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Nicholasville Now designated as presidential service organization

Nicholasville Now announced it has teamed with the White House to become a Certifying Organization for the President's Volunteer Service Award, a national program recognizing Americans who have demonstrated a sustained commitment to volunteer service. Established in 2003, the award was created by President George W. Bush to give presidential recognition to individuals, families and groups who meet requirements for volunteer service, measured by the number of service hours performed during 12 months.

Nicholasville Now is one of thousands of organizations that have joined forces to deliver the award and honor the volunteers who strengthen the nation. As a Certifying Organization for the award, Nicholasville Now is responsible for verifying service hours, nominating potential recipients and delivering the award.

"We are extremely proud to recognize our most outstanding volunteers with the President's Volunteer Service Award," Carola Hartley, Nicholasville Now executive director said. "Nicholasville Now volunteers are role models in our community, donating their time, energy and talent to bring us closer together as neighbors and a nation. The award is our way of thanking these volunteers and inspiring everyone in our community to make volunteering a central part of their lives."

"Even if you've never volunteered before, the President's Volunteer Service Award is within your reach," said Brian Goettl, president of Nicholasville Now Board of Directors. "There are so many ways to contribute, and every volunteer hour makes a difference in improving the quality of life for others. We encourage everyone to get involved and to bring along your family, friends and neighbors. Together, we can strengthen Nicholasville, Jessamine County, Kentucky and America one hour at a time."

The award is issued by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation, a group convened by Bush to help foster and encourage a culture of volunteer service and civic participation among Americans. Chaired by two-time Super Bowl Champion Darrell Green, with former U.S. Senators Bob Dole and John Glenn as honorary co-chairs, the council is composed of leaders in government, media, entertainment, business, education, nonprofit and volunteer service organizations and community volunteering.

For more information about volunteering with Nicholasville Now visit the Web site at www.nicholasvillenow.org or call Carola Hartley at 881-3820.