

CITIES OF SERVICE

WHAT IS CITIES OF SERVICE?

Every day across our country, millions of Americans take time away from their work, their studies, and their families to give back to their communities. Millions more Americans would like to help solve local problems, but they are wondering:

How can I get involved?

Where can I make a difference?

Cities of Service is a bi-partisan coalition of the mayors of large and small cities from across our country who will work together to engage citizens to address the great challenges of our time. Founded in New York City on September 10, the coalition and its member cities will respond to the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act's historic call to action by finding new and innovative ways to harness the power of volunteers to help solve pressing local challenges.

Cities of Service will lead a multi-year effort to engage other Mayors across the country by:

- Developing a comprehensive service plan and a coordinated strategy focused on matching volunteers and established community partners to the areas of greatest local need;
- Working with other mayors and elected officials to advance strategies and best practices that accelerate the service movement and produce measurable results;
- Encouraging other mayors to join this national effort to engage our citizens; and
- Ensuring that the voice of cities is heard in federal legislative, policy, and program discussions related to service, which will help the country achieve the ambitious goals of the Serve America Act.

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

Mayors: learn more and join Cities of Service by visiting CitiesofService.org

Citizens: find a volunteer opportunity near you by visiting Serve.gov



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About Cities of Service

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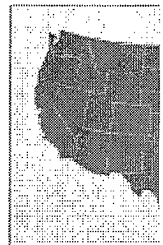
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Founding Mayors

- Mayor Shirley Franklin - Atlanta, GA
- Mayor Sheila Dixon - Baltimore, MD
- Mayor Richard Daley - Chicago, IL



JOIN CITIES

MEMBERS

- Chattanooga
- Chicago, IL
- Chula Vista
- Cincinnati
- Corpus Christi
- Davis, CA
- Denver, CO
- Detroit, MI
- Dublin, OH
- El Paso, TX



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Mayor Marilee Chinnici-Zuercher - Dublin, OH
Mayor John Peyton - Jacksonville, FL
Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa - Los Angeles, CA
Mayor Karl Dean - Nashville and Davidson County, TN
Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg - New York, NY
Mayor Cory Booker - Newark, NJ
Mayor Phil Gordon - Phoenix, AZ
Mayor Luke Ravenstahl - Pittsburgh, PA
Mayor David N. Cicilline - Providence, RI
Mayor Kevin Johnson - Sacramento, CA
Mayor Douglas H. Palmer - Trenton, NJ
Mayor Paul E. Winfield - Vicksburg, MS
Mayor Adrian Fenty - Washington, DC
Mayor Lois J. Frankel - West Palm Beach, FL

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WHEREAS America has a proud tradition of service and volunteerism that dates back to the colonial era and today can be found in communities across the fifty states;

WHEREAS the bipartisan Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, signed into law by President Barack Obama on April 21, 2009 builds on this tradition, encouraging all Americans to serve their communities in new ways;

WHEREAS cities, home to many of the nation's most persistent challenges, are positioned to bring new leadership, facilitation, and innovation to the service movement;

WHEREAS the current need for public-spirited residents to help address increased hardship resulting from the global financial and housing crises is clear;

WHEREAS service enriches the lives of Americans of all ages, and each new generation of young Americans must be engaged to tackle emerging challenges;

NOW, THEREFORE, we resolve to develop a coalition of mayors from cities large and small to work together to harness and focus the energies of our citizens. Cities of Service coalition members will support efforts to increase service opportunities in our cities by:

Developing a comprehensive service plan and a coordinated strategy focused on matching volunteers and established community partners to the areas of greatest local need;

Working with other mayors and elected officials to advance strategies and best practices that accelerate the service movement and produce measurable results;

Encouraging other mayors to join this national effort to engage our citizens; and

Ensuring that the voice of cities is heard in federal legislative, policy, and program discussions related to service, which will help the



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[MEMBERS](#)

- Akron, OH
- Allentown,
- Annapolis.
- Arlington,
- Atlanta, G.
- Austin, TX
- Baltimore,
- Baton Rou
- Birmingha
- Boston, M



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Watch founding mayors talk about the importance of volunteerism

Cities of Service Announces New Grants Competition for Cities Seeking to Increase Volunteerism to Address Local Needs

February 11, 2010

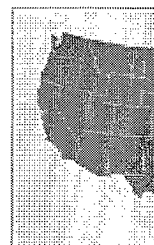
Cities of Service today announced the opening of the application period for the second round of *Cities of Service Leadership Grants*. Funded jointly by the Rockefeller Foundation and Bloomberg Philanthropies, the \$2 million worth of grants will be awarded to ten cities, on a competitive basis, whose mayors have committed to increase the amount and impact of service in their communities.

[Read the full press release](#)

Cities of Service and Rockefeller Foundation Award First-Ever "Cities of Service Leadership Grants" to Ten Cities to Hire Chief Service Officers

January 18, 2010

New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley, founding members of the Cities of Service coalition, today joined Rockefeller Foundation President Dr. Judith Rodin to announce the winners of the first-ever *Cities of Service*



JOIN CITIES

MEMBERS

- Bowling G
- Brownsvill
- Buffalo, N
- Catoosa, (
- Chandler,
- Charlestor
- Chattanoo
- Chicago, I
- Chula Vist
- Cincinnati

Leadership Grants. Ten cities were selected to receive \$200,000 two-year grants, funded by the Rockefeller Foundation, to hire a Chief Service Officer - a senior city official dedicated to developing and implementing a citywide plan to increase volunteerism and target volunteers to address their city's greatest needs.

[Read the full press release](#)

Rockefeller Foundation Gives \$2 Million to Help Cities Promote Volunteerism

October 20, 2009

The Rockefeller Foundation and the newly formed Cities of Service coalition today announced the opening of the application period for the first-ever "Cities of Service Leadership Grants." Funded exclusively by the Rockefeller Foundation, the grants will be awarded to ten cities, on a competitive basis, whose mayors have committed to increase the amount and impact of service in their communities. Each recipient city will receive \$200,000 over a two-year period for the specific purpose of hiring a Chief Service Officer, an individual who will lead local efforts on behalf of their city's mayor to develop and implement a comprehensive plan to increase volunteerism. Today's announcement comes just five weeks after 17 mayors from around the nation convened in New York City to form the Cities of Service Coalition and six months after Congress passed the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, which will result in the greatest federal investment in service and volunteerism in 75 years.

[Read the full press release \(in PDF\)](#)

[Learn more about the grant application](#)

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