

# VOLUNTEER



## NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH

### VOLUNTEERS SUPPORTING COMMUNITY RESILIENCY

*By Linda Crerar*

Society needs resilient communities. Volunteering is a major engagement tool with open positions available in most communities. Joining people together helps to achieve stronger shared goals, strengthens trust and relationships as stronger bonds of solidarity are forged by creating strategies for managing risks. Localized volunteering helps communities organize, set priorities, and take ownership of local needs.

Community volunteer are frequently the first responders and may be the only source of available help available in a crisis. They help provide better interpretations of information to immediate crises with the abilities to be flexible, responsive in real time, and more readily adaptive to changing local conditions. Consider them as bridges and pathways for communication with external agencies and entities, like state and national governments.

Leadership development is another area where community volunteering drives resilience. Volunteering allows all people of any age, ethnicity, or ability to acquire leadership skills that will be a great value to the community in the future. Leadership skills help develops flexibility and the ability to deal and adapt to challenges and changing conditions. Volunteers create innovative solutions when providing their on-the-ground experience for crisis communications or find innovative ways to address restoration projects. Volunteering supports strong and resilient communities.

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Disruptions have affected all aspects of society over the past few years. By March of 2020, 93% of all volunteering was cancelled, according to Volunteer Match Report. In response to these disruptions, some organizations had to limit services but others transformed their services and volunteer engagement programs. They reached out and showed how volunteers made impacts, were appreciated, and fit into the organization and community overall. Other groups transformed by diversifying with people of different abilities from different geographies, and with varied availability, increased accessibility, use of financial resources more efficiently, and increase capacity and impact.



## What are some volunteer pathways to consider?

- Youth pathway to schooling and employment. Gain knowledge and transferable skills for future employment. “Try before they buy” can align volunteering jobs to curriculum at colleges and university creating a focused educational roadmap.
- Interested in working in environmental management? Volunteer with a conservation charity working to protect nature for future generations.
- Looking at a career in sport and recreation? Local clubs rely on volunteers to make their games happen. Whether it’s with basketball, rugby, gymnastics or another activity, there are many ways to gain valuable exposure to the sector through volunteering
- Is health an area you’re considering for your future career? Our state’s Search and Rescue organizations depend on volunteers to provide first aid treatment and offer training to hundreds of people each year.
- Passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion? Organizations striving to promote equality and social justice often look to volunteers for support in delivering services and campaigns.
- Considering a career in social services? Groups working to end homelessness and food insecurity need volunteers on a recurring and ad-hoc basis.
- Maybe arts and culture are on the horizon? Volunteering at a museum or theatre can be a fantastic way to get a foot in the door.

And many more sectors!

- Visit our Center’s website and for Volunteer and Career Pathways information at: <https://www.coehsem.com/workmarketplace/>

Here are some helpful links to organizations where you can get started volunteering:

- <https://www.habitat.org/>
- <https://www.citizenscience.gov/catalog/#>
- [Find Fire Service Volunteer Opportunities \(makemeafirefighter.org\)](https://makemeafirefighter.org/)
- [Volunteer Opportunities | Serve Washington](#)

## SERVE WASHINGTON

Serve Washington a State Commission, advances national service, volunteerism and civic engagement to improve lives; expands opportunity to meet the local critical needs of residents of Washington; and strengthens community capacity while creating healthy and resilient communities. Authorized by Executive Order #16-08, a 20-member board of Governor- appointed commissioners supports and advises Serve Washington.

Serve Washington believes that national service, volunteerism, and civic engagement are the foundation for caring communities and a thriving Washington. Each year Washingtonians invest in our state through the contribution of their time as volunteers, as national service members and as members of volunteer groups. Serve Washington provides volunteer recognition for exceptional volunteers in the following ways. The Governor's Volunteer Service Awards recognizes Washington's volunteers for the service contributions they make to organizations and communities across our state in the past calendar year.

Learn more at [servewashington.wa.gov](http://servewashington.wa.gov)

# SERVE WASHINGTON

## OUR COE ADVISORY BOARD

Our Center wants to recognize our Advisory Board for their important service contributions over this past year. Our Board and our Senior Fellows promote collaboration between specific educational programs, business, industry, and labor. This prepares individuals to enter and succeed in their chosen career. Our Advisory Board is an effective means of helping the educational delivery system respond to the needs of a constantly changing labor market. An Advisory Board's strength is reflected in the diversity of its membership. Our Center is proud of our Advisory Board whose members represent a diverse group from different genders, races, cultures, and backgrounds.

Please check out our website for information on our Board Members (<https://www.coe-hsem.com/advisory-board/>)

Our Center relies on each of its Advisory Board Members and Senior Fellows that contribute over 50 hours of volunteer time every year. Several members often contribute significantly more. The Center has 30 Advisory Board Members and 25 Senior Fellows who's annual volunteers replacement costs \$124,865, based on the national value. Every April, the Independent Sector publishes a national value for each volunteer hour. The numbers are both of national average and each state. The national value is now \$23.56/hour and the Washington state value is \$37.63/hour.

View the calculator at: <https://www.volunteeringwa.org.au/resources/volunteer-benefits-calculator>

## > Volunteer Benefits Calculator

Your volunteering is worth more than you think.

Annual volunteer replacement cost: **\$124,826.00**

Annual volunteer expenses: **\$39.00**

Annual value our members deliver to the community:

# \$124,865.00

## > Methodology

\*The replacement cost of a volunteer is calculated using the average hourly part-time wage of a person of their age in their State of residence, plus 15% employer on-costs (inclusive of superannuation, payroll tax and administration expenses).

The calculator uses the hourly rates as per the following table:

Age cohort	Rate*	Age cohort	Rate*
15 to 25 years	\$20.33	55 to 64 years	\$53.82
25 to 34 years	\$46.01	65 years and over	\$40.37
35 to 44 years	\$56.02	All ages	\$48.01
45 to 54 years	\$57.53		

## VOLUNTEER TO CHANGE THE WORLD BY PLANTING TREES

### TREES ARE RESILIENCE EQUALIZERS

*By Nancy Aird*

Arbor Day (April 28) encourages us to join the world in making a step to resolving disparity, inequality and environmental justice for mankind by reforesting rural and urban land. Nature-poor neighborhoods negatively impact social, economic, and wellness of residents. Joining forces in planting even 1 million trees will start the change by absorbing 24,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>, stabilizing climate, releasing oxygen, restoring fish and animal habitat, and working on neighborhood tree equity urban heat island effects.

The Washington Tree Equity Collaborative was created this April to work on tree equity by joining DNR, tribal, city, community, companies and research. Hillary Franz DNR director states, "We must invest like never before in order to ensure our most vulnerable community have clear air and are better protected from extreme heat."

This is not the first time the US has joined to plant trees. The CCC planted 3.5 billion trees from 1933 to 1942, earning the nickname, "Roosevelt's tree army". Of all of the trees planted in our nation's history, the CCC has planted more than one half of our forests.

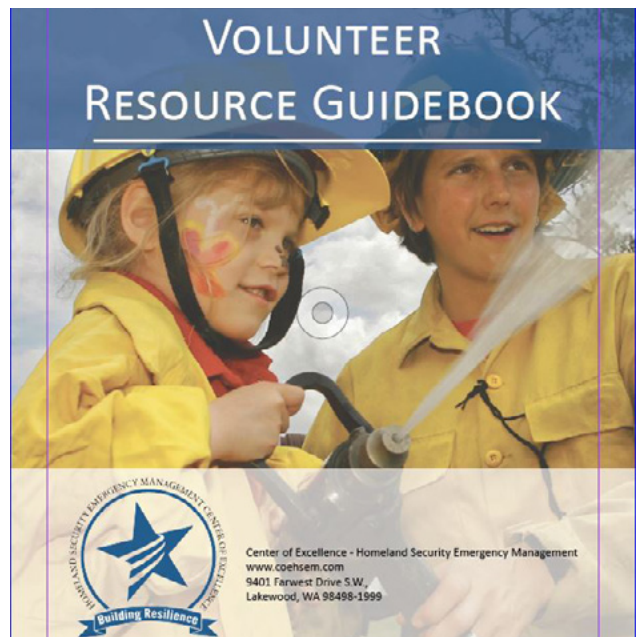
Volunteering to plant trees does not only include Arbor Day. Try joining local or worldwide organizations by checking out groups working year-around to improve our world.



## VOLUNTEER RESOURCE GUIDEBOOK

The Center created a Washington State Volunteer Resource Guidebook in 2020, which includes organizations where citizens can volunteer. Many young people finish college successfully only to find that their resume doesn't have everything they need to land a job in their field. New graduates are advised to remember that their volunteer experience is a great thing to include when building their resume. People who volunteer and/or intern should remember that unpaid work is a valid and helpful thing to exhibit as part of their work experience history. Volunteers are advised to think about what specific list of qualities applies to their history of experience and then gear it towards the field that they are hoping to go into. Someone who is volunteering in their career pathway to gain experience can document their volunteer hours both in long-term weekly volunteer commitments which count more like a part-time job as well as projects over a period of time which could be counted more as an internship.

The ultimate goal has always been, and will always be, to provide great experiences to volunteers and affect the community in an organized and efficient way.



This guidebook will help potential volunteers look for amazing volunteer opportunities across the state.

Visit: <https://www.coehsem.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Volunteer-Resource-Guidebook-New.pdf>

## REPORT FROM NEMA MIDYEAR FORUM 2023

### *Emergency Management Once Removed*

*By Jim Mullen*

The National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) biannual gatherings are opportunities for information-sharing and straightforward discussions with government and private sector leaders. State (and territorial) emergency management directors occupy unique roles. Responsible to the governor or a senior official - in Washington State it's The Adjutant General (TAG) - they not only deal with issues affecting their respective jurisdictions (while balancing the political inclinations of elected officials), but aided by Association staff must be alert to developments on the national front that could impact local and state government. An important agenda item of every Midyear Forum is gauging the mood of the Administration and Congress with respect to the impact of budget and policy issues on emergency management.

The ongoing political spat over the raising of the debt ceiling by Congress is troublesome. Why, you might ask, is that a concern of emergency management? Well, failure to raise the debt ceiling to pay the bills already incurred by Congress risks a devastating impact on the national and global economy. "Discretionary" programs supporting emergency management and homeland security, including appropriations for mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery are historically among the "targets" when draconian federal budget cuts are threatened.

Among other issues:

- The Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) request of \$355 million is only \$5 million above the level that was achieved when I was NEMA president in 2011-12. NEMA staff assembled an overwhelming case for not only maintenance of funding but for an increase due to the number and complexity of disasters in recent years.
- White House officials are considering an overhaul of the cumbersome national recovery program. To avoid a top-down policy revision that makes perfect sense within the federal "bubble" - but not necessarily elsewhere, NEMA and its counterpart associations will engage in advising and as necessary, insisting on changes that actually will enhance recovery processes.

- FEMA Administrator, Deanne Criswell, not only presented to the plenary session but spent an additional 90 minutes in a candid executive session with the state directors. Without revealing any "off the record" discussions, I can report that I have seldom seen a FEMA Administrator in that setting take copious notes, respond with extreme candor, and exhibit zero defensiveness in response to criticism. She pledged, credibly, to maintain a collaborative dialogue with NEMA during her tenure.

***Note: the forum was held against the backdrop of the deadly tornados in Mississippi and elsewhere, as well as the tragic mass shooting in a Nashville, Tennessee school. The disaster wheel keeps spinning, and NEMA's dedicated members, despite the political differences that divide their respective states' leaders, are shining reminders that whatever political or social differences exist we still belong to the human family.***

***And yet, I came away with unanswered questions that NEMA attendees cannot resolve: when does gun violence become a homeland security issue? Uvalde, Nashville, Louisville, ...who's next? Why have we allowed this to fester? Our grandchildren might ask that question one day. Hopefully we'll have an answer.***





Securing the Supply Chain Summit 2023

# Building Pathways for Success:

Securing Infrastructure, Supply Chain and Energy Systems

June 6-7, 2023



## WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

This Securing the Supply Chain Summit will concentrate on building pathways for success by securing infrastructure, supply chain and energy systems. For the first time in our lifetimes, supply chains are front and center in the public's consciousness. Our supply chains need to be resilient while still efficient and cost effective. Speakers from industry, policy organizations and education will delve into the challenges to the supply chain, how it is changing, and what will need to happen in the future.

## Want to Register?

To register, visit:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/576475773557>

Sponsored by:



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## Location



Columbia Basin College  
2600 N 20th Ave  
Bldg H (Byron Gjerde Center)  
Pasco, WA 99301



## Agenda Information

View our agenda at:

<https://www.coehsem.com/securing-the-supply-chain-summit-2023-agenda/>



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## Questions?

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