

Governor's Service Recognition 2016



"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."

~ Aesop

Governor's Service Recognition

2016

9:30 am Welcome by WNCSB Chair, Lisa Delmore

9:40 am Award Presentation, Amanda Smidt Panciera

Governor's Community Service AmeriCorps Program Honoree

The AmeriCorps Outreach Team

Runaway and Homeless Youth Services, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Fox Valley ~
Wisconsin Association for Homeless and Runaway Services, Appleton

Governor's Community Service AmeriCorps Participant Honoree

Peter Drews ~ Playworks, Milwaukee

Governor's Community Service AmeriCorps VISTA Participant Honoree

Jennifer Dolan ~ University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension, Portage
County

Governor's Senior Corps Program Honoree

Western Dairyland RSVP Team ~ Western Dairyland RSVP Volunteer Program,
Independence

Governor's Senior Corps Participant Honoree

The Friends of Coulee Region RSVP, Inc. Handyman Team ~ The Friends of
Coulee Region RSVP, Inc., La Crosse

Marty Stein Friend of National Service Exemplary Supporter

Leslie Ann Howard ~ United Way of Dane County, Madison

Governor's Volunteer Engagement Award

Bonnie Andrews ~ Volunteer Center, Milwaukee

10:30 am Closing Remarks

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and Serve Wisconsin support service in Wisconsin that strengthens communities and enriches lives. We all know that America's challenges are real and urgent. We need all Americans, especially those who have proven themselves to be citizen leaders, to get involved in changing lives and communities. Today we honor individuals who have done just that.

AmeriCorps Outreach Team from the Runaway and Homeless Youth Services of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Fox Valley will receive the *Governor's Community Service AmeriCorps Program of the Year Award*. This AmeriCorps Outreach Team works proactively to prevent youth from running away or becoming homeless by providing direct support services such as street outreach, family support, and a 24-hour crisis intervention hotline.

Peter Drews of Playworks Milwaukee will receive the *Governor's Community Service AmeriCorps Participant of the Year Award*. Recess rock star, "Coach Peter", leads 19 classes at Hopkins Lloyd Community School in Milwaukee where he teaches important social and emotional skills, along with games that will be seen at recess, to increase the feeling of community in the classroom.

Jennifer Dolan will receive the *Governor's Community Service AmeriCorps VISTA Participant of the Year Award* due to her service through the University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension in Portage County. She has served tirelessly to address community needs related to hunger and poverty issues. Through her service, Jennifer has promoted the use of SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits at farmers markets, developed curriculum for use at youth garden locations, and created a farmers market gleaning program called Glean Central Wisconsin.

The Western Dairyland, RSVP Volunteer Program from Independence will receive the *Governor's Senior Corps Program of the Year Award*. The Western Dairyland Retired and Senior Volunteer Program has enhanced the community's ability to address issues of food insecurity, independent living services for older adults and the disabled, poverty, and veterans' transportation needs.

The Handyman Team of the Friends of Coulee Region RSVP, Inc. will receive the *Governor's Senior Corps Participant(s) of the Year Award*. Art Butterworth, Roger Christians, Chuck Sans Crainte, Monty Gilbertson, and Dan Leaver make up the Handyman Team. This unique team shares their time, skills, and expertise for no charge, assisting individuals by making homes accessible, safe, and doing many other home repairs that would otherwise go undone.

Leslie Ann Howard will receive the *Marty Stein Friend of National Service Exemplary Supporter Award* for her support of the United Way of Dane County and the Schools of Hope and Achievement Connections AmeriCorps programs. Over the past 20 years, Leslie has championed the call for the community to come together in working to reduce the racial achievement gap, embodying the philosophy of the late Marty Stein.

Bonnie Andrews from the Nonprofit Center of Milwaukee will receive the *Governor's Volunteer Engagement Award*. Bonnie is a recognized leader with over 16 years of experience in the field of volunteer management and engagement. Her important work with Volunteer Centers and the Service Enterprise Initiative has made a sizable impact in promoting, supporting, and increasing effective volunteerism for positive community impact throughout the state.

AmeriCorps Outreach Team Runaway & Homeless Youth Services, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Fox Valley
2016 AmeriCorps Program of the Year



Peter Drews (right)
2016 AmeriCorps Member of the Year

Jennifer Dolan
2016 AmeriCorps VISTA of the Year



Western Dairyland, RSVP
2016 Senior Corps Program of the Year

Leslie Ann Howard (center)
2016 Marty Stein Friend of National Service Exemplary Supporter



Handyman Team
Friends of Coulee Region RSVP, Inc.
2016 Senior Corps Participants of the Year

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Serve Wisconsin
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Volunteer Wisconsin
volunteerwisconsin.org

Corporation for National & Community Service
cns.gov



Bonnie Andrews (left)
2016 Volunteer Engagement Honoree

Scott Walker
Governor

Lisa Delmore
Chair

Thomas H. Devine
Executive Director



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Governor's Service Recognition Winners Announced

[Madison, Wisconsin] – Seven winners will be recognized at the 2016 Governor's Service Recognition ceremony at 9:30 A.M., on June 2nd at the Goodman Community Center located at 149 Waubesa Street, Madison, WI 53704. The Governor's Service Recognitions are presented to programs and individuals participating in organizations funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) through AmeriCorps and Senior Corps. This event provides an opportunity to recognize organizations and individuals that help solve serious social problems and help strengthen their community.

2016 Governor's Service Awards

Governor's Community Service AmeriCorps Program Honoree

The AmeriCorps Outreach Team

Runaway and Homeless Youth Services, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Fox Valley ~ Wisconsin Association for Homeless and Runaway Services, Appleton

Governor's Community Service AmeriCorps Participant Honoree

Peter Drews ~ Playworks, Milwaukee

Governor's Community Service AmeriCorps VISTA Participant Honoree

Jennifer Dolan ~ University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension, Portage County

Governor's Senior Corps Program Honoree

Western Dairyland RSVP Team - Western Dairyland RSVP Volunteer Program, Independence

Governor's Senior Corps Participant Honoree

The Friends of Coulee Region RSVP, Inc. Handyman Team - The Friends of Coulee Region RSVP, Inc., La Crosse

Marty Stein Friend of National Service Exemplary Supporter

Leslie Ann Howard - United Way of Dane County, Madison

Governor's Volunteer Engagement Award

Bonnie Andrews - Volunteer Center, Milwaukee

Together, Serve Wisconsin and the CNCS State Office sponsor the Governor's Service Recognitions. Serve Wisconsin is the 22-member citizen body appointed by the Governor responsible for overseeing AmeriCorps grants which address unmet human, environmental, public safety, educational, and homeland security needs. For more information about Serve Wisconsin or funded AmeriCorps programs, visit www.servewisconsin.wi.gov.

The Corporation for National and Community Service provides opportunities for Americans of all ages and backgrounds to serve their communities and country through programs like AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, the Social



Innovation Fund, the Volunteer Generation Fund, and more. The Corporation is working to build a culture of citizenship, service, and responsibility in America. For more information, visit www.nationalservice.gov/.

Now more than ever, it's important to make every dollar count. National service is a cost-effective solution that taps the power of citizens to get things done. We multiply the impact of our investment by generating hundreds of millions of non-federal dollars, mobilizing millions of additional volunteers, and operating with a high degree of accountability and efficiency.

The 2016 Governor's Service Recognition Recipients:

Runaway and Homeless Youth Services AmeriCorps Outreach Team of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Fox Valley will receive the Governor's Community Service AmeriCorps Program of the Year Award. Part of the statewide initiative, Wisconsin Association for Homeless and Runaway Services AmeriCorps program, this AmeriCorps Outreach Team works proactively to prevent youth from running away or becoming homeless by providing direct support services such as street outreach and a 24-hour crisis intervention hotline. The members work with families to resolve conflicts before they escalate to a crisis level through preventative education initiatives and case management of clients. During the 2014-15 program year this AmeriCorps team made 5,490 street outreach contacts, distributed 10,479 Street Smart Resource Guides, and ensured a safe living arrangement for 574 youth. Youth in need were also provided a wide range of services such as food, clothing, hygiene products, as well as referrals for appropriate healthcare and other support services. The AmeriCorps members, through the strong community partnerships they created, participated in a community wide project that collected over \$300,000 worth of health and hygiene products. These essential supplies were then donated to 82 local crisis programs in 15 communities as part of the Fox Valley Help for the Homeless Drive. This AmeriCorps team offers a shining example of how a powerful and passionate group of citizens can work together to transform neighborhoods across Wisconsin.

Peter Drews of Playworks Milwaukee will receive the Governor's Community Service AmeriCorps Participant of the Year Award. Recess rock star, "Coach Peter", leads 19 classes at Hopkins Lloyd Community School in Milwaukee through weekly Class Game Times, where he teaches important social and emotional skills, along with games that will be seen at recess, to increase the feeling of community in the classroom. After school, Peter works with 4th and 5th grade student leaders, called Junior Coaches, to help them gain skills to be role models for their peers throughout the school day. Because of his service, students no longer stand off to the side unsure of how to access games, and simple tag games no longer turn to fist fights. He has used his service to change the culture at Hopkins Lloyd, teaching students to develop their own talents and take ownership of their school. Because Peter takes a thoughtful approach to every class at Hopkins Lloyd, tailoring games, debriefs, goals, and lessons to best lead students to social and emotional growth, he has made significant contributions to his community through his service efforts.

Jennifer Dolan will receive the Governor's Community Service AmeriCorps VISTA Participant of the Year Award due to her service through the University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension in Portage County. Jennifer has served tirelessly to address community needs related to hunger and poverty issues. Through her service, Jennifer has promoted the use of SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits at farmers markets, developed curriculum for use at youth garden locations, and created a farmers market gleaning program called Glean Central Wisconsin (GCW). Through GCW, Jennifer was able to organize the collection of more than 7,000 pounds of produce in 2015—up from the 3,265 lbs collected in 2014. She has also played a significant role in the efforts of the Hunger and Poverty Prevention Partnership of Portage County (HPPP), helping to re-energize the organization, move it forward, and allow it to explore new directions through a strategic planning effort. Jennifer is a community champion, fighting for the voice of underserved populations, and continuously looking for solutions.

The Western Dairyland, RSVP Team from Independence will receive the Governor's Senior Corps Program of the Year Award. The Western Dairyland Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) has enhanced the community's ability to address issues of food insecurity, independent living services for older adults and the disabled, poverty, and veterans' transportation needs. The Western Dairyland RSVP team has increased services and created a wide variety of volunteer opportunities to help address these needs. The RSVP Weekend Food 4

Kids project, for example, provided a bag of “weekend” food every week during the school year to 167 children and 87 households. RSVP volunteers also provide friendly visiting, light housekeeping, and shopping assistance for seniors so that they may remain living in their homes independently. This is the only “no fee” service available for seniors in Trempealeau and Buffalo counties, and has allowed 47 older adults and adults with disabilities to remain living independently in their homes. Also, through a coordinated effort between RSVP, local Veteran Service Offices, and area aging units, veterans are receiving transportation services to medical appointments in Tomah and Madison. This project has provided 37 veterans access to healthcare each month. This innovative and dedicated RSVP team continues to dedicate their time to strengthen our communities.

The Handyman Team of the Friends of Coulee Region RSVP, Inc. will receive the Governor’s Senior Corps Participant(s) of the Year Award. Art Butterworth, Roger Christians, Chuck Sans Crainte, Monty Gilbertson, and Dan Leaver make up the Handyman Team. This unique team shares their time, skills, and expertise for no charge, assisting many individuals in the Coulee Region by mounting railings so a rehab patient can return home from a hospital stay, installing deadbolts to ensure added security for the person living alone, repairing leaky faucets, and providing fix-it solutions for many other home repair needs that would otherwise go undone. Since the inception of the Handyman Program in the spring of 2011, this team has helped over 200 individuals keep their homes in safe, working condition, even fulfilling requests from long-term care facilities, making it possible for loved ones to return home. An estimated \$198,000 has been saved in hourly fees and materials for individuals requesting services. Besides being essential in the development of this signature program, they have also assisted with projects for Habitat for Humanity, building a home in Vernon County, and for Riverfront, Inc. by taking the lead in assisting with the planning, project details, and building of raised garden beds and handicap accessible greenhouse benches that are used by over 200 individuals with disabilities on a daily basis through their day services programming. Having donated over 2,400 volunteer hours providing direct services to those requesting home repairs, this team truly embodies what it means to serve.

Leslie Ann Howard, for her support of the United Way of Dane County and the Schools of Hope and Achievement Connections AmeriCorps programs, will receive the Marty Stein Friend of National Service Exemplary Supporter Award. Over the past 20 years, Leslie has embodied the philosophy of the late Marty Stein. She has championed the call for the community to come together in working to reduce the racial achievement gap seen throughout the country. Under Leslie’s leadership, a program model was created that has held the test of time - study, engage community, work alongside the school district, partner, provide staffing, build systems, accountability, and report back to the community. Her vision and passion for equality within education led to the creation of the Schools of Hope and Achievement Connections AmeriCorps programs. Because of her hard work and dedication she has positively changed the lives of thousands of children in the Madison community and beyond.

Bonnie Andrews from the Nonprofit Center of Milwaukee will receive the Governor’s Volunteer Engagement Award. In addition to her 16 years serving the Volunteer Center of Milwaukee, Bonnie has served as a leader in the Wisconsin Volunteer Center Association, on the Volunteer Wisconsin Steering Committee, and as a valued consultant to Serve Wisconsin. Bonnie is a recognized leader in the field of volunteer management and has repeatedly stepped up when leadership was needed to keep the forward momentum of growing volunteerism in Wisconsin. Her leadership helped to create the Volunteer Wisconsin Initiative in order to promote, support, and increase effective volunteerism for positive community impact. Bonnie acts as the sole Service Enterprise Initiative trainer in Wisconsin, and has helped 21 nonprofit organizations in Milwaukee to significantly improve their volunteer engagement practices. She has also worked with AmeriCorps programs in Wisconsin to help them understand the value of volunteers and create a plan to use them more effectively. Additionally, Bonnie presents in-person trainings and webinars on the importance of volunteerism that have reached every corner of the state. A lifelong volunteer herself, Bonnie serves on committees, volunteers through her congregation and state denominational office, and provides direct service in the way of training, coaching, and literacy tutoring for adults. One of the reasons Wisconsin has risen in the national volunteer rankings over the years is due in part to passion and dedication to volunteerism from leaders like Bonnie.