role models for all Americans,” said Volunteer Florida CEO Wendy Spencer. “Each volunteer hour contributed makes a difference in improving the quality of life for others. Through their extraordinary commitment, these volunteers have brought us closer together as families, as communities and as a Nation.”

Established in 2003, the PRESIDENT’S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD – WHICH IS MODELED AFTER THE PRESIDENT’S PHYSICAL FITNESS AWARD – is available on an annual basis to individuals, groups and families who have met or exceeded requirements for volunteer service and have demonstrated exemplary citizenship through volunteering. As a Leadership Organization participating in the AWARD program, **Volunteer Florida** confers the AWARDS to recognize the outstanding achievements of volunteers throughout Florida.

The PRESIDENT’S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD is an award for volunteer service that every American – from every age and every walk of life – can aspire to achieve. To be eligible to receive the AWARD, individuals, families and groups submit a record of their annual volunteer service hours to participating organizations, such as **Volunteer Florida**, that will verify the service and deliver the AWARD. AWARD eligibility for individuals and groups is based upon hour requirements varying by age.

The AWARD is issued by the President’s Council on Service and Civic Participation, a group created to recognize the valuable contributions volunteers are making to our nation. Volunteer Florida CEO Wendy Spencer is an appointee to the Council, which is chaired by Case Foundation President **Jean Case**. The Council is comprised of leaders in government, media, entertainment, business, education, nonprofits, and the volunteer sector.

For more information on volunteering in Florida, please visit www.volunteerflorida.org.

For more information about how to qualify for the PRESIDENT’S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD, please visit www.PresidentialServiceAwards.gov or call 1-866-545-5307.

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; supports the Governor’s priority initiatives by creating innovative volunteer programs, and helps to strengthen and expand Volunteer Centers in Florida.

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