



# VOLUNTEER LOUISIANA INSIDER

## WELCOME

The first quarter of 2024 has been a busy and exciting one. We celebrated a milestone AmeriCorps Week in conjunction with the AmeriCorps 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, conducted emergency response trainings throughout the state, and announced our 2024 Champions of Service. We encourage all Louisianans to stay involved in getting things done in your community!

~Judd Jeansonne  
Executive Director



The Volunteer Louisiana Commission meetings are where collaboration meets impact!

These gatherings serve as a pivotal moment for Commissioners to connect, share insights, and foster partnerships with AmeriCorps programs statewide. It's a dynamic space where ideas flourish, strategies are refined, and collective learning propels

our mission forward. Let's unite, inspire, and empower each other to create lasting change in our communities!

AmeriCorps programs, Teach for America- Louisiana and the Boys and Girls Club of Acadiana spoke about the incredible impact their AmeriCorps members are having in Louisiana.



## AMERICORPS

Recently, AmeriCorps announced its FY24 support for three National Competitive applicants in the Volunteer Louisiana Commission's portfolio. Grant funding for the three AmeriCorps Louisiana programs totaled \$3,128,000, including awards for:

- City Year Baton Rouge, which received a \$1,700,000 grant to support 71 AmeriCorps members serving to provide full-day education services and social-emotional mentoring to 750 students in Baton Rouge schools
- City Year New Orleans, which received a \$1,200,000 grant to support 48 AmeriCorps members serving to provide full-day education services and social-emotional mentoring for 390 students in New Orleans schools; and,
- Up2Us Sports Coach AmeriCorps program, which received a \$228,000 grant to support 16 AmeriCorps members serving as coach-mentors providing sports-based youth development for 900 economically-disadvantaged young people in New Orleans

AmeriCorps members in these three programs will participate in national service and role-specific training, earn a living allowance, and receive professional development training while serving their program participants and communities in the 2024-25 year. Upon successful completion of their service terms, each of these 135 AmeriCorps members will be eligible for a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award from the National Service Trust totaling a collective \$925,262.

*"We celebrate AmeriCorps' ongoing support of these three National Competitive grant programs. Their AmeriCorps members will continue to serve in unique roles that address unmet needs of program participants and that strengthen Louisiana communities" stated Jacob Brumfield, Volunteer Louisiana's Director of National Service. "We celebrate the members' initiative to 'get things done for America.' We know that these service experiences and professional development opportunities will enrich their career preparation."*

If you or someone you know is interested in serving as an AmeriCorps member, click the button below for more information

[Learn More](#)

## AMERICORPS WEEK 2024

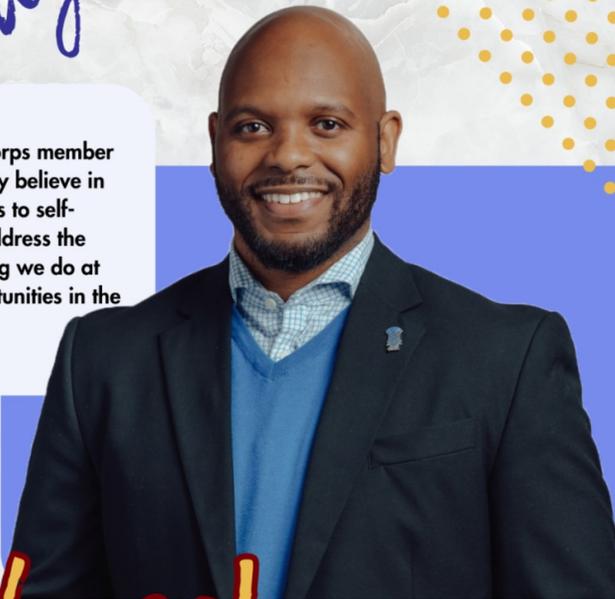
Volunteer Louisiana celebrated National AmeriCorps Week from March 10-16 with a series of engaging activities. We conducted program site visits to observe firsthand the impact of AmeriCorps members in communities. We also hosted several AmeriCorps programs at our quarterly commission meeting to showcase the achievements and contributions of AmeriCorps members.



## IMPACT SPOTLIGHT

# Alumni spotlight

I wanted to serve as an AmeriCorps member through TFA because I genuinely believe in formal education as a means to self-determination. I wanted to address the disconnect between the learning we do at school and all of the STEM opportunities in the working world.



# Rahmel

# FULLER

## VOLUNTEER & DISASTER SERVICES

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CHAMPIONS OF SERVICE 2024

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The annual Champions of Service Awards recognize outstanding volunteers who go above and beyond, selected through a competitive process. Award recipients are chosen from seven geographic regions across the state, along with an outstanding AmeriCorps member and a volunteer group.

This year's selection process was particularly competitive, with Volunteer Louisiana receiving nearly 280 nominations from across the state. The Champions were honored at our annual luncheon on April 15, hosted by the Volunteer Louisiana Commission, staff, and the Lieutenant Governor's Office.

Given the high number of nominations, being chosen as one of the nine winners is a remarkable achievement and a testament to the exceptional work these volunteers are doing.

Watch the video below to learn more about our 2024 Champions of Service.



[Read More](#)

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## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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### **Feeding Louisiana**

Feeding Louisiana, the Louisiana Food Bank Association, supports the collaborative efforts of the state's five regional food banks to reduce hunger and increase the resources needed for our communities to live healthy lives.

Our member food banks serve all 64 parishes and partner with more than 900 community and faith-based organizations to distribute millions of pounds of food throughout the state each year.



[Get Involved](#)

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## Mid City Redevelopment Alliance

MCRA is organizing a community clean-up event at the historic Sweet Olive Cemetery on June 8th, 2024. Volunteers are needed to help with this initiative. The event aims to restore and preserve the cemetery's beauty and historical significance.

[Sign Up](#)

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★ ★ ★ ★ ★

# 2024 Memorial Day Garden of Flags

Hosted by Blue Star Mothers of LA Chapter 1

**REMEMBER AND HONOR**

————— ★ ★ ★ —————

**SATURDAY | 25 | MAY**

**AT 8:30AM**

★ *Louisiana State Capitol* ★  
*900 North Third St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802*

Blue and Gold Star families will march from the levee on North Street to the NEW LA State Capitol.

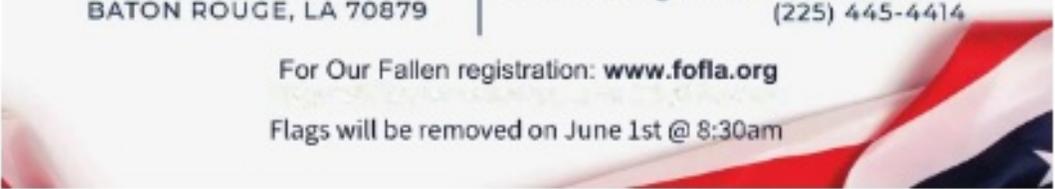
Gold Star families may participate in the ceremony during the reading of the names of our LA Fallen.

PO BOX 86507  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70879

PRESIDENT@BLUESTARMOMS.NET  
(225) 445-4414

For Our Fallen registration: [www.fofla.org](http://www.fofla.org)

Flags will be removed on June 1st @ 8:30am



[Learn More](#)

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## COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT)

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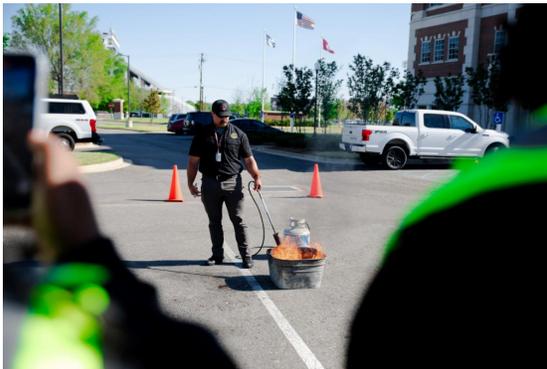
Inquire about Volunteer Louisiana CERT Trainings by emailing  
[volunteerlouisiana@crt.la.gov](mailto:volunteerlouisiana@crt.la.gov)

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### **VCOM Training**

In partnership with the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM), Red Cross, and Ouachita Parish Fire Department, our Disaster Services Team held a training on the campus of University of Louisiana at Monroe to train 160 future

medical school graduates in community emergency response.



## Greenville/Eden Park Community Training

Members of the Greenville/Eden Park Community Group attended a CERT training led by our Disaster Services Specialists. This training covered topics such as basic fire safety & utility controls, disaster preparedness, disaster medical operations, and community resources.





## Louisiana Volunteer Service Awards

Louisiana Volunteer Service Awards are signed by the Lieutenant Governor and provided as a free resource for non-profits and community groups to recognize outstanding volunteer service. [Learn how to request an award.](#)



*Our Commissioners had a great time attending the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank Volunteer Appreciation Event! Thank you to all the volunteers for your hard work and dedication.*

[Visit our Website](#)



Volunteer Louisiana | 701 North 4th Street, Library Loading Dock, Baton Rouge, LA 70802-5345

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