



Knowing Your Big "Why": The Power of Saying Yes

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VOLUNTEER PROGRAM MANAGER

Enabling Legislation

- (a) providing technical assistance to programs which depend upon volunteers;
- (b) initiating community service programs to meet previously unmet needs in Illinois;
- (c) promoting and coordinating efforts to expand and improve the statewide community service network;
- (d) recognizing outstanding community service accomplishments;
- (e) disseminating information to support community service programs and to broaden community service involvement throughout the State;
- (f) implementing federally funded grant programs in Illinois such as the National and Community Service Trust Act, as amended by the Serve America Act;
- (g) taking an active role in the State's emergency management plan to coordinate volunteers for disaster preparedness and response;
- (h) promoting intergenerational initiatives and efforts to promote inclusion among diverse populations; and
- (i) fostering an environment that promotes social innovation throughout the State.

(Source: P.A. 98-692, eff. 7-1-14.)



(20 ILCS 1345/4) (was 20 ILCS 2330/4)

Sec. 4. Operation.

- **The Governor** shall appoint a Director of the Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service who shall serve at the Governor's pleasure and who shall receive such compensation as is determined by the Governor.
- **The Director** shall employ such staff as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act.
- **The Commission**, working in cooperation with State agencies, individuals, local groups, and organizations throughout the State, may undertake programs and activities which further the purposes of this Act, including, but not limited to, the following:

Volunteer Recognition



- Governor's Hometown Awards
- Governor's Volunteer Service Awards
- Office of the Governor Illinois Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service Certificate of Appreciation
- Local Volunteer Service Awards
- Year Recognition Dinners
- Volunteer Spotlights on Social Media Platforms
- Hosting National Days of Service Events



The Galaxy Digital Get Connected platform is designed to help individuals and organizations post opportunities or "get connected" to volunteer opportunities. Essentially, this platform acts as the bridge between the volunteer opportunity and the volunteer.

[Serve Illinois \(galaxydigital.com\)](https://galaxydigital.com)



Knowing Your Big "Why"



Your WHY!

Identify person the person or event that has inspired you to do the work you are currently doing.

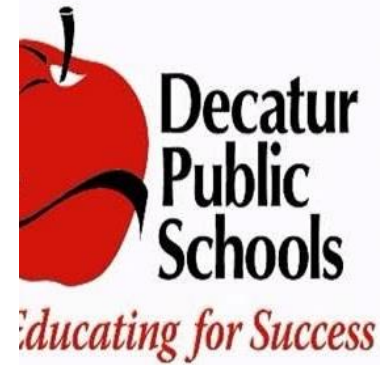


I Said "Yes" to Everything

- Donated to Indonesian Tsunami Relief SIUE Gospel Choir
- Donated to Hurricane Katrina Relief Effort Tom Joyner Foundation SIUE Gospel Choir
- Project Pack 4 Success Over 100 Book bags for East St. Louis
- Tribe of Judah Steppers (15 years of Mentoring Group)
- Project Healthy Start Decatur Boys and Girls Club 10,000 meals
- Decatur Water Challenge 9 Semi Truck – 9 Semi Trucks Donated to Flint. Michigan
- School Supplies and Nursery Water for Rose Bud and Pine Ridge Reservations, South Dakota

Help
is here





The Challenge Starts NOW:
Start collecting water bottles and/or money** at your school, the challenge ends **THIS FRIDAY** morning. Collect from staff, students, parents, community partners, etc.

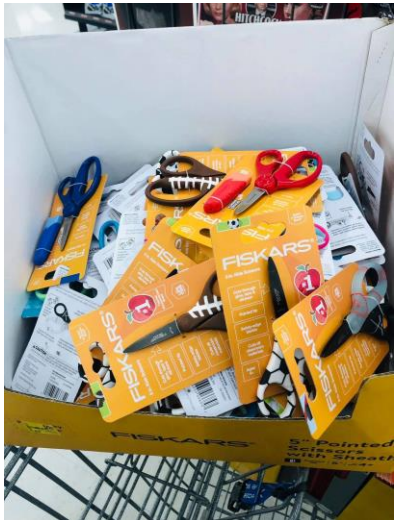
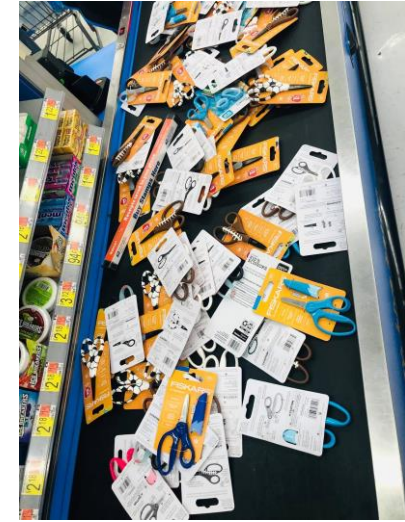
Administrators and Staff, **Decatur Public Schools** wants to help the community of Flint, Michigan during their water crisis ([CLICK HERE](#) to read more). To support this effort, central office challenges each DPS student to donate a water bottle or donate money** to go towards the purchase of water to send to Flint, Michigan. Thank you to **Gateway Community Center** in Decatur, who will deliver our water on our behalf to the city of Flint

SPECIAL THANKS to Kia Softly, Secretary at Hope Academy and Cinamen Potts, Family Liaison Coordinator at Oak Grove whom helped get this great initiative all started!

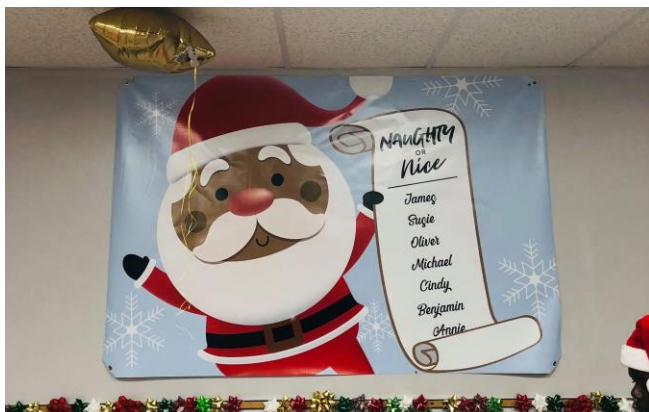


Water for Flint

PS School Challenge









How to Handle Failure

- When projects don't go as planned!

Volunteer Management Strategies



- Create well defined systems and protocols for volunteers.
- Implement volunteer contract that lay out specific duties, roles and responsibilities.
- Log all volunteer/service hours in a system that can capture data.

Volunteer Recruitment – Messaging

- Creating and crafting the right messaging is a vital part of your job.
- Your ability to communicate the right messaging to the community, volunteers, and stakeholder is literally the lifeblood of your organization.
- It is important to have a message that promotes diversity, equity and inclusion.
- It is equally important that messaging be multigenerational.
- Use modern non-technical/overcomplicated language in messaging.
- Seek outside help if necessary
 - Internships
 - Focus Groups
 - Community and Social Groups



Volunteer Engagement Strategies

- Engage your board members and staff with volunteer recruitment
- Host open houses and other community events where volunteers can come out and find out about your local unit of government and the opportunities to serve.
- List volunteer and service opportunities on your website and other social platforms.
- Create community focused selection committee that help recruit and engagement volunteers.



Stay Connected

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ServeIllinois>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ServeIllinois>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/serve.illinois/>
- Website: [Serve Illinois Homepage](#)

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Here to Help

- Serve Illinois is proud to be under the Illinois Department of Human Services.
- The Vision of IDHS is for all people in Illinois to achieve their full potential.
- At Serve Illinois, through a volunteer recognition expansion and a programmatic approach, we help celebrate communities and individuals who incorporate volunteerism and service models into achieving their full potential.

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