



PEOPLE FOCUSED

Leon County Volunteer Services works closely with a broad array of community organizations to provide leadership and support for the county's volunteer initiatives. This investment in building relationships is central to Volunteer Services. Volunteer Services offers an annual certificate course in volunteer management, and conducts trainings for local, state and national organizations.

Programs such as Community Organizations Active In Disaster (COAD), a collaboration of more than 100 organizations including business and faith based organizations, serves as an example of how Volunteer Services brings the community together to respond to disasters in a coordinated efficient system, bringing help to those most in need.

Jeri Bush, has served as the director of Volunteer Services for 19 years. Bush has served on numerous boards and committees, including the Red Cross, United Partners for Human Services, Oasis Center for Woman and Girls, Florida Association of Volunteer Centers and the Directors of Volunteers Association. Bush is a nationally recognized trainer in the field of volunteer management and disaster volunteer management.



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PERFORMANCE DRIVEN

RESPONSIVE VOLUNTEERISM & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Through the Division of Volunteer Services, commonly referred to as VolunteerLEON, Leon County is able to leverage the numerous talents and resources of our community's residents for the benefit of a diverse group of organizations and individuals:
 - » Volunteers and interns contributed more than 100,000 hours of time, talent and skill to County Government.
 - » The Library Volunteer Program had more than 20,000 hours of time contributed, representing a 5% increase.
 - » Recruited and coordinated 125 volunteers to simulate "victims" during a full scale disaster exercise that took place at the Tallahassee Airport, allowing partner agencies to test their response to an airline disaster.
 - » Administered and maintained the online virtual Operation Volunteer Placement and full scale Volunteer Reception Center matching system.
 - » Last year, local nonprofits posted thousands of volunteer opportunities on the division's online volunteer matching portal.
 - » Conducted full-scale Operation Unison Tabletop Exercise to prepare the Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) for the 2011 Hurricane Season, with more than 35 organizations participating. The exercise tested COAD's ability to work as a team to establish a cohesive disaster response network for individuals and families requiring help.
- In an effort to promote the acceptance of diversity and develop strategies for non-violent conflict resolution, the division conducted a youth leadership training called "Camp Activate," designed to develop youths' sense of self identity and expand their leadership abilities.



Did You Know

New research from the Mayo Clinic shows that people who volunteer have lower rates of heart disease and live longer.



Setting the Standard in Public Service



Volunteer Generation Fund awarded Leon County a \$25,000 Neighboring Grant - BEST (Build Engage Sustain Transform) Neighborhoods Grant in Florida. The BEST

Neighborhoods Grant is based on neighboring, a model concept of community engagement that uses volunteering as a tool to empower, mobilize and facilitate positive changes within communities.