OFBCI News
Where service and volunteerism happen!
Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives
Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor
James F. Huston, Executive Director

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A call to serve: Join the FFA Rally to Fight Hunger

by Stefonie Sebastian
Commissioner, Indiana Commission on Community Service and Volunteerism (ICCSV)

It is my privilege to write to you about a unique volunteer opportunity for Hoosiers to help 10,000 FFA members, from across the country, as they pack a million meals at the 2012 National FFA Convention in October. As I mentioned at our last ICCSV meeting, 500,000 meals will stay in Indiana and 500,000 will be sent to Haiti. This is an amazing feat of love for those in need. In that spirit, it is my hope that readers from faith-based, nonprofit, and volunteer organizations could share information about the event with others and consider taking part themselves. We still need around 200 volunteers to serve in several areas such as registration and line leaders.

The FFA Rally to Fight Hunger will involve approximately 10,000 FFA members from October 24-26 at Lucas Oil Stadium. Members from across the nation will assemble meals to provide relief from hunger and malnutrition. If interested in volunteering, please go to this site: www.ffaindy.com to find more information about shift times and responsibilities. You will have to register on the site.

Community events:

- Oct. 17 - Grant Professionals of America Annual Conference (2012 host city is Indianapolis!)
- Oct. 17 - FEMA Brown Bag Lunch
- Oct. 17 - Strategic Board Building workshop (INRN)
- Oct. 24 - 26 - FFA Rally to Fight Hunger
- Oct. 26 - 7th Annual Nonprofit Tool Kit (IU SPEA)
- Oct. 26 - Beginner's Guide to Grant Writing (Purdue Extension)
- Oct. 29 - Finding Grant Opportunities & Preparing Grant Proposals (INRN)
- November 3 - Poverty 101 Seminar with Tim Streett (LifeBridge Community)
- November 13 - Million Meal Marathon at Lucas Oil Stadium (Kids Against Hunger)
- November 15 - Indiana
Please be sure to go to FFA Rally to Fight Hunger Volunteer Opportunities that are listed. Volunteer opportunities that we are looking to fill include: set-up, registration, line leaders, heavy lifting crew supervisors, and tear down.

Please visit www.FFA.org/Rally for more information or contact us at Rally@ffa.org if you have any questions.

How do we welcome strangers to our city?

A piece by the Immigrant and Refugee Service Corps (An AmeriCorps*State program)

Last year, 694,193 people became naturalized citizens. Immigrant Welcome Center volunteer Laurence Saw, originally from Burma, was one of them in Indianapolis.

After suffering “terrible religious persecution” in his home country, Saw is now enjoying his rights as a U.S. citizen, and looking forward to exercising his right to vote in November. Saw knows, from his own experience and as Manager of Client Services for Catholic Charities’ Refugee Resettlement Program, that many immigrants to Indianapolis need assistance in order to begin their new lives in a new country.

Beginning this month, the estimated 71,000 foreign-born in Marion County will turn to the new Immigrant and Refugee Service Corps (IRSC) to help them access the services they need to thrive.

Click here to read the rest of this story.

Take a break to celebrate extraordinary service with us

As we draw nearer to election day, we are keenly aware that the airwaves are saturated with promises, criticisms, and platitudes in political advertising. However, it’s our pleasure to bring you something different today as we share and celebrate the outstanding recipients of the 2012 Governor’s Service Awards!

We hope you enjoy reading the descriptions below
and we encourage you to click the images to see larger photos and photo captions.

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**Corporate Service Award**

**Subaru of Indiana Automotive (Lafayette)**

The good works of the employees of Subaru of Indiana Automotive Inc., as encouraged by the company’s executive and management teams, are too numerous to list. Employees raise $40,000 annually to support 150 kids through the Lyn Treece Boys and Girls Club. They support teams for nearly a dozen annual charity walks, raising tens of thousands of dollars for medical research, hunger initiatives and more along the way. In 2012, Subaru team members partnered with other organizations to fund and build the 1,500-square-foot Safe Haven Home, an emergency shelter for families displaced by disaster. This December, employees will once again participate in Holiday of Hope to grant more than 1,000 Lafayette children their holiday wishes.

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**Faith-Based Volunteer Award**

**Rev. Eugene Potter (Indianapolis)**

As assistant pastor at Mt. Zion Apostolic Church, Eugene Potter has led collaborations with numerous local organizations to serve criminal offenders from the time of their incarceration to their return to civilian life. Potter’s focus is on long-term rehabilitation for his clients. Specifically, he has taught ex-offenders construction-related job skills that not only benefit the clients but the community to which they contribute.

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**Service-Learning Award**

**Dr. Jagdish Khubchandani (Muncie)**

Jagdish Khubchandani, Ph.D., is an assistant professor of Community Health Education at Ball State University, a post he’s held since 2010. The
university selected Khubchandani to serve as an inaugural Faculty Fellow for its Global Health Institute for the 2011-12 academic year. In the role, using his research background and grants secured by his office, Khubchandani began identifying such community needs and issues as preventing domestic violence and engaging his undergraduate students with efforts to meet the needs. His students have combined for some 10,000 hours of community service to date.

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**Youth Volunteer Award**

*Amber Kriech (Carmel)*

Amber Kriech started volunteering almost as soon as she could walk, first collecting shoes for kids in third-world countries through a program at St. Luke’s United Methodist Church. Now in high school (with a 3.8 GPA), her numerous service works include collecting more than 4,000 food items and 2,000 books to benefit the children at the East Tenth United Methodist Church Children and Youth Center, and building a volunteer team of 45 people ages 6 to 80 who give 2,000 volunteer hours supporting homeless children through the Spiritual Life Center, a center she and her team created.

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**Lifetime Volunteer Achievement Award**

*Bob McIntosh (Jeffersonville)*

Friends and colleagues estimate that Bob McIntosh has served nearly 20,000 hours as a volunteer in his 40 years of service. McIntosh has volunteered with the Clark County United Way since 1974. He’s also volunteered as a Jeffersonville Rotary Club member and on numerous boards of directors, including the Clark County Chapter of the American Red Cross, Haven House and 21st Century Scholars of Clark and Floyd Counties. In 2012, after March tornadoes devastated Southeast Indiana, Bob took a leading role in the relief effort, providing 4,000 hours of safety training to volunteers who provide debris removal and other services.
National Service Member Award

Judy Miller
(Greencastle)

A member of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program since 2006, Judy Miller was assigned to local service at the Putnam County Emergency Food Pantry (PCEFP). Her experiences at the pantry motivated Miller to take a more active role, and she has served as PCEFP board president and director of Volunteer Services for the last three years. Under her guidance, PCEFP has provided some 61,000 meals to 440 households, and she has given more than 3,000 volunteer hours at the pantry.

Community of Service Award

Irvington Terrace
(Indianapolis)

Irvington Terrace consists of about 425 homes on the east side of Indianapolis and had for many years battled abandoned storefronts and blighted properties. The neighborhood began its current turnaround in 2005 with the creation of a neighborhood crime watch. One year later, neighborhood block captains with the Green Sheets program began delivering community announcements on sheets of green paper to residents each month. Since 2007, the neighborhood has hosted Clean Up Days in coordination with a local nonprofit organization. Numerous other community projects have followed, with community volunteers contributing some 1,300 hours to neighborhood service each year.

Volunteer Award

Krystal Shirrell
(Brownsburg)

After her grandmother was diagnosed with cancer in 2008, Krystal Shirrell began a life of service. In 2009, she started the VETSupport Project, an effort to sew patriotic lap blankets for servicemen and women undergoing dialysis treatments. Dialysis treatments cause patients' body temperatures to drop, and the blankets help control body
temperature. To grow the program, Krystal engaged a local senior living community, supplying residents with knitting materials so that they could create and donate lap blankets to the cause. VETSupport also has allowed Krystal to engage the younger generation as she worked with middle school students to write grants for funds to purchase additional knitting supplies.