



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

VOLUNTEER MONTH IN FLORIDA

WHEREAS, volunteers serve every day in Florida and work to make our communities safer, stronger, and healthier; and

WHEREAS, volunteers improve the lives of our most vulnerable citizens, including seniors, children, and those with unique abilities; and

WHEREAS, volunteers in Florida serve as tutors and mentors at schools, helping students achieve academic success and preparing them for the workforce; and

WHEREAS, volunteers in Florida support veterans by providing job training and engaging veterans in community service; and

WHEREAS, volunteers in Florida work to protect and restore our precious natural resources, from beaches to rivers and forests to lakes; and

WHEREAS, a volunteer saves an average of \$27.68 an hour for the organization it volunteers for; and

WHEREAS, Volunteer Florida serves as the Governor's lead agency for service and volunteerism in Florida, promoting volunteerism and mobilizing Floridians to serve; and

WHEREAS, Volunteer Florida's 13,818 skills-based Volunteer Generation Fund volunteers provided 250,412 hours of service in Florida at a value of \$6,931,404; and

WHEREAS, Volunteer Florida continues to increase awareness of the state's official volunteer opportunities platform, assists those in finding volunteer opportunities in our communities; and

WHEREAS, First Lady Casey DeSantis launched Hope Florida – A Pathway to Purpose to help facilitate volunteer opportunities for Florida's seniors, breaking down silos to match volunteer-minded "Hope Heroes" with those in need of their kindness and generosity; and

WHEREAS, during Hurricane Ian, Florida Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) served more than 5,553 hours, a value of more than \$153,707 to that affected community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing April 2023, as *Volunteer Month in Florida*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 1st day of April, in the year two thousand twenty-three.



Governor