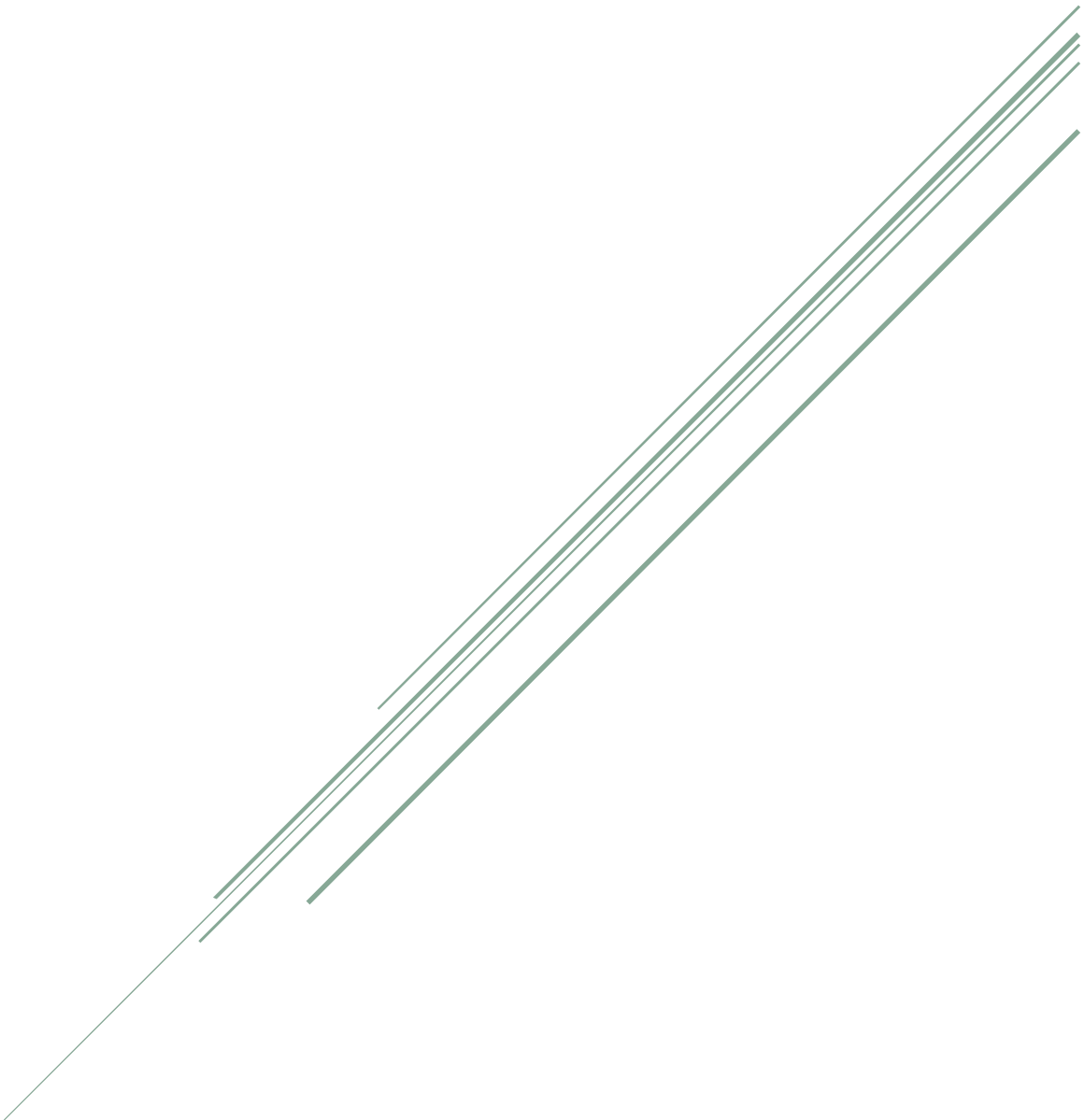


SAVMA AWARDS

Nominations Package



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SAVMA abides by the following guidelines to maintain fairness and transparency, ensuring you can have full confidence in the nomination process.

Event Details

Date: January 23, 2025

Location: Tucson Convention Center

Registration: 8:00 AM

Program Start Time: 8:30 AM

Nomination Details

- Nominations are open from July 1– July 31 at 5:00 PM (Deadline is absolute)
- Nominations are only accepted at <https://savma.questionpro.com/nominateawards2025>
- Responses are limited to 1600 characters (approximately 250 words)
- For questions about the nomination process or content, contact the Nomination Chair at SAVMATucson@gmail.com.
- Sponsors may submit a Community Service Recognition (CSR) through a separate process. Details of the CSR process will be sent to sponsors at the time of payment. Nominations for the Community Service Recognition open in September.

Award Categories and Summaries

- **Exceptional Volunteer Program Award:** This award recognizes an exceptional Volunteer Program that strategically engages and recognizes volunteers, prioritizing time and talent investments advancing the organization’s mission, programs, and operations in measurable ways.
- **Corporate or Group Volunteerism Award:** The award recognizes a corporation or group with a demonstrated record of outstanding commitment through volunteerism, creating a corporate volunteerism culture that encourages and motivates employees/participants to take leadership roles, make an impact through service, and be involved in the community.
- **Volunteer of the Year Award:** Recognizes an individual whose direct line of service volunteerism to one or more charitable causes improved the quality of life in Southern Arizona, demonstrated leadership in service, and whose exceptional volunteerism encouraged others to take volunteer leadership roles in the community.
- **Youth Volunteer Award (Individual or Group):** Recognizes service by an individual or group under 18 years old (at the time of service) who demonstrated outstanding commitment to the community through volunteerism, development of charitable programs, and leadership in the advancement of the nonprofit sector.
- **Exceptional Governance Volunteerism Award:** Recognizes an individual whose service as a governance or advisory council volunteer to one or various charitable causes improved the quality of life in Southern



Arizona, demonstrated leadership in service, and whose exceptional volunteerism encouraged others to take volunteer leadership roles in the community.

- **Exceptional Volunteer Engagement Professional Award:** Recognizes a Volunteer Engagement Professional (VEP)* whose work exemplifies leadership, competence, achievement, ethical standards, and commitment to the volunteer engagement profession. SAVMA membership is required and must be active at the time of nomination. *Titles may vary, but SAVMA defines a VEP as an individual who spends at least 50% of their time and/or resources on volunteer engagement duties.

General Guidelines, Terms, and Conditions

- **Service area:** Service occurred within Pima, Santa Cruz, Graham, Greenlee, or Cochise County.
- **Age requirements:** The nominee meets the age requirements of the respective category (at the time of service), if applicable.
- **Time of Service:** The nominee must have demonstrated a significant and consistent commitment to volunteer work before June 30, 2024.
- **Submission Limits:** Nominators may submit multiple individual or group nominations but are limited to one nomination per organization, per category. Individual nominees may only be submitted in one category.
- **Public Service Requirement:** Membership organizations are not eligible for awards. Public service is required.
- **Multiple Nominations:** If two organizations nominate the same individual, group, or organization, the first nomination received will be the only one considered.
- **Former Award Recipients:** Previous awardees are not eligible for nomination in the same category.
- **Permission to apply:** It is preferred that organizations receive permission from nominees to apply rather than learn they are unable or unwilling to accept an award.
- **Self-Promotion:** Strongly recommended! Support your supervisor by providing them with the information needed for your nomination.
- **Conflicts of Interest:** SAVMA Awards Committee Members and their immediate families are ineligible.
- **Definition of Volunteer:** A volunteer is “an individual who performs hours of service for a public agency for civic, charitable, or humanitarian reasons, without promise, expectation or receipt of compensation for services rendered, is considered to be a volunteer during such hours.” (Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, 2024)
- **Volunteer Engaging-For-Profits (Medicaid Mandated Volunteer Programs):** For-profit hospice and hospital volunteer programs can be nominated for several categories; look for category-specific information.
- **Service Work and Credit Seeking Service:** Service workers (Federal Work Study, AmeriCorps, AmeriCorps Seniors, NCCC, etc.) and credit-seeking service workers are not eligible for individual awards but can and should be included in the Headcount for Exceptional Volunteer Program Award.



Nominator Submission Information

Nominator Name:
Nominator Email:
Nominator Phone:
Relation to Nominee:
Verified eligibility: (yes or no drop down)

Nominee Submission Information

Nominee Service Organization(s):
Nominee Name:
Nominee Email:
Nominee Phone:
Nominee Service Organization's Mission:
Nominee Volunteer Role: (volunteer is not a title, unless employee is also a title in the organization)
Length of Service:
High-Definition Photo (PNG or JPG):
Award Category:

Award Categories and Evaluation Criteria

Exceptional Volunteer Program Award

Recognizes an exceptional Volunteer Program that strategically engages and recognizes volunteers, prioritizing time and talent investments and advancing the organization's mission, programs, and operations in measurable ways.

- Provide a 13-month Volunteer Program unduplicated headcount as of June 30, 2024,*and describe the number of hours provided by those volunteers.
- The organization has a significant breadth (number of roles) and depth (complexity) of volunteer roles.
- The organization has a formal and informal award and/or recognition program for volunteers.

***Volunteer Program Headcount:** The calculation method was discussed in detail at the May SAVMA Program. A follow-up blog post can be found here: <https://www.savma.org/volunteer-engagement-defined-and-measured/>



Corporate Volunteerism Award

Recognizes a corporation or group with a demonstrated record of outstanding commitment through volunteerism, creating a corporate volunteerism culture that encourages and motivates employees/participants to take leadership roles, make an impact through service, and be involved in the community.

- Number of volunteers (unpaid*) and volunteer hours worked in the nominating year.
- The organization actively engages employees/participants in serving their community by centering volunteerism as a core value in their business strategy. Their volunteerism makes a significant and lasting impact on individuals and the community.
- The organization creates a culture of volunteerism within their corporation or group that encourages and motivates employees/participants to engage in the community beyond episodic volunteering and are committed to long-term community engagement.

*Cannot include workforce hours paid by the corporation

Volunteer of the Year Award

Recognizes an individual whose direct line of service volunteerism to one or more charitable causes improved the quality of life in Southern Arizona, demonstrated leadership in service, and whose exceptional volunteerism encouraged others to take volunteer leadership roles in the community.

- The nominee's volunteerism positively impacted the community through the organization or cause they served.
- Nominee exceeded program expectations, inspired and motivated others, served as a role model to other volunteers, and showed initiative and leadership.
- Quantifiable impact for consideration (depth and breadth): # of hours, # of clients helped, or the positive results achieved.

Award Eligibility

- **Background Checks:** Nominees should not have crimes against persons in background checks. Selected individual awardees must pass or have passed a background check through their volunteer organization.
- **Volunteer Engaging-For-Profits:** Nominations in this category are accepted from Medicaid-mandated volunteer Service organizations, for-profit hospices, and hospitals.



Youth Volunteer Award (Individual or Group)

Recognizes service by an individual or group of young people under 18 years old who have demonstrated outstanding commitment to the community through volunteerism, development of charitable programs, and leadership in the advancement of the nonprofit sector.

- The nominee’s volunteerism positively impacted the community through the organization or cause they served.
- Nominee exceeded program expectations, inspired and motivated others, served as a role model to other volunteers, and showed initiative and leadership.
- Quantifiable impact for consideration (depth and breadth): # of hours, # of clients helped, or the positive results achieved.

Award Eligibility

- **Service Work and Credit Seeking Service:** Service workers (Federal Work Study, AmeriCorps, AmeriCorps Seniors, NCCC, etc.) and credit-seeking service workers are not eligible.

Exceptional Governance Volunteer Award

Recognizes an individual whose service as a governance or advisory council volunteer to one or various charitable causes improved the quality of life in Southern Arizona, demonstrated leadership in service, and whose exceptional volunteerism encouraged others to take volunteer leadership roles in the community.

- The nominee’s volunteerism positively impacted the community through the organization or cause they served (may not hold the position as a condition of their employment).
- Nominee exceeded program expectations, inspired and motivated others, served as a role model to other volunteers, and showed initiative and leadership.
- Quantifiable impact for consideration (depth and breadth): # of hours, # of clients helped, or the positive results achieved.

Award Eligibility

- **Background Checks:** Nominees should not have crimes against persons in background checks. Selected individual awardees must pass or have passed a background check through their volunteer organization.
- **Exclusionary Activity:** Fundraising efforts will not be considered in evaluating this award, but hours spent conducting board service, including fundraising activities, will be considered. The Association of Fundraising Professionals awards volunteer fundraising.



Exceptional Volunteer Engagement Professional Award

Recognizes a Volunteer Engagement Professional (VEP)* whose work exemplifies leadership, competence, achievement, and commitment to ethical standards in the volunteer engagement profession.

- Nominee embodies professional and ethical standards, models best practices, and engages volunteers effectively.
- Nominee is committed to continuing education and the volunteer engagement profession and takes leadership roles supporting the profession (local and national).
- Quantifiable impact for consideration (depth and breadth): # of volunteers, the positive results achieved, the roles held, the growth of career.

*Titles may vary, but SAVMA defines a VEP as an individual who spends at least 50% of their time and/or resources on volunteer engagement duties.

Award Eligibility

- **Volunteer Engaging-For-Profits:** VEPs at Medicaid-mandated for-profit hospices and hospitals are eligible for the Exceptional Volunteer Engagement Professional Award.
- **SAVMA Membership:** Nominees must be active SAVMA members on June 30, 2024, to be considered for the award.

Selection Process

Event Committee Members nominate an Independent Panel of Judges to comprise the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee Members are Community Leaders with personal and professional experience and commitment to volunteerism. They represent a diverse cross-section of the community. Judges use a rubric to evaluate and score nominations independently over two weeks. Final selection is made at a meeting where judges provide feedback, vote, and officially select the awardee using their independent scores as a guide. Selection Chair(s) coordinate and oversee the process but do not vote for awardees. Nominators and their awardees are notified before awardees are announced publicly on August 31st.

Selected awardees must submit a short biography and high-resolution photos, including one headshot and images depicting the nominee in service. Information from nominations may be released to the media and elected officials.

Empowering Volunteer Engagement Professionals!

SAVMA promotes excellence in volunteer program management for volunteer engagement professionals by providing educational programs, leadership, resources, and peer networking throughout Southern Arizona.



Independent Sector's Value of Volunteer Time

Independent Sector, with the Do-Good Institute at the University of Maryland, announced on April 23, 2024, that the estimate for the value of a volunteer hour was \$33.49 in 2023, a 5.3% increase from 2022.

Disclosure and Agreement

The Company/Organization authorizes me to sign this release on their behalf. To the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this application is accurate and complete. I certify that the Company/Organization has not been the subject of an investigation by a governmental body or a civil or criminal complaint in the last five (5) years. If selected as a finalist, I agree to participate and/or allow my employees to participate in a personal interview.

Applications become the property of the Southern Arizona Volunteer Management Association (SAVMA) and will not be returned. An independent panel of judges will review the information contained within the application. The information contained in the application, in whole or in part, may be used by SAVMA for media purposes. The applicant authorizes SAVMA to use the awardees' pictures, likenesses, names, and all other information outlined in the application and personal interviews, articles, and third-party publications (such as magazines, newspapers, and electronic media) for advertising or promotional purposes.

SAVMA is not responsible for printing or typographical errors in award-related materials or for the stolen, lost, late, misdirected, damaged, incomplete, or illegible entries. SAVMA reserves the right to cancel or modify the contest if fraud or technical failures compromise the contest's integrity.

Nominees must complete the full SAVMA Awards Application during the Nominations Period, which begins July 1, 2024, at 12:01 AM MST and ends July 31, 2024, at 5:00 PM MST. The contest is open to any eligible individual or organization in Pima, Santa Cruz, Graham, Greenlee, or Cochise Counties who meet the eligibility requirements as of June 30, 2024. The Contest is subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations. A panel of judges will select the winning entrants based on the answers submitted through the online nomination form.

The applicant also authorizes SAVMA by itself and through third parties to conduct background checks on the awardees, including but not limited to a review of public records, credit bureau reports, and personal investigations. SAVMA reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to determine the acceptability of each applicant and nominee. All financial information contained herein shall remain confidential.

Failure to sign this form will disqualify your application. By participating, entrants agree to a) the award rules and the decisions of SAVMA in their sole discretion, which shall be final in all respects; and b) release, discharge, and hold harmless SAVMA, their respective subsidiaries, affiliates, sponsors, officers, directors, members, and employees from any liability, claims or damages arising out of their participation in the contest and the acceptance, use, misuse or possession of any prize.