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9th Annual Governor’s Volunteer Service Awards

Six Illinoisans and one business receive Governor’s Volunteer Service Award for service in East Central Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – The Serve Illinois Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service (Commission) is presenting five Illinoisans and one business, for service provided in east central Illinois, with the Governor’s Volunteer Service Award during a special reception at the Old State Capitol.

The award recognizes volunteers and volunteer programs that have made a difference in Illinois and highlights the importance of volunteerism and community service. This event will take place April 18, 2018 at 1 p.m. It is part of the National Volunteer Week festivities and also a signature event of the Illinois Bicentennial Commission.

“Illinois is a state that was truly born, built, and grown with the spirit of volunteerism and community service,” said Governor Bruce Rauner. “The individuals and businesses we’re recognizing have impacted millions of lives. We’re honored to highlight their service.”

“These individuals and businesses embody the true spirit of volunteering and are making a difference in their communities through a variety of activities such as helping the homeless, youth education, and assisting veterans,” said Commission Executive Director Scott McFarland. “We are proud to have them serving in Illinois.”

The Commission received more than 130 nominations in six categories (adult, AmeriCorps, business, senior, Senior Corps, and youth) from the Commission’s five service regions across the state (East Central, Northeast, Northwest, Southern, and West Central). Commissioners reviewed the applications and selected 30 award winners.

The following are the 2018 Governor’s Volunteer Service Award recipients for service provided in east central Illinois. More information about the recipients is on the Serve Illinois website at www.Serve.Illinois.gov.

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East Central Award Recipients

**Adult:** Priyanka Bahel – Naperville  
For service to: Carle Foundation Hospital

**AmeriCorps:** Brian Frapolly – McHenry  
For service to: Illinois Justice Corps/McLean County Law and Justice Center

**Business:** Land of Lincoln Credit Union - Decatur  
For service to: Webster Cantrell Hall and other organizations

**Senior:** Alfred Hampton - Springfield  
For service to: Central Illinois Foodbank

**Senior Corps:** Alice Bray - Decatur  
For service to: Dove’s Children’s Clothing Room

**Youth:** Gage Ford – Springfield  
For service to: Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Illinois Capital Region

The Serve Illinois Commission is a 40-member (25 voting and 15 non-voting), bipartisan board appointed by the Governor and administered by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). Its mission is to improve Illinois communities by enhancing volunteerism and instilling an ethic of service throughout the State.

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