



**First Lady's Youth Volunteer Rising Star Award** This award recognizes the extraordinary contributions of Mississippians 18 years of age or younger serving and inspiring their community through service. These young volunteers demonstrate leadership, commitment to service, and the ability to inspire others of all ages to serve.

**The Marsha Meeks Kelly Award for Lifetime Achievement in Volunteer Service** This award recognizes the outstanding service of an individual who has volunteered for a minimum of 15 years in Mississippi communities. Lifetime Volunteer Achievement Award winners are those rare individuals who recognize a community need and engage in innovative and sustained volunteer service to achieve positive change.

**Volunteer of the Year Award** This award recognizes extraordinary contributions of Mississippians 19 years of age or older serving and inspiring their community through service. The Volunteer of the Year shows exceptional leadership and dedication to addressing community challenges while inspiring others to serve.

**Volunteer Family of the Year Award** This award recognizes outstanding families (two or more related individuals) that volunteer together to create meaningful impact in their communities. The Volunteer Family of the Year awardees are true champions of service and role models for family involvement in their communities.

**Corporate Volunteering Champion Award** This award recognizes private sector corporations and small businesses for implementing employee volunteer programs that have demonstrable community impact and setting community service as a core value and business strategy.

**Service-Learning Champion Award** This award recognizes institutions of learning, including K-12 public and charter schools, community colleges, and universities, that utilize service as a key component of their academic curriculum. Service-Learning Champions go above and beyond to develop the next generation of civic-minded, socially engaged Mississippians.

**Innovation in Volunteerism Award** This award recognizes organizations that not only support or engage volunteers but also truly think outside the box to make volunteerism more accessible, more productive, and more available to their fellow Mississippians.

**Excellence in Disaster Volunteerism Award** This award recognizes organizations, cities, and counties that do an exceptional job of utilizing volunteers to meet the needs of Mississippi communities during all phases of disaster – mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. Awardees exemplify communication, coordination, and collaboration and are a model for disaster volunteerism in Mississippi.

**National Service "Make a Difference" Award** This award recognizes the exemplary achievements of an AmeriCorps member or AmeriCorps Seniors volunteer who is currently serving or has served in the last three years in the state of Mississippi. Awardees go above and beyond the scope of their service requirements and inspire others to serve while creating meaningful impact.

**Veteran "Hero in Service" Award** This award recognizes an individual or group that has designed program(s) or services to meet the needs of military-connected families or individuals. The exemplary service will show respect for the unique challenges of military-connected families and individuals. The awardee demonstrates cross-sector engagement, including significant input from those served.