

WELCOME TO

A Night of
CELEBRATION

May 5, 2023

LOUDOUN CARES

*Outstanding
Volunteer Awards*

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the page consists of several overlapping squares in various colors: teal, green, purple, orange, and blue. The text "Outstanding Volunteer Awards" is written in a black script font, with the words "Outstanding" and "Awards" on separate lines and "Volunteer" in between, partially overlapping the colored squares.



*Connecting Those who Serve
with Those in Need*

www.loudouncares.org

www.volunteer.loudouncares.org

Welcome

On behalf of Loudoun Cares and our Board of Directors, welcome to our 2023 Outstanding Volunteer Awards. If we have learned nothing over the last three years it is that community matters. Helping our neighbors to be stronger and finding ways to connect to those around us. Tonight we celebrate community and honor our most important asset, our volunteers. This year we received over 60 nominations and we cannot thank all of them enough for their tireless service to our community. Across the 19 categories, these amazing volunteers will help you to understand what it means to serve. We are thrilled to highlight hundreds of volunteers from the youth of our county to those in post career, public servants and professional mentors. And, I can't leave out my favorite category, the Judy Hines Service of a Lifetime award. Our recipient, Brenda MacEoin has been serving the victims of abuse for over 30 years at LAWS Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Services. We want to thank everyone that made this event possible. Those who nominated, judged, recognized, sponsored, and worked long hours behind the scenes. We could not do this without your support. It is our hope that you will be inspired by these stories of service and find even more ways to give back to Loudoun County. Congratulations again, to all our honorees!

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." — Anne Frank



Valerie Pisierra
Executive Director



LC Board of Directors

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Remi Bernard, Josh Swirchak

Event Program

- OPENING REMARKS -

Tony Howard

Master of Ceremonies

- WELCOME -

Ronni Allen Ward

Chair, Loudoun Cares BOD

- DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER -

Chair Phyllis Randall

Chair At-Large

Loudoun County Board of Supervisors

- PRESENTATION OF AWARDS -

Executive Choice

Debra Craig

Director, Loudoun Cares BOD

Gabriella Miller Youth Volunteer

Monti Mercer

Immediate Past Chair, Loudoun Cares

Ellyn Miller

Smashing Walnuts

Service of a Lifetime

Katie Schneider

Director, Loudoun Cares BOD

- CLOSING REMARKS -

Distinguished Speaker

CHAIR PHYLLIS RANDALL

Phyllis J. Randall was elected Chair At-Large of the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors in November 2015 and reelected in November 2019. Her election was historic as she became the first person of color in Virginia's history to be an elected chair of a county Board.

As Loudoun's Chair At-Large, she represents Loudoun on various regional, state, and national bodies including, Chair of the full Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) and Chair of the NVTA Governance and Personnel Committee. She also currently serves as a member of the National Association of Counties (NACo) Health and Human Resources Committee and founding member of the (NACo) Economic Mobility Leadership Network, a member of the Virginia Association of Counties Health and Human Resources sub-committee and a member of The Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments (COG) Board of Directors, Human Services and Public Safety Policy Committee, Regional Forward Coalition, and DC Statehood sub-committee. Chair Randall also serves on the Board of Supervisors' Finance/Government Operations and Economic Development Committee and the Transportation and Land Use Committee.

In June of 2018, Chair Randall was selected as one of only twenty-five women to be included in the 2019 class of Governing Magazine's Women in Government Leadership Program. In addition, in 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021, the citizens of Loudoun County voted Chair Randall Favorite Public Official, an honor which she is most humbled by and proud of. From 2009-2011, Chair Randall served as Chair of Virginia's Fair Housing Board. From 2014 to June of 2018, she served as Chair of Virginia's State Board of Corrections.

(see official bio at:

<https://www.loudoun.gov/2223/Chair-Phyllis-J-Randall>

Master of Ceremonies

ANTHONY J. "TONY" HOWARD

A 24-year Chamber Executive, Tony Howard began his tenure as the Chief Executive of Loudoun's premier business advocacy organization on August 1, 2006. Before that, he worked for seven years at the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, where he last served as Chief Operating Officer and Vice President of Membership and Communications.

Howard is a Certified Chamber Executive (CCE), the premier professional certification for Chamber of Commerce Executives. He also is a graduate of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Institute for Organizational Management (IOM). In 2021, Howard was appointed to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Committee of 100, an exclusive group of the nation's top 100 Chamber of Commerce leaders.

Howard was named the 2015 Virginia Chamber of Executive of the Year by the Virginia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (VACCE). He also served as President of the VACCE Board from 2012-2013. In 2017, the Community Foundation for Loudoun named him "Champion of Loudoun's Nonprofit Sector." Howard serves on several nonprofit and advisory boards, including the Loudoun Economic Development Authority, Loudoun First Responders Foundation, the Loudoun CEO Cabinet and Loudoun Economic Development Advisory Commission.

From 1996-99, Howard served as chief spokesman for Congressman Michael Forbes, where he handled all media relations, working with major news outlets in New York City, Washington, D.C., and Long Island.

A graduate of the State University of New York, Howard is an award-winning journalist, having worked as a reporter and editor for newspapers in the Hudson Valley and Long Island. Howard's journalism career earned him awards for in-depth reporting, feature writing and sports coverage from the New York Press Association.

Special Thanks

A Very Large THANK YOU to...

Our nominators who took the time to recognize
the outstanding work of our community
volunteers.

.....

Our judges who donated their time and energy to
review over 60 nominations.

.....

Our amazing Special Events Committee

.....

The talented Emily Long - National Anthem

.....

Our sponsors who support this event and believe
in the power of volunteering.

.....

Our guests for supporting this year's event.

**Without all of your time and efforts this
event would not be possible.**

Chairperson Recognition

Harriet "Doode" Summers



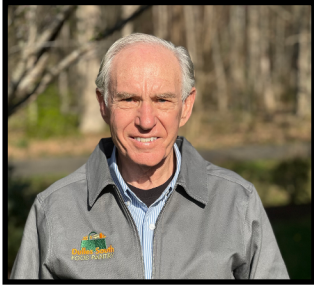
Throughout her career, Harriet has worked closely with youth at risk. Making a positive impact on young teens is her greatest passion. Unexpectedly, Harriet became ill and required a kidney transplant. Thankfully, her sister was a match. When she asked how she could repay her

sister Edith's generosity, Edith said "I want you to pay it forward and save someone else's life." From that mandate, Harriet started the Young Kings Movement in November of 2020 with a mandate to mentor and help empower young men ages 13-18. Young Kings provides a safe place for these young men to come and be themselves. Doode loves to volunteer and has given many hours to Salvation Army and Loudoun Hunger Relief. In addition, she is a Big Sister. She is also currently a certified Foster Parent and Adoptive Parent. Learn more here:

<https://ykm-loudoun.org/>

District Recognition

Chuck Glass | Dulles



Chuck has volunteered as a driver for Dulles South Food Pantry since 2018. He is currently responsible for a bi-weekly pickup from Walmart, which has proven to be an intricate and physical stop – as evidenced by the training the Executive Director got when Chuck was away one week. In 2022 Chuck's impact included over 155 hours of service, picking up 60,000 lbs of food from Walmart alone, not including the other stores on his route. The food he picked up equaled \$118K worth of

food, saved from the trash and given to some of the 2,019 DSFP clients. Chuck has also worked with Backpack buddies and makes himself available for anything else that is needed. Chuck never missing a beat during COVID working extra shifts. Chuck is well loved by all and his impact is noticeable to all at DSFP.

For more information about Dulles South Food Pantry:

https://volunteer.loudouncares.org/agency/detail/?agency_id=109250

Ashburn Senior Center



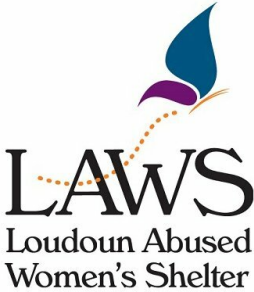
Ashburn Senior Center volunteers are essential to the facility's operations, and with over 200 volunteers, they are the backbone of daily programs and services provided to older adults in the Ashburn area. During 2022, volunteers provided 16,785 hours of vital services in the following areas: home delivery meals, onsite lunch service, front desk

assistance, wellness and fitness instruction, and educational and social program instruction. Ashburn Senior Center volunteers not only offer their time, but also share their knowledge and skills on the senior center's Advisory Board, arts and crafts lessons, and many more programs, contributing to the County's total 4,050 programs and activities held in 2022. Senior Center volunteers represent the best model of customer service to the community and make a positive impact on the lives of Ashburn's aging population. It is an honor to nominate the Ashburn Senior Center Volunteers for their outstanding dedication and commitment to our community. For more information about serving seniors near you:

https://volunteer.loudouncares.org/agency/detail/?agency_id=68032

District Recognition

Didem Maurice | Ashburn



Didem has volunteered with LAWS, at the Resourceful Woman, for over 15 years – serving over 200 hours in the last year. For a time, Didem served as an assistant manager at the store, but even after leaving the position has still volunteered faithfully, including bringing her mom along to volunteer occasionally. Thanks to her experience and dedication, the staff are able to step away and trust that work at the store will progress as normal. Her energy is contagious and inspires everyone to meet her enthusiasm.

Patti Painton | Ashburn



Patti has been one of the longest serving volunteers at LAWS, serving in multiple areas as part of the administrative team. Patti serves through use of her administrative skills to assist in answering phones, greeting clients and organizing donations as well as client referrals. She also serves the legal services team so they can focus on ensuring quality of legal care, by managing administrative and organizational tasks. Patti's knack for seeing the crucial tasks that can easily be overlooked is an asset to all – she ensures there are snacks for the kids, water for clients, mail getting to the right staff member and the even organizing donations making them easily accessible for staff when needed.

For more information about LAWS:

https://volunteer.loudouncares.org/agency/detail/?agency_id=58176

District Recognition

Ann Doss | Leesburg



Ann is a U.S. Army veteran who is the Vice Commander for Leesburg's American Legion Post 34, where she is in charge of fundraising for assistance to U.S. military veterans in Leesburg and Loudoun County. She has had a distinguished professional career. Her ability to organize the post members to help veterans in need is always impressive and inspirational. She has shone a light on the often underemphasized needs of female veterans.

Don't see your nonprofit on the volunteer center?
Reach out through the website to learn more:

volunteer.loudouncares.org



Executive's Choice

Una Giachinta | Executive Recognition



Una Giachinta came to the United States from Ireland 1982. She earned a BSW at Marist College & an MSW at Fordham University. Una worked as a social worker in New York and moved to NOVA in 1991. Una has been involved with Loudoun Cares for many years. First as an employee, then as a community partner with Catholic Charities, and most recently

as an irreplaceable volunteer during COVID on the Loudoun Cares ConnectLine. Her experience, dedication, and compassion was a blessing during a time when we had up to 80 families waiting for help. She volunteered endless hours to help us answer the calls. Una's volunteering doesn't stop with Loudoun Cares. She also volunteers with St. Theresa's Outreach Program and partners with McLean Bible to gather furniture for families in need.

As a wife and mother of 4 her days are already filled, however, helping the less fortunate is her passion. She sees herself as the link between those who have and want to help but can't and those who are in need. Una lives by "to those who have much, much is expected". She feels very blessed to be able to do this work. Una does so much for so many and we are so thankful she is part of our community.

Award Recipients

ADULT

Amy Ulland

ADULT PUBLIC

SAFETY TEAM

**Loudoun County
Sheriff's Office
Auxiliary**

ADULT VOLUNTEER TEAM

**The Resourceful
Woman - LAWS**

SENIOR VOLUNTEER TEAM

**John and Robin
Peterson**

SENIOR

Cynthia Colbert

TEAM (ALL AGES)

**Travelers Aid -
Dulles Airport**

CORPORATE TEAM

**You've Got Maids -
NOVA**

COMMUNITY/CIVIC

**The Loudoun County
Social Collective**

VOLUNTEER PROJECT

Park View

Redo Crew

VETERAN

Gloria Martin

PROJECT LEADER

Rich Ruckman

YOUTH TEAM

**Ashburn Youth
Men's Service League**

**Claude Moore
Community Builders**

Award Recipients

GABRIELLA MILLER YOUTH AWARD

Mahsa Riar

JUDY HINES SERVICE OF A LIFETIME

Brenda MacEoin



Outstanding **Adult** Volunteer **Amy Ulland**

Amy volunteers with Loudoun Wildlife and is instrumental in all its efforts to test, maintain or improve the waterways of Loudoun. Not only does Amy help lead the Stream Monitoring Program, she has helped to grow its reach by partnering with the Izaak Walton League Salt Watch Program, including recruiting and training volunteers. Through this crucial work, Amy and her team were able to uncover high levels of E.Coli bacteria in a stream near Lucketts. In 2022 Amy worked to implement and execute a grant to secure clean drinking water for the Lucketts community dependent on the wells that stream fed. Amy's team was responsible to collect and analyze samples, educate the local community about the water concerns and provide well treatment and maintenance. Giving over 1,200 hours toward the stream monitoring program, Amy has shown herself to be passionate about the health and well-being of all Loudoun residents and beyond by caring for our waterways.

For more information about Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy:
https://volunteer.loudouncares.org/agency/detail/?agency_id=57409

Outstanding **Adult Public Safety Team** Volunteer

Loudoun County Sheriff's Office Auxiliary



Have you run a race, attended a religious service requiring traffic assistance or been through a sobriety checkpoint in Loudoun County in the last year? If so, it's guaranteed that you have seen this group in action. The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office Auxiliary helps to fill in the gaps, taking on some of the responsibilities requested of the Sheriff's office that don't require sworn law enforcement officers. This 13 person team responds to pre-planned events, but also work emergency call out incidents and serve regardless of time of day, weather or other personal safety. The LCSO not only saves money used to serve the county in other ways, they save the officers time to be able to respond to situations where they are most needed.

Interested in learning how you could become part of this unit?

For more information about Loudoun Sheriff's Office Auxiliary:

<https://www.loudoun.gov/4359/Auxiliary-Unit>

Outstanding **Adult Team** Volunteers **The Resourceful Woman**



With most of the volunteer team having served for 20 + years, the Resourceful Woman Thrift Store is clearly a passion project for these folks. The team, consisting of 35 adults, has volunteered over 3,000 hours to manage and run the store, an extension program of LAWS. Thanks to their efforts to handle donation intake, sort items, serve customers and keep the store looking organized, clean and inviting, this past fiscal year was phenomenal. Each of these team members operate with grace and compassion and a drive to serve the community, continuing to make The Resourceful Woman a thrift store destination in Loudoun.

For more information about LAWS:

https://volunteer.loudouncares.org/agency/detail/?agency_id=58176



Outstanding **Senior** Volunteer **Cynthia Colbert**

Cynthia has proven herself to be an invaluable member of the Loudoun Hunger Relief Team. A real “Multi-tool” kind of volunteer, she serves three days a week and in multiple capacities. Whether it’s distributing emergency food at the Sterling Community Center Mobile Market, working to engage guests at the LHR front desk or putting in hours in the stock room, organizing product, packing bags and disposing of produce past it’s prime – Cynthia is up for the challenge. Cynthia has also been instrumental in streamlining the Mobile Market pick up process, making food distribution easier for both the client and volunteer team. A volunteer with LHR since 2018, she has served in numerous roles and has found ways to utilize her skills and expertise to improve operations. “Cynthia is consistent, reliable, hardworking and committed. Her unique ability to balance a friendly, open demeanor with a no-nonsense work ethic makes her a leader amongst our volunteers.”

For more informationn about Loudoun Hunger Relief :

https://volunteer.loudouncares.org/agency/detail/?agency_id=34546



Outstanding **Senior Team** Volunteers **John and Robin Peterson**

You know you are making an impact when regular customers can recognize when you are on vacation! John and Robin volunteer two times each week at the Habitat ReStore where they price donated items, then clean and display them for sale. Thanks to the efforts of this powerhouse team Loudoun Habitat was able to help 22 individuals in 2022. The Habitat ReStore sells donated goods to help fund the projects taken on by Loudoun Habitat for Humanity. Profits from sales that John & Robin have been instrumental in, have been used to purchase land, fund construction on various sites and other affiliate operations. Thanks to their efforts and the efforts of Habitat for Humanity volunteers like them, Loudoun HH has helped provide for over 300 families.

For more information about Habitat for Humanity ReStore:
https://volunteer.loudouncares.org/agency/detail/?agency_id=32253

Outstanding Team Volunteers Travelers Aid - Dulles Airport



Making your way around Dulles International Airport can be a challenge on a good day – now, throw in the fact that your luggage got lost or someone from your group got sick on a flight and was not able to travel further. Most of us, if honest, would say we don't know where to start and that help from the airlines was limited at best. Bridging the gap between the need and the resource is what Travelers Aid: Dulles does on a daily basis. This group helps you track down a friend, assist those wandering in search of terminal transport or lost luggage and offer general support for the thousands of individuals who make their way through Dulles daily. Staffed 100% by volunteers, this team ranges in age from 16-93 years of age and can be found at any information desk or podium scattered throughout the airport 7 days a week from 5AM-9PM. In 2022 alone the 275 volunteers of Travelers Aid assisted over 1 million passengers and visitors and logged over 30,000 hours of service. "The one thing our team of volunteers have in common here at Dulles is heart. They are compassionate and take time to listen and assist each person they encounter and are up for the task of helping to the best of their ability." Have a passion for helping and love talking travel? Travelers Aid may be the place for you: For more information about Travelers Aid:

https://volunteer.loudouncares.org/agency/detail/?agency_id=32371

Outstanding Corporate Team Volunteers **You've Got Maids NOVA**



The team at You've Got Maids: NOVA understand how important it is for an employee to have an opportunity to serve with their colleagues. The benefits that arise out of common service encourage the employees and bolster a sense of unity among staff and allow employees to feel a part of the community in which they work. The YGM crew stays busy throughout the year, with three days of service as well as hosting multiple in-kind drives. In 2022, YGM served with Loudoun Hunger Relief, A Farm Less Ordinary and INMED and hosted 5 in-kind collection drives. These volunteers worked together to sort food, clean fields and harvest produce and putting their trade skills to use helping with organizational projects. The Farm Less Ordinary leadership had this to say about the help they received from YGM; "Our employees enjoyed working alongside Natasha's employees who showed our employees how to approach work with enthusiasm, stamina, and effort." The staff at YGM collected food, books, school supplies, toothbrush & toothpaste and even shoes for various nonprofits. This staff showed how, if you get creative, even a person working full-time can find ways to volunteer.

Have you been searching for a way that you can volunteer with your coworkers? For more information about Corporate volunteering:

<https://www.loudouncares.org/volunteer-business/>

Outstanding Community/Civic Org Volunteers Loudoun County Social Collective



The business world understands the importance of relationship, building a brand and getting name recognition among consumers – which is why so many become part of networking groups like the Loudoun County Social Collectives. Community and Civic organizations have always had an aspect of community building while conducting community outreach, but few have done it as well or built as quickly as the Social Collectives. What started as a networking opportunity, quickly became a way to network for good! Not only are Lisa and her team bolstering the life of small business in Loudoun & surrounding counties, but they have truly thrown their support behind the nonprofit sector as well. This year, the Christmas Tea raised \$60,000 to donate to ECHO and Tree of Life, whose efforts work to ensure ALL residents of Loudoun are supported through job skills training, clothing and food.

To learn more about these two nonprofits and other organizations who utilize the platform:

<https://volunteer.loudouncares.org>

Outstanding Volunteer Project Volunteers Park View Redo Crew



The Park View Redo Crew is a perfect example of a group of residents looking around their community, seeing a need and deciding to take action to meet that need. This team of residents from Sterling Park saw the needs of teachers and students going unmet and have stepped up to meet the needs any way they can. This group has taken volunteering to a different level by seeking to be change agents in the local government as well - petitioning on behalf of the Sterling Park community for improvements to school and community. This group embodies multi-faceted volunteering.

Do you have volunteer hours to log for agencies that are not currently found on the volunteer center? Create a personal profile: <https://volunteer.loudouncares.org>



Outstanding **Volunteer** **Project Leader** Volunteers **Rich Ruckman**

When Habitat for Humanity needed help with a client's home in Leesburg, to bring it up to code, they reached out immediately to VP of HITT Contracting, Rich Ruckman. Rich not only said HITT would help, but he took on the project management - coordinating multiple teams of contractors to complete the project. Under Rich's supervision, the home received a sured up foundation, new HVAC, completely new wiring and plumbing, replaced drywall, painted and installed a brand new bathroom. This family can now live in safety without "stress, fear or worry for the future" because of Rich and his team. Rich also sits on numerous committees and is Vice Chair of the Board for LHFH, as well as working to secure donations of building materials and labor on three major Habitat projects.

Do you like to build? For more information about Habitat for Humanity :

https://volunteer.loudouncares.org/agency/detail/?agency_id=32253



Outstanding **Veteran** Volunteer **Gloria Martin**

Gloria is an avid and cheerful volunteer for Loudoun Literacy. Teaching the lowest level English Language Learner course, she is energized by helping those at risk of being marginalized to find their footing as they learn a new language. Gloria is an asset by helping new volunteers find their way, showing excitement over the program by attending professional development trainings and serves in a programmatic and administrative capacity. Recently Gloria reorganized the entire filing system for Loudoun Literacy, enabling the new administrator to navigate easily through information. She is a warm and inviting presence in the office and her positive attitude is contagious.

Do you love to get lost in a good book & want others to join you in the story? For more information about Loudoun Literacy Council:

https://volunteer.loudouncares.org/agency/detail/?agency_id=35163

Outstanding Youth Team Volunteers Claude Moore Community Builders



The Claude Moore Community Builders are a busy bunch of students. With their program including specific “internship” aspects with various nonprofits, they also volunteer at special events held throughout the county. From staffing the All Ages Read Together Halloween Hoedown, providing 197 volunteer hours at Blossom & Bloom Thrift store, Creating a signup genius process & updating the Loudoun Cares volunteer profile for INMED, physical labor at the Hal & Berni Hanson Regional Park, working the Claude Moore Recreation and Community Center Princess Party, and even volunteering to help with Loudoun Cares Art Auction, these students are getting a taste of life in the nonprofit world.

Learn more about CMCB:

<https://www.loudounyouth.org/programs/claude-moore-community-builders/>

Outstanding Youth Team Volunteers Ashburn Youth Men's Service League



The Ashburn Youth Men's League has partnered with All Ages Read Together for the last three years. The team provides preschool for communities in need, volunteers with summer programs, stuffed 250 resource bags of school supplies, collects gently used books and even created a fishing game to be used in classrooms to help practice number recognition. The Youth Men's Service League is made up of teams of high school boys and their mother's serving together to improve the lives of others in their community.

Form more information about Ashburn Youth Men's service League:

<https://chapters.ymsl.org/chapter/ashburn/>

Save the Date

October 14, 2023

Live Art Auction





Gabriella Miller

Gabriella Miller was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor at 9 years old. Gabriella was named the 2012 Outstanding Volunteer of the Year for her efforts in raising more than \$275,000 for the Make a Wish Foundation.

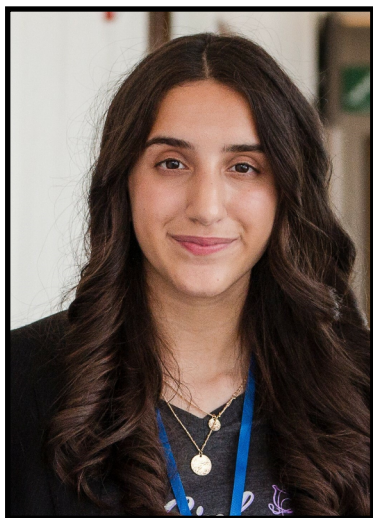
Realizing how little awareness and funding there was for childhood cancer and particularly childhood brain cancer, Gabriella quickly became a global advocate for children with cancer and started the Smashing Walnuts Foundation.

Gabriella was only 10 years old when she passed away in 2013. Her family now continues her mission of awareness. Smashing Walnuts is Gabriella's legacy, founded to give kids like her a fighting chance.



"You may have a bad day today, but there's always a bright shining star to look forward to tomorrow."

~ Gabriella



GABRIELLA MILLER YOUTH AWARD

Mahsa Riar

Mahsa has worked closely with Loudoun Coalition of Women and Girls, developing and managing the Girl emPower Summit, a leadership development event hosted by girls, for girls. This high school sophomore volunteers hundreds of hours in planning this event annually, coordinating all logistics, recruiting volunteers and speakers, and finding sponsorships for the event. Under Mahsa's leadership the event has grown to draw girls from every district in Loudoun, but also has expanded to surrounding counties. Mahsa's drive is not limited to her work with LCWG, she is a highly decorated student and the founder of Create for a Cause and Limitless Limb, a company that designs 3D assistive devices for children who have suffered limb loss.

Never heard of the Loudoun Coalition of Women and Girls? Learn about them here:

https://volunteer.loudouncares.org/agency/detail/?agency_id=121673

SERVICE OF A LIFETIME AWARD

Brenda MacEoin



Brenda is currently the Vice Chair for LAWS, but she has also been an active volunteer with Loudoun Hunger Relief, Dulles Area Association of Realtors and Keep Loudoun Beautiful Roadside Project. For the past 15 years Brenda has organized a food drive for Loudoun Hunger Relief. In 1993 she began her work with LAWS as an advocate, leading to time served on the board, serving as Chair twice. Brenda has been helping to keep our roadways clean since 1992 and has served in numerous capacities in her work with the Area Association of Realtors. In 2022 Brenda helped to raise enough funds for LAWS to provide 30 days of shelter to 11 families fleeing violence. She attends Chamber meetings to help educate the business community about LAWS, she raised over 70,000 through the Give Choose event in 2022 and she is always looking for ways to educate and inform. Brenda's personal motto is "Look for a need, then lend a helping hand." It is obviously a motto that directs her life.

2023 Nominations

Alex Leoni

Alex Plott

Amy Ulland

Ashburn Youth Men's
Service League

Bill Brooks

Brenda MacEoin

Brightview Landscape
Services

Carol Kearney

Chuck Glass

Claude Moore
Community Builders

Cynthia Colbert

Darrell Hill

Dave Hunt

Dean Restivo

Debbie Hus

Diane Rice

Didem Maurice

Dominion High School
Honor Society

Erika Cuevas

Erin Adams

Gazze Destek Derneği
(GDD)

Green and Beyond

HITT Contracting

HSLC Animal Care Team

Irene's Dance Studio

Janelia Charity Team

Jaya Tawney

Joanne Canellos

Knutson Companies

2023 Nominations

Lee D. Stone

Lisa Adams

Lisa Startzman

Liz Campbell

Loudoun County Sheriff's
Office Auxiliary Unit

Loudoun Social Collective

Lynne Cook

Mahsa Riar

Marianne Ford

Marty Marks

Matthew Robinson

Meg Bobinski

NEST4US

Northwest Federal Credit
Union

Park View Redo Crew

Patti Painton

Pramod Grama

Rich Ruckman

Ruby and Allen Nissen

Stephen Browning

The NOVA Diaper Bank
(Operated by A Hand
Up-NOVA, Inc.)

The Petersons

The Resourceful Woman

Tom Watson

Travelers Aid Dulles
Airport

You've Got Maids NOVA

Panel of Judges

CAROL A. BARBE

Carol Barbe is President & CEO of Backflow Technology, LLC, a family owned and operated company, and the premier leader in backflow prevention and cross connection control. Carol serves in a leadership role on the Board of Directors for Loudoun Hunger Relief and the Tigerlily Foundation. She also serves on the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and as an (former Vice Chair of Loudoun Cares) and Council Member for the American Red Cross-Loudoun. Carol has over thirty years experience in the private sector specializing in business management, corporate and criminal law, human resources and commercial property management. Carol is committed to serving those in the communities in which she lives. She is passionate about giving back, volunteering countless hours and making a positive difference. Carol has lived in Loudoun since 1984 and resides in Ashburn with her husband Phil and son Philip. We thank Carol for her company's generous sponsorship of

JOYCE A. L. WARD

Joyce Ward was born and raised in the small town of Freeman, Virginia. She received her B. S. in Business Administration from Morgan State University and married her husband, William "Kip" Ward who was commissioned into the United States Army on their graduation day. Joyce is an accomplished professional and a distinguished and highly respected volunteer in her own right. She has served on over 30 boards/organizations including a wide variety of military organizations, LINKS Incorporated, Girl Scouts of America-North Atlantic Region, Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC), MLK Scholarship Foundation, and many more. Joyce has a strong affinity for the needs of women and children working all over the world assisting with programs in orphanages, women's clinics, HIV/AIDS clinics, and schools. She has realized that the challenges are many but the opportunities can be greater. Joyce has received numerous awards in recognition of her volunteer services from local communities, local and national organizations, the Department of Defense, Presidents of the United States and Leaders of foreign countries. However, she says that the most heartwarming award is the reward of seeing our children happy, healthy and succeeding in life – all because they were given an opportunity.

Panel of Judges

WENDY WALTERS-DEAN

Wendy Walters-Dean has been an active community volunteer for more than 20 years. She was awarded an MPA from Troy State University and a Bachelor's in Marketing from Florida State University. Wendy has held positions as President- European PTA, President - The Air Force Officers' Spouses' Club of Washington DC, Convention Election Chair - National PTA, Publicity Chair - Ramstein Officers' Spouses Club Bazaar, Parliamentarian – Americans Working Around the Globe (AWAG), and has also served on the Department of Defense Education Activity-Europe Area Advisory Council. Currently Wendy is an executive board member on the National Geospatial Agency Family Access Board (NGA FAB). She has received numerous awards and certificates, including: National PTA President's Exceptional Leadership Award, National PTA President Distinguished Service Award, European PTA Distinguished Service Award and The United States President's Call to Service Award. She is married to Lt. Col. (R) Dwight Dean, they have three children: Dwight Jr., Danielle and Douglas.

NICOLE ACOSTA

As the Director of Grants and Nonprofit Programs of the Community Foundation for Loudoun and Northern Fauquier Counties, Nicole Acosta manages the Community Foundation's grant making processes, implements and facilitates nonprofit programs and capacity-building trainings, and oversees the organization's communications strategies. Nicole has extensive experience in the local nonprofit and human services sector, from providing therapy to child victims of domestic and sexual violence, to serving as executive director of Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter for five years. She served on the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance's Public Policy Committee, chaired the Northern Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Task Force for three years, and chaired the Loudoun Human Services Network's Advocacy Committee for two years. She currently serves on the Loudoun County Family Services Advisory Board and the Loudoun County Census 2020 Complete Count Committee. Nicole is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Panel of Judges

RONNI ALLEN WARD

Ronni Allen Ward is President of Forward Incorporated, a women-owned business with the mission of sharing collective insights, experience, and breadth of knowledge to move clients forward, typically through business development and strategic marketing activities. Ronni has spent her career affirming her belief that if you apply business principles to government agencies and non-profit organizations, you can achieve business results. She has worked for and with the DC area's large government services firms, providing marketing, management, and information technology consulting services to a diverse array of public sector and commercial clients. Ronni moved to Loudoun County with her late husband in 2001 just after the birth of their daughter. Her volunteerism in the County has been closely tied to her daughter's childhood activities; she has worked with the March of Dimes, served in several PTA positions, directed a Kids with Purpose program, and even led a Brownie Troop. Ronni holds an M.B.A. in Marketing from the George Washington University and a B.S. in Business Administration from the University at Albany. Ronni is the current Chair of the Loudoun Cares Board of Directors.





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- Provides rent and utility assistance, food, clothing, job resources, and more
- COVID19 Emergency Relief Fund & Helpline
 - Partnered with local charities to help distribute emergency funds
 - Since April 2020 - distributed 1.74M in rental assistance to keep 1020+ families in their homes
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Online Volunteer Center

volunteer.loudouncares.org



- Connected 1,850 new volunteers to nonprofits in 2022
- 262 registered nonprofits & 12,500+ registered volunteers
- Find ways for employees to give back to the community
- Recognizes volunteers at annual Outstanding Volunteer Awards
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