



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Governor's Hometown Awards *Announcement*

The Serve Illinois Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service in partnership with the Governor's Office announces the Governor's Hometown Awards (GHTA), has officially opened and is now accepting Letters of intent (LOI), from communities, programs, and local units of government interested in competing for the Governor's Cup. The GHTA gives formal recognition to those who contributed to projects that improved their community's quality of life. Prospective projects, in collaboration with local units of government, should have had strong volunteer support, met a need, and made a definitive impact, thereby generating a positive outcome in the community, and by extension, the state. Only projects completed between January 1, 2021, and December 31, 2021, will be considered.

Instructions

To submit a LOI, please fill out the information listed in this section. While email is the preferred method of submission, they can also be returned by email or google form.

Serve Illinois Commission

Illinois Department of Humans Services

100 S Grand Ave East

Springfield, IL 62701

dhs.serveillinois@illinois.gov

For your convenience, we have also included a link to the google form. This form is designed to capture your responses and provide a receipt of submission. <https://forms.gle/qzYQ6WiPtZNuELPC8>



Name of the Community:

Community Address:

City:

Zip Code:

Person Completing Form:

Affiliation/Association with Community:

Contact Phone:

Email Address:

Please complete the questionnaire below:

- Please provide a 2-3 sentence description of your volunteer project or service?
- What category(s) does your volunteer service or project correspond to? Please explain?
- How long has your community/organization performed this service? (Note: Service had to be offered in 2021 for three months or more.) If you are nominating a project when did the project start and end? (Note: The end date cannot be earlier than March 31, 2021.)
- How did this address a community problem or challenge for your community? What impact has your project or service had on the community?
- Describe how your project partnered with a governmental body or agency. Include the name of the partner (governmental body). Do you have the ability to get a support letter from this partner? If the applicant is the government body, please indicate this in your answer. (1-2 paragraphs)
- How were community residents and/or stakeholders involved? (1-2 paragraphs)
- Please share with us anything else you would like to share about this volunteer project/service

Timeline

- 3/10 – 4/4 LOI must be received by our office email or postmarked on March 4, 2022.
- 4/5 – 4/11 LOI will be reviewed.
- 4/13 Applicants will receive a notice of decision.
- 4/16 – 5/13 All applicants moving to the next round will be asked to submit an application and full proposal. All applications must be received by email no later than 5:00 pm or postmarked May 13, 2022.
- 5/14- 6/1 Projects will be reviewed and scored by judges.
- 6/3 GHTA applicants will receive a notice of decision by email. The finalist will be



sent a special invitation letting them know they were selected to compete for the Governor's Cup. Serve Illinois Commission will host a press conference announcing GHTA finalist.

- 6/3-6/23 Finalists will prepare in their hometown for the GHTA finals.
- June 23, 2022 Finalist will compete for the Governor's Cup in Decatur, IL.

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