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Q1

Volunteer Name:

Jane Doe

Q2

Volunteer's Address

123 Volunteer Street

Q3

City where Volunteer lives

Volunteer Town

Q4

Zip Code

000000

Q5

Volunteer's Email

jane.doe@volunteer.org

Q6

Volunteer's Phone Number

000-000-0000

Q7

Nominated/Recommended by

Sarah Smith

Q8

Organization or Business (if applicable)

Volunteer Louisiana

Q9

Nominator's Email

sarah@volunteeremail.com

Q10

Nominator's Phone Number

123-456-7890

Q11

Approximate number of hours served annually

50

Q12**Individual Volunteer**Nomination Type (select one)

Q13**Central (Sabine, Vernon, Natchitoches, Winn, Grant, Rapides, La Salle, Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia)**Region (select one)

Q14

Please provide a description of the type(s) of volunteering/service the nominee is engaged in. (100 words max)

Jane Doe has called Louisiana home her entire life. Her passion for service was instilled in her at an early age through volunteering with her parents at church. As an adult, she strives to make her community better by serving with several organizations including Habitat for Humanity, at a local senior center, and as a CERT volunteer. Through her volunteerism has always been outstanding, Jane is a Champion of Service because of her service following the start of the pandemic.

Q15

Describe how the individual/group has demonstrated compassion and dedication, leadership and initiative, or innovation and creativity in addressing community challenges and service others. (500 words max)

Dedicated and creative are two words I, and many others would use to describe Jane. When the first lockdown began following COVID-19, Jane saw the negative impact it had on seniors who were forced deeper into isolation. The senior center Jane volunteers at hosted a weekly bingo before the pandemic and it was attended by a large group of dedicated seniors. The event was an important way for seniors to socialize and was unfortunately brought to an abrupt halt.

Jane knew firsthand that the loss of the event coupled with limitations on family visitors was a huge disappointment to the seniors who used the center. She brought an idea to the senior center leadership to host a safe outdoor bingo night with proper protocols in place to allow Bingo Night to happen in a COVID-19 environment. Jane worked tirelessly to produce an outdoor bingo event by partnering with the senior center, local government, and local businesses. She was driven by her passion for seeing the seniors safely enjoy a normal activity to combat the negative effects of complete isolation.

Deterring isolation for seniors has been a critical need throughout these two years as several waves have made contact unsafe time and time again. Outdoor Bingo has been a terrific way to combat this and continue to serve a vulnerable group. If it wasn't for Jane taking on this initiative the event could not have taken place. The staff of the senior center had been tasked with numerous new pandemic-related duties during this time, therefore Jane's volunteer leadership was critical to executing an important extracurricular for the senior community.

Q16

Please provide additional qualifying information, such as impactful stories, quotes from people served, and other detailed information on why this person deserves the Champions of Service award. (500 words max)

"Jane is a go-getter," said Mayor Smith. "Her projects bring people together, and she somehow finds a way to juggle multiple volunteer projects at one time."

"When I learned of the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown, I was deeply saddened at the idea of not seeing my son and my grandchildren due to travel restrictions. I knew Jane from her previous volunteer roles at the senior center and was delighted to attend the event and reconnect with friends in a safe socially distanced event. Jane's Outdoor Bingo was my way of connecting to others during the pandemic and I appreciate all she has done to lessen the stress and worry during this difficult year." Mrs. Gail Smith, senior center member.

Q17**Facebook**

How did you hear about this award?
