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## 2019 Governor's Volunteer Service Award recipients announced

**OLYMPIA** – Serve Washington announces the recipients of the 2019 Governor's Volunteer Service Award. Ranging in age from 14 to 95, recipients are being recognized for their outstanding commitment to and achievements in volunteerism over the past year.

"We are drawn to stories about people who don't quit, and our Volunteer Service Award honorees are outstanding representatives of that kind of perseverance," Gov. Jay Inslee said. "Recognizing the tremendous contributions to the communities served by this year's honorees is inspiring. I encourage all Washingtonians to remember to thank a volunteer and find a way to get involved."

Awardees will be recognized at the 2019 Governor's Volunteer Service Awards ceremony on Friday, April 12 at the Executive Mansion in Olympia. Inslee has proclaimed April 12 as Volunteer Appreciation Day to recognize not just the award recipients but also the countless acts of service performed by Washington citizens across the state every day.

"It is an honor to host the Governor's Volunteer Service Awards and recognize the extraordinary volunteer efforts of these individuals, families and organizations," said Amber Martin-Jahn, executive director of Serve Washington. "Their stories are a powerful reminder of what we can all accomplish through volunteering."

Individual	Category	Volunteer organization	City
Judi Armstrong	Health care	Walla Walla Veterans Home	Walla Walla
Catherine Chambers	AmeriCorps VISTA	Washington Campus Compact	Bellingham
James Corson	Environment	Friends of the Burke Gilman Trail at Sand Point via Green Seattle Partnership	Seattle
Christine Curren	Human services	American Red Cross	Lakewood
Shawn Durnen	AmeriCorps alum	WA State VetCorps	Tacoma
Shalisa Hayes	Social services	Metro Parks Tacoma	Tacoma
Jordan Houghton	Veteran	William C. Stacey American Legion Post 206	Seattle
Kael Johnson	Teen	Bethel School District Hunger Task Force	Tacoma
John Lawless	AmeriCorps member	Cowlitz County Youth Services Center	Longview

The recipients, who were identified through a statewide nomination process and selected by a review committee, are listed below:

Carl Leon	Disaster preparedness/response	Seattle Office of Emergency Management	Seattle
Florence Mulhair	Senior Corps	Meals on Wheels Kitsap	Kingston
Llewelyn Pritchard	Arts & culture	Allied Arts Foundation	Bellevue
Randi Sanders	Citizen Corps/ Community Emergency Respone Training	Whatcom County CERT	Bellingham
Helen Sutfin	Education	Washington State School for the Blind	Vancouver
Ronald Wagner	Public safety	Marysville Police Department	Marysville
Derek Yoshinaka	Animal welfare	Regional Animal Services of King County	Kent
Groups	Category	Volunteer organization	City
evo	Employer-based program	Lifelong	Seattle
Soup Ladies	Service group	Soup Ladies	Buckley
The Lodwick & Travis Family: Melissa Lodwick Stephen Lodwick Mara Lodwick Siena Lodwick	Volunteer family	Vision House	Renton

The Governor's Volunteer Service Awards are just one way Serve Washington promotes volunteerism. The evening of April 12, the Seattle Mariners and Serve Washington will host the 11<sup>th</sup> annual <u>Salute to</u> <u>Volunteers Night</u> (<u>www.mariners.com/volunteer</u>) at Safeco Field. Pre-game ceremonies will include an on-field tribute to this year's Governor's Volunteer Service Award recipients. A recipient will throw the ceremonial first pitch.

To learn more about volunteer opportunities, visit Volunteer Centers of Washington at <<u>http://www.volunteerwashington.org</u>> or Serve Washington at <<u>http://www.servewashington.wa.gov</u>> or 360-902-0656.

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Serve Washington advances national service, volunteerism and civic engagement to improve lives; expands opportunity to meet the local critical needs of residents of Washington; and strengthens community capacity while creating healthy and resilient communities. For more information, visit <u>servewashington.wa.gov</u>.