For 100 years, United Way of Dane County has mobilized the caring power of our community to create lasting, generational change. But we couldn't do our important work without you! The Community Volunteer Awards are a great way to recognize the those who are doing critical, impactful work to make our community a better place to live - for all. Nominate a deserving group or individual today! All nominees will be recognized and award recipients will be celebrated at Seasons of Caring: Community Kickoff on August 23.

Who is Eligible for an Award?

- Youth award recipients must be 18 years or younger.
- The nominee's activities must impact Dane County.
- Activities can include, but are not limited to, serving nonprofits, neighborhood groups, schools and faith-based organizations.
- Volunteering can include paid time off and reimbursement for expenses.
- Previous nominees and recipients may be nominated again, but recipients of a 2020/2021 award may not be nominated in 2022.
- Review the judging rubric for further insights into what to write and/or say about the nominee's activities. Rubric coming soon!
- The nominee's activities should have occurred in the previous 12 months, but do not necessarily need to be ongoing.
Awards

Goodman Gemstone Youth Award: This award is presented to one youth who has shown outstanding volunteer leadership and hands-on work in our community. This youth (18 years or younger) receives $1,000 for the organization for which they volunteer and $1,000 for their own education. This award is sponsored by the Goodman fund in the United Way of Dane County Foundation.

Kathy Martinson Youth Award: This award is presented to one youth (18 years or younger) who has shown leadership and hands-on work in the community. This youth receives $500 for the organization for which they volunteer and $500 for their own education. This award is named in honor of Kathy Martinson who brought the Community Volunteer Awards to Dane County in 1990 and her 35 years of dedicated service to community volunteerism.

Lifetime Service Award: This award is presented to one individual who has shared their skills through volunteering and positively impacted the community throughout their lifetime. The recipient will receive $1,000 for the organization for which they volunteer(ed).

Outstanding Leadership Award: This award is presented to one individual who has shown outstanding volunteer leadership in the community. The recipient will receive $500 for the organization for which they volunteer(ed).

Distinguished Service Award: This award is presented to two individuals (or groups) who have shown outstanding leadership in the community. The recipients will each receive $500 for the organization for which they volunteer(ed).

Nonprofit Champion Award: This award is presented to one nonprofit organization for demonstrating leadership and innovation in transforming our community. The recipient will receive $1,000 for their organization. This award is sponsored by Dane County Administrators of Volunteer Services.

Business Champion Award: This award recognizes a business that strengthens our community through volunteerism! All companies that volunteer at Dane County nonprofit agencies or schools are eligible to be nominated. The recipient will receive $1,000 for the organization for which they volunteer(ed). This award is sponsored by the Business Volunteer Network.

Mike McKinney Award: This award is presented to one recipient who embodies the spirit and volunteerism of long-time local leader Mike McKinney. The recipient will receive $1,000 for the organization for which they volunteer(ed). Mike’s passion focused on access to food, youth development and HIV/AIDS awareness.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who chooses the award recipients?
Recipients are selected by a group of volunteer community members who comprise the Community Volunteer Awards (CVA) Selection Committee. If you are interested in volunteering in the future with the CVA Committee, please contact communityengagement@uwdc.org. We would love to hear from you!

Should I tell the volunteers they’ve been nominated?
Yes! It is a great honor to be nominated for a Community Volunteer Award.

What happens after a volunteer is nominated?
After the nomination form is received, a congratulatory letter will be sent to the nominee. Then, the nominee will receive an invitation to Community Kickoff while the Selection Committee reviews all nominations.

Can I submit more than one nomination?
Yes, you can nominate an individual for more than one award. For the Nonprofit Champion and Business Champion awards, submit only once per entity and include all volunteer activities you want to be considered for the nonprofit or business.

Are only volunteers at United Way partner nonprofits eligible?
Volunteers throughout Dane County can be nominated as long as they meet eligibility requirements.

Have questions or need help filling out the nomination form?
Contact us at CommunityEngagement@uwdc.org or (608) 246-4380
Community Volunteer Awards Nomination Form

How to Nominate a Volunteer:

Answer three questions about the nominee (in your primary language) telling us more about their work in our community

Four ways to submit your nomination:

• Complete online form at www.unitedwaydaneCounty.org/cva
• Download a fillable PDF at www.unitedwaydaneCounty.org/cva and email completed form to communityengagement@uwdc.org
• Mail a completed copy of this PDF to Community Volunteer Awards Nominations, 2059 Atwood Avenue, Madison WI 53704
• Call us at (608) 246-4380 to share responses via phone

Submit your nomination by April 30, 2022

Nominator Information

First & Last Name: ______________________________________________________________________________________________________

Title/Role: ______________________________ Organization/Business/Group: ______________________________

How do you know the nominee? ______________________________________________________________________________________

Daytime Phone: __________________________ Email Address: ______________________________

Mailing Address: ____________________________________________

(This will be used to send a Community Kickoff event invitation)

Nominee Information

First and Last Name or Name of Organization/Business/Group: ______________________________________________________________________________________

Age: ☐ 18 or younger ☐ 19-65 ☐ 65+ ☐ Organization/Business/Group

Daytime Phone: __________________________ Email Address: ______________________________

Mailing Address: ____________________________________________

(This will be used to send a Community Kickoff event invitation)

Organization/Agency/Group/Neighborhood that Nominee recently or currently volunteers with:

_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Mission statement of Organization/Agency/Group/Neighborhood that Nominee recently or currently volunteers with:

_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Have questions or need help filling out the nomination form?
Contact us at CommunityEngagement@uwdc.org or (608) 246-4380
Three Questions About The Nominee

Please answer the below questions, focusing on how the nominee’s volunteer activities help build the nonprofit’s capacity (i.e. leadership, direct service, skill based, etc.), the nominee’s commitment to volunteerism and details of the community needs that the volunteers and nonprofit are addressing.

1. What hands-on work did the nominee engage in (i.e., with who, what, when, how)?

2. What is at least one rich example of how the nominee’s contributions (or the group’s contributions for the Nonprofit and Business Champion awards) improve or change people’s lives?

3. What sets the nominee (or the group for the Nonprofit and Business Champion awards) apart in terms of their character and/or commitment to our community?

Thank you to our Awards Sponsors!

United Way Business Volunteer Network • Dane County Administrators of Volunteer Services • The Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman Fund in the United Way Foundation

Please submit this form by email to CommunityEngagement@uwdc.org or drop off or mail to:
Community Volunteer Awards Nominations
United Way of Dane County
2059 Atwood Avenue
Madison, WI 53704

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