

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: Chief Executive Office

BOARD AGENDA # *B-3

Urgent

Routine

AGENDA DATE March 31, 2015

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES NO
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES NO

SUBJECT:

Approval to Accept the County Volunteer Program Annual Report for Calendar Year 2014 and Proclaim the Week of April 12, 2015 to April 18, 2015 as Stanislaus County Volunteer Week in Conjunction with National Volunteer Week

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Accept the County Volunteer Program Annual Report for Calendar Year 2014.
2. Proclaim the Week of April 12, 2015 - April 18, 2015 as Stanislaus County Volunteer Week.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Volunteering is one of the greatest forms of civic engagement and we appreciate the volunteers who donate their time without compensation. The County Volunteer Program plays a vital role in the enhancement of public services. The significance of the program is indicated by the fact that County volunteers provide thousands of hours of service each year in various County departments at no cost to the County. Departments hosting volunteer recognition events as part of Stanislaus County Volunteer Week are using existing budget appropriations and/or donations. (Continued on page 2)

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2015-120

On motion of Supervisor Chiesa, Seconded by Supervisor Monteith
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Monteith, De Martini, and Chairman Withrow

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) X Approved as recommended

2) _____ Denied

3) _____ Approved as amended

4) _____ Other:

MOTION:

ATTEST:


CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No.

FISCAL IMPACT: (Continued)

The County resumed administration of the Volunteer Program in January 2011, experiencing a savings of \$74, 391. The cost to administer the 2014 volunteer program was an estimated \$8,225 annually which includes approximately 260 hours of staff time in the Chief Executive Office, subscription to Volunteer Match, and President Pins. The following chart shows a breakdown of the number of volunteer hours by participating departments:

Stanislaus County Volunteer Program 2014 Annual Report January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014		
DEPARTMENT NAME	NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS	NUMBER OF VOLUNTEER HOURS
Animal Services*	146	7,207.25
Area Agency on Aging/Veterans Services	47	3,203.25
Auditor-Controller	1	35.25
Behavioral Health and Recovery Services	86	18,082.91
Chief Executive Office/Office of Emergency Services	2	77
Community Services Agency	1	905.25
Cooperative Extension*	1	423.50
District Attorney	2	348.35
Environmental Resources	4	531.75
Health Services Agency	31	5,936.58
Health Services Agency / Medical Reserves Corp	16	66.10
Law Library	1	42
Library	304	8,359.24
Parks and Recreation*	14	7,175.50
Probation	5	503.50
Public Works	2	169.66
Sheriff Explorers	23	4,992.75
Sheriff STARS	40	8,579
GRAND TOTAL	727	66,638.84

* Animal Services, Cooperative Extension, and Parks and Recreation have one time event hours and volunteers included in the total.

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DISCUSSION:

Volunteers can make all the difference in helping a county improve the local community, whether it's caring for pets awaiting adoption, helping homebound seniors, providing peer support, providing customer service at the information desk, or assisting with seasonal maintenance in county parks. In Stanislaus County, the Board of Supervisors is honoring the efforts of 727 volunteers and several one-time service groups during the year 2014. Local community volunteer members donated 66,638.84 hours of service to the residents.

The Stanislaus County Chief Executive Office is asking the Board of Supervisors to approve the week of April 12, 2015 to April 18, 2015 as National Volunteer Week for all Stanislaus County departments. National Volunteer Week is also the time to celebrate people doing extraordinary things through service. Established in 1974, National Volunteer Week focuses national attention on the impact and power of volunteerism and service as integral aspects of our civic leadership. The week draws the support and endorsement of the President and Congress, Governors, Mayors, and municipal leaders, as well as corporate and community groups across the country. Through programs such as the President's Volunteer Service Award, we recognize volunteers and the tremendous impact they are making year-round on our county's most critical challenges.

We value our volunteers at every level and thank them for the work they perform helping the County delivery quality services. Volunteering has a positive and meaningful impact on the community and is an excellent way for residents to share their expertise and knowledge. We are pleased to honor all the volunteers today and every day.

The Chief Executive Office is responsible for coordinating the overall Volunteer Program with the assistance of Department Volunteer Coordinators, and the Auditor-Controller's Office. Administration of the County's Volunteer Program is decentralized with departmental volunteer programs varying considerably in size, scope, services, complexity, and practice. Departments participate in the program at the discretion of the individual Department Head.

Value of Volunteer Program

Stanislaus County has a long and proud history of volunteer service. Currently, the County's 727 volunteers serve 18 departments that are actively working to meet the needs of various County departments.

Departments with active volunteer programs readily acknowledge that their service to the public would suffer without the time, effort, and special contributions of their volunteers. The use of volunteers allows for the enhancement of services to the community by providing services and completing tasks which departments may not be able to otherwise provide. The use of volunteers is an excellent way to utilize a valuable resource which already exists in the community.

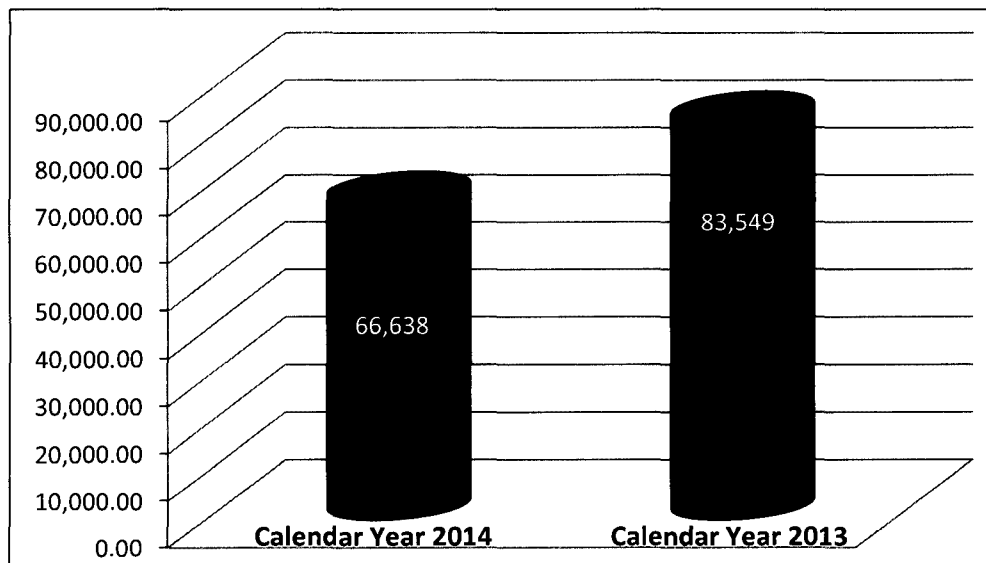
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The Volunteer Program is also an excellent way to connect people with opportunities to serve County Departments and form meaningful partnerships. Through their participation, volunteers can develop and share with members of the community a greater understanding of the functions and services provided by County government and develop an appreciation for the kinds of challenges it faces.

The chart below reflects the comparison of total volunteer hours by calendar year for 2013 and 2014. The County experienced a drop in total volunteer hours of 16,911 from the previous year. With the improved economic climate in our community, many volunteers gained employment opportunities in the County and employment through private industry. Some volunteers were college students that graduated and made their pursuit of a new career their full-time endeavor. The County volunteer opportunities provided a training ground for skill building and to develop potential employment contacts.

**Stanislaus County Volunteer Program
Total Volunteer Hours by Calendar Year**



Department Volunteer Program Achievements for 2014

Animal Services department has a significant pool of volunteers sharing their time and energy in various capacities to care for the many animals at the shelter. Volunteer opportunities range from one-time events to long-term volunteer opportunities.

Health Services Agency volunteers accomplished a variety of tasks during the 2014 year. The Information Desk Volunteers answered 6,711 questions, ran 32 errands, assembled packets, and a variety of office support for the department.

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Parks and Recreation Volunteers provided many hours of general maintenance projects throughout park facilities and hours of trail cleanup at Off Highway Vehicle parks. In addition, Eagle Scout projects included installing park benches, and a barbeque pit as well as general maintenance.

The Sheriff STARS continue to provide additional safety and security support for our community. The STARS volunteers, working hand in hand with the Sheriff's Department, provide a variety of new services and enhance current programs for the betterment of the community. The STARS are the "eyes and ears" for our law enforcement professionals.

Volunteer Opportunities Website

The County's Volunteer website has a link on the County's homepage next to "Job Opportunities" that says "Volunteer Opportunities." This link takes prospective volunteers to the volunteer website page. Features of the volunteer website include, Department Volunteer Coordinators contact information, information about the specific duties a volunteer might experience in a County department, volunteer forms, and program resources such as the Policies and Procedures Manual. Volunteers can readily see volunteer opportunity postings as well as download and print an application form. Additional resources advertising the County's volunteer opportunities include a subscription to VolunteerMatch website for a nominal annual fee of \$75.00.

President's Volunteer Service Awards Program

Stanislaus County is an Official Certifying Organization for the President's Volunteer Service Awards Program. As a Certifying Organization, the County verifies each individual's volunteer hours and distributes the Award to those who meet the award criteria. Established in 2003, this award honors individuals who have demonstrated a sustained commitment to volunteer service over the course of 12 months. The President's Volunteer Service Award is issued by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation on behalf of the President of the United States to recognize the best in the American spirit and to encourage all Americans to improve their communities through volunteer service and civic participation.

Eligibility to receive the President's Volunteer Service Awards includes verifying the applicant's service hours by a registered Certifying Organization, like Stanislaus County. There are four levels of the Award based upon total hours, including; Bronze, Silver, Gold, and lifetime achievement.

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PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE ADULT AWARD CRITERIA

AWARD	AWARD HOURS	VOLUNTEERS
Bronze	100 - 249 Hours	81
Silver	250 - 400 Hours	39
Gold	500 Hours or More	29
Lifetime	4,000 Hours (one-time)	0

POLICY ISSUE:

Recognizing the benefits to County departments provided by our County volunteers addresses the Board's priority of Efficient Delivery of Public Services.

STAFFING IMPACT:

Existing staff from the Chief Executive Office along with the Department Volunteer Coordinators are responsible for the Volunteer Program. There are no additional staffing impacts associated with the Board of Supervisors' acceptance of the County Volunteer Program Annual Report for Calendar Year 2014.

CONTACT PERSON:

Nancy Bronstein, Deputy Executive Officer - 209-525-6333

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

2015-120

Date: March 31, 2015
On motion of Supervisor Chiesa Seconded by Supervisor Monteith
and approved by the following vote,
Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Monteith, De Martini and Chairman Withrow
Noes: Supervisors: None
Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None
Abstaining: Supervisor: None
Item # *B-3

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE STANISLAUS COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO PROCLAIM
THE WEEK OF APRIL 12, 2015 TO APRIL 18, 2015 AS STANISLAUS COUNTY VOLUNTEER
WEEK IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK**

WHEREAS, Stanislaus County is dedicated to the efforts provided by our Volunteers; and,

WHEREAS, the entire community can effect positive change with any volunteer action no matter how big or small; and,

WHEREAS, during this week and month, volunteers will be recognized for their commitment to public service; and,

WHEREAS, Stanislaus County departments have organized activities and displays acknowledging the commitment of our County volunteers to our community; and,

WHEREAS, Stanislaus County Volunteers provide countless hours providing services to enhance the Board of Supervisor's priority of Efficient Delivery of Public Services; and,

WHEREAS, our County's volunteer workforce of approximately 727 is a great treasure; and,

WHEREAS, National Volunteer Week begins the early celebration of our County volunteers; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors does hereby unanimously proclaim the week of April 12, 2015 to April 18, 2015 as National Volunteer Week in Stanislaus County.

ATTEST: **CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk**
Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors,
State of California



File No.