

# VOLUNTEERS wanted

## Giving Back To Volunteers

(NAPSA)—More than 61 million Americans volunteered in 2006, according to a recent study by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. That represents over a quarter of the adult population.

These volunteers provided billions of hours of valuable service to hospitals, after-hour school programs, parks and other institutions.

Now a program honors those who have given back so much to their communities. In fact, last year alone, thousands of volunteers were recognized for their outstanding service through the President's Volunteer Service Awards (PVSA) program.

For example, Richard Salo of Beverly, Mass., recently won the President's Lifetime of Service Award, the highest level of the PVSA, with 18,500 hours of service to his credit. Salo has volunteered at the Addison Gilbert Hospital in Gloucester, Mass., for more than a decade. Known by his colleagues as a dedicated and caring individual, Salo credits his love for his community as his motivation.

### About The Award

The program is administered by the Points of Light Foundation & Volunteer Center National Network, a nonprofit organization. To date, the President's Council has partnered with more than 71 Leadership Organizations and more than 14,000 Certifying Organizations to bestow 522,293 awards on the nation's deserving volunteers.

### Rewarding Volunteers

Volunteers earn the Award by completing a specific number of hours in support of youth achievement, education, parks and open spaces, healthy communities, pub-



**A national award honors Americans who have given back to the community.**

lic safety and emergency response. Organizations can participate and honor their volunteers by registering online to become a Certifying Organization. Certifying Organizations must confirm eligibility and distribute the Award directly to volunteers.

All Award recipients receive a personalized certificate of achievement, a congratulatory letter from the President of the United States and from the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation and an official President's Award pin.

Individuals, families and groups are eligible, and requirements vary by age and category. To learn more about the award, keep track of your volunteer hours, become a Certifying Organization or find a volunteer activity, call (866) 545-5307 or go to [www.presidentialserviceawards.gov](http://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov).

The PVSA is an initiative of the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation in conjunction with the Corporation for National and Community Service and the USA Freedom Corps.