

Proclaim April 2022 as Volunteer Month in Los Angeles County

In the United States, the month of April is dedicated as National Volunteer Month to recognize volunteers for their service and the time that they spend improving our communities. Each year, the County of Los Angeles (County) honors the commitment of our volunteers and the significant contributions they make to supporting the work of the County, and in service of the County’s residents.

For over 40 years, under the leadership of the Board of Supervisors (Board) and through the support of our department leaders, the County has made great strides to advance its mission of service to our communities through the County’s Volunteer Program. The program has played a vital role in extending the County’s reach and impact, fostering a more personal and committed link to its many diverse communities through this public service performed by our own County residents.

When COVID-19 hit our communities, it brought about many changes and presented many challenges. The County’s Volunteer Program was no exception, and many departments suspended volunteer opportunities as departments recalibrated their work and the manner in which they utilized volunteers. The opportunities for volunteerism and volunteering understandably diminished due to public health concerns and the County’s focus on safety and wellbeing. Ironically, COVID-19 also created a great need for volunteers across our communities; notably, there were urgent volunteer opportunities to support emergency food and supply distribution events, primary and general elections

-MORE-

MOTION

SOLIS _____

KUEHL _____

HAHN _____

BARGER _____

MITCHELL _____

polling locations, youth development programs, and Countywide emergency management.

In response to this emergent need, the Board approved a motion authored by Supervisors Solis and Barger ("[Los Angeles County Together: In Service of Our Neighbors](#)") in 2020 to establish an online, centralized portal for residents to learn about volunteer opportunities across departments Countywide, making it easier for volunteers to engage and serve their communities. Over 600 volunteers have since registered through this portal, and 37,205 volunteers are supporting the County's many programs today.

In recognition of the many people who have persevered during these extraordinary circumstances and challenging times, and have continued to give their time selflessly, we acknowledge and celebrate all County residents and employees who exemplify the meaning of giving in action through their volunteerism.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. Proclaim the month of April as "County Volunteer Month" throughout the County of Los Angeles (County);
2. Encourage residents to learn about volunteer opportunities with County departments and register as volunteers through the County's online volunteer platform, which can be found at <https://volunteer.lacounty.gov/>.
3. Request County departments to share and promote the County's volunteer platform through community events, newsletters, social media, and other outreach vehicles.

#

(KhA)