

# INNOVATION & LEADERSHIP AWARDS 2019

CELEBRATING NATIONAL SERVICE EXCELLENCE

**9.19.19 6-9:00PM**

TOP OF THE TOWN **ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA**



AMERICA'S **SERVICE** COMMISSIONS



## CEO WELCOME

### BUILDING A PIPELINE OF TALENT & INNOVATION

Welcome to the sixth annual ASC Innovation & Leadership Awards in Arlington, Virginia. One of our goals as an association is to build and grow the national service talent pipeline through the cultivation (and retention) of champions and leaders to ensure the strength of the service network for years to come. Whether you're here tonight as an awardee, a nominator, sponsor, friend, or association member, you are helping us achieve that goal—creating a pipeline of talent and innovation for maximum community impact!

Thank you for your support. Our work to unite states in service as a strategy to meet our country's most pressing community needs has never been more important than it is today.

Congratulations to all of our 2019 honorees. Let's celebrate!

**Kaira B. Esgate**

Chief Executive Officer, America's Service Commissions

#### ABOUT ASC

America's Service Commissions (ASC) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit association representing and promoting the 52 state service commissions across the United States. ASC's work is focused on membership support services in three core areas including Commission Capacity Building, Federal Advocacy, and Activation of the State Service Network. **To learn more, visit [statecommissions.org](http://statecommissions.org).**

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## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Awards presentations will begin at 7:00 p.m. Raffle/silent auction concludes at 8:00 p.m.

### Networking Reception & 'Celebrating States' Raffle/Silent Auction

#### Welcome Remarks

LaDawn Stoddard, Chair, ASC Board of Directors  
Kaira Esgate, ASC CEO

#### Friend of ASC Awards

U.S. Representative Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)  
U.S. Representative Tom Cole (R-OK)

#### State Service Leadership Award

Governor Lawrence J. Hogan (R-MD)

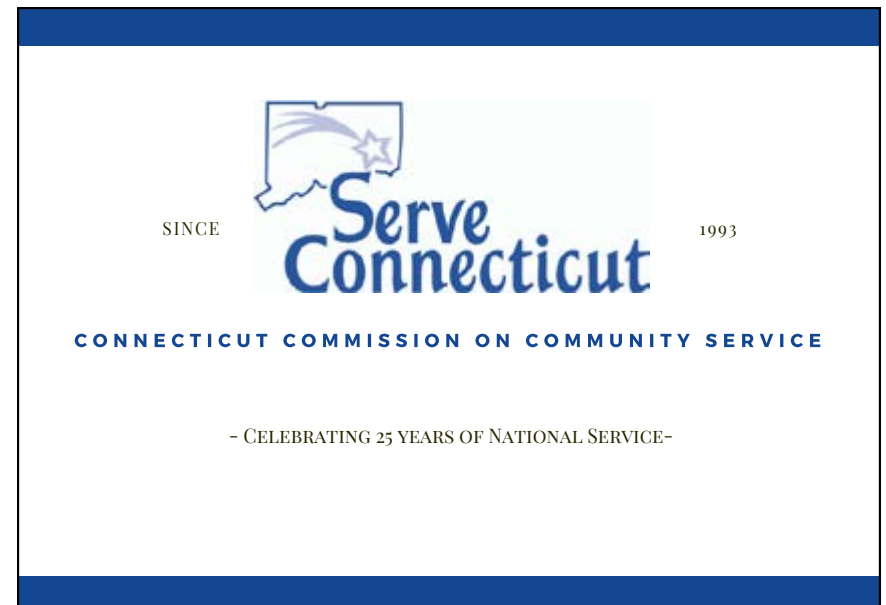
#### ASC Honor Roll Induction

Bob Shogren (AZ)

#### Innovation & Leadership Awards

Mary Grace Landrum (TX)  
LaDawn Stoddard (UT)  
Stacey Scherschligt (MN)  
Metropolitan Ministries (FL)  
Bridget Talebi (WA)

### Closing Remarks & Raffle/Silent Auction Results



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### COMMISSION CHAMPIONS:

Massachusetts Service Alliance  
Michigan Community Service Commission  
Oklahoma AmeriCorps  
OneStar Foundation  
Serve Colorado  
ServeMinnesota  
ServeMontana  
Serve Washington  
Volunteer Florida  
Volunteer Mississippi

### STATE SERVICE SUPPORTERS:

Cigna  
McMahon Consulting Group

### INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS:

Maureen Eccleston  
Kaira Esgate  
Emily Steinberg  
Kris Tecce

## 2019 AWARDEES



### OUTSTANDING COMMISSIONER: MARY GRACE LANDRUM (TEXAS)

Mary Grace Landrum of Houston was appointed as a OneStar National Service Commissioner in 2011 and has been re-appointed by two Governors. For the past seven years, she has chaired OneStar's Program Advisory Committee, the first line approving body for AmeriCorps Texas grants. Mary Grace is a corporate consultant, former adjunct professor for the University of Houston, and a graduate of Leadership Houston. In addition to her OneStar service, she serves on the boards of One Voice Texas, Our Public School, and the Spring Branch Education Foundation. Mary Grace has used her extensive political and professional connections to educate and advocate for AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, VISTA, and has made it a priority to understand all streams of service and how they are making a difference in Texas. She consistently attends AmeriCorps events, swearing in ceremonies, site visits, and has personally helped spearhead the City of Houston's National Service Recognition Day celebration since its inception. Mary Grace continues to represent the state of Texas on ASC's States for Service Public Policy Coalition to advocate for service and volunteerism at the local level.



### OUTSTANDING COMMISSION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: LADAWN STODDARD (UTAH)

LaDawn Stoddard is the Director of UServeUtah, the Utah Commission on Service & Volunteerism. With a degree in business management and an extensive background in finance, she began working for the commission in 2004 as the Grants Officer and then went on to fill the role of Development Director, working not only with AmeriCorps State Programs, but also Citizen Corps, AmeriCorps VISTA, Youth Service, and other service initiatives within the commission. In 2007 she became the Utah State National Service program manager, working closely with numerous community organizations across the state, and in 2012 was named Director of UServeUtah. Early in her career, LaDawn owned and managed a small business which allowed her to work closely within her community; she has also served on numerous boards and volunteer committees at both the national and local level and has been personally engaged in volunteering from a very young age. This has allowed for development of a unique perspective into both the public, private and nonprofit sectors that has served her well in her current position. Due to her continued passion for innovative strategies to get things done, LaDawn currently serves as Chair of the America's Service Commissions Board of Directors.

## 2019 AWARDEES



### **OUTSTANDING COMMISSION STAFF: STACEY SCHERSCHLIGT (MINNESOTA)**

Stacey Scherschligt is Director of Programs for ServeMinnesota, Minnesota's state commission. Her significant contributions over the past 13 years include leading within the national service community with best practices that are replicated across the country. Stacey started her AmeriCorps career serving as an AmeriCorps member for two terms in Washington D.C. and then as a Program Coordinator for a National Service Training Project prior to coming to ServeMinnesota. Stacey was instrumental in hosting the ASC 2019 Central

National Service Training Conference in Saint Paul, Minnesota and continues to be a recognized leader in the field as a member of the ASC Program Officer Learning Community and Monitoring Tool Review Panel.



### **OUTSTANDING SERVICE PROGRAM: METROPOLITAN MINISTRIES AMERICORPS (FLORIDA)**

Metropolitan Ministries (MM) is a comprehensive homeless service campus based in Tampa, Florida. AmeriCorps has been the catalyst to bring MM's services into the community through the Metro

Brigade. Metropolitan Ministries AmeriCorps members provide housing, health, and social service resources to homeless individuals at 14 partner locations to help clients improve health outcomes and secure stable housing to move out of homelessness long term. MM also operates a successful AmeriCorps VISTA project that has helped the organization grow its financial and in-kind resources. MM is also a Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF) grantee of Volunteer Florida, which has helped to grow its overall volunteer program to 23,000 volunteers strong. With the help of national service and its partner sites, MM has expanded its services for homeless and at-risk families from 70 families to as many as 740 families annually and 40,000 meals per month.



### **OUTSTANDING SERVICE PROGRAM STAFF: BRIDGET TALEBI (WASHINGTON)**

Bridget Talebi is Director of the Washington Conservation Corps. She has a long demonstrated commitment to AmeriCorps and has been working to strengthen national service across the state of Washington since her introduction to the program in 2001, when she signed on for her first of two terms of service as a WCC AmeriCorps member. Bridget's service experience with the WCC introduced her to the field of environmental stewardship and she hasn't looked

## 2019 AWARDEES

back since. Bridget worked her way up through the ranks of the program, holding roles such as Individual Placement Program Coordinator, Compliance and Communications Coordinator, Operations Manager, and now WCC Director. During Bridget's time as part of the management team at WCC, the program has grown from 75 members to now nearly 300 AmeriCorps members serving annually.



### **ASC HONOR ROLL: BOB SHOGREN (ARIZONA)**

Bob Shogren retired from the Arizona Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism in April 2019 after serving 14 years as the state's AmeriCorps Director and 34 years of service to the state of Arizona. Governor Doug Ducey commended Bob for "creating a stronger, safer and healthier Arizona for all." Bob served two terms on the board of America's Service Commissions and chaired the Membership Committee, helping to build the training and technical assistance arm of the association.

Bob now serves as the Director of the nonprofit CGA, Inc. and the Casa Grande Alliance, a grassroots effort to build stronger communities through strengthening families and developing youth leaders through a 50+ member community coalition chaired by the county attorney. He also continues to serve as a member of the Arizona Statewide Citizen Corps Council and as State Manager for the ASPIRE Project, a U.S. Department of Education-funded longitudinal study.

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## 2019 FRIEND OF ASC AWARDS

### U.S. REPRESENTATIVE ROSA DELAURO (D-CONNECTICUT)



Rosa DeLauro is the Congresswoman from Connecticut's Third Congressional District and the dean of Connecticut's delegation. She serves in the Democratic leadership as Co-Chair of the Democratic Steering and Policy Committee and is the Chairwoman of the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Subcommittee, where she oversees our nation's investments in education, health, employment, and national service. At the core of Representative DeLauro's work is her fight for America's working families and students to ensure everyone is given an opportunity to succeed. While helping announce a new AmeriCorps program in Connecticut

to help improve financial literacy and healthy food access, DeLauro proclaimed: "Our government plays a critical role in helping the most vulnerable people in our communities. That is why, as the Senior Democrat on the Appropriations subcommittee that funds AmeriCorps programs, I [am] proud to fight for and win increased funding for programs like this one." DeLauro belongs to 62 House caucus groups including the National Service Caucus, and has continually worked to protect and expand national and community service funding for the people of Connecticut and Americans nationwide.

### U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TOM COLE (R-OKLAHOMA)



Identified by Time Magazine as "one of the sharpest minds in the House" and the "hardest working member in Congress" by Newsmax, Tom Cole is currently serving his ninth term in the U.S. House of Representatives. Representative Cole is recognized as a tireless advocate for taxpayers and small businesses, and considered the foremost expert in the House on issues related to Native Americans and tribal governments as an enrolled member of the Chickasaw Nation, one of only four Native Americans currently serving in Congress. Since 2009, Cole has served on the House Appropriations Committee, where he is now Vice Ranking Republican of the full committee

and Ranking Republican of the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (LHHS) which also oversees national service appropriations. Cole is a member of the National Service Caucus and strong supporter of AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, and community volunteerism in Oklahoma, since he witnessed the important role of national service and volunteer response efforts after the devastating 2013 tornadoes in Moore, OK. During a recent site visit with Boys & Girls Club AmeriCorps members at the Center for Children and Families Inc. in Norman, Oklahoma, Cole said of national service, "This is a small investment that pays enormous dividends." Cole is a fifth generation Oklahoman and was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 2017.

## 2019 ASC STATE LEADERSHIP AWARD

### GOVERNOR LARRY HOGAN (R-MARYLAND)



Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr. was sworn in as the 62nd governor of the State of Maryland in 2015 and overwhelmingly re-elected in 2018. He is recognized nationally as an independent leader who consistently delivers real results and achieves common sense, bipartisan solutions. As part of his focus on the economy and tackling critical challenges such as the opioid crisis, youth literacy and education, and environmental stewardship of the Chesapeake Bay, Governor Hogan has been a champion of national and community service as a cost effective solution to solving state needs. His administration's

support of the Maryland Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism (GOSV) and promotion of AmeriCorps and Senior Corps programs across the state has enabled Maryland to continue its long history of leading in service. In 2016, Hogan signed legislation creating the Maryland Corps, a pilot program to give young adults in Maryland the chance to spend a year in community service before college. In 2018, when announcing Maryland as a top 10 AmeriState and Baltimore as a top 10 AmeriCity, Hogan said, "Our administration is proud of this outstanding achievement for Baltimore City and Maryland. AmeriCorps members devote their time, energy, and expertise to serving our communities and addressing the important issues that affect our state, and today's announcement further illustrates the commitment of our citizens to changing Maryland for the better and making a difference in the world." In 2019, Hogan was unanimously elected to lead America's governors as chairman of the nonpartisan National Governors Association (NGA).

Every Year Oklahoma AmeriCorps Members		
Volunteer	Total	New
999,999	17,000+	27,000
Hours	Days	Years

**OKLAHOMA AMERICORPS** okamericorps.com

## IN GRATITUDE

### AWARDS SELECTION COMMITTEE:

Ia Moua, 2018 Awardee

Scott McFarland, 2018 Awardee

Debbie Schuffenhauer, 2018 Honor Roll Inductee

John Albright

LaDawn Stoddard

Main Event Catering

Philip Kolling

Top of the Town

### ASC RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

Lindsay Dolce, Reading & Math Foundation (Chair)

Des Culpitt, ServeMinnesota

Chad Driscoll, Volunteer Iowa

Roger Dunn, Massachusetts Service Alliance

Julia Keehner, Volunteer West Virginia

Alexis Matthews, Serve Wisconsin

Kate Scheuritzel, Serve Connecticut

Leslie Silverman, The Giving Practice, Philanthropy Northwest

### SILENT AUCTION/RAFFLE DONORS:

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Arizona Governor's Office of Youth, Faith & Family

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Serve Guam Commission

Serve Idaho

ServeMinnesota

Serve Washington

Serve Wisconsin

Sitting Bull College

UServeUtah

Volunteer Louisiana

Volunteer Mississippi

### ASC STAFF:

Kaira Esgate, Chief Executive Officer

Rachel Bruns, Deputy Director

Tom Branen, Chief Policy Officer

Emily Steinberg, Director of External Affairs

Elisa Gleeson, Membership & Training Manager

Monica Greenfield, Administrative Coordinator

### ADDITIONAL SUPPORT:

Amber Martin-Jahn

Greg Dohler Photography



# Without AMERICA'S SERVICE COMMISSIONS

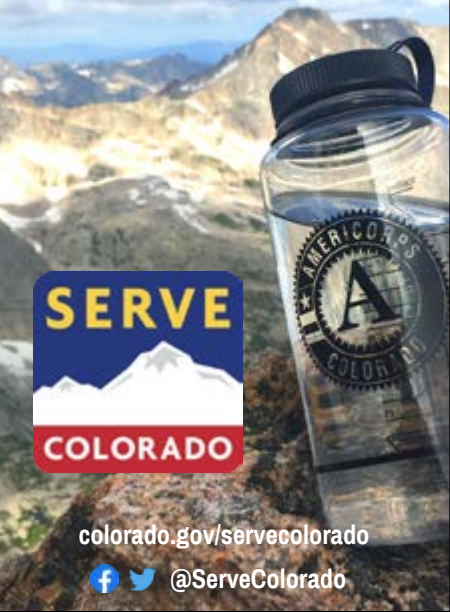
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**Congratulations  
Stacey Scherschligt!**

2019  
**Outstanding Commission  
Staff Member**



[Michigan.gov/Volunteer](http://Michigan.gov/Volunteer)

**Congratulations to all  
2019 Innovation & Leadership  
Awardees!**



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[www.volunteermississippi.org](http://www.volunteermississippi.org)



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Congratulations to LaDawn Stoddard  
Outstanding Commission Executive Director

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- ☆ Developing and Integrating Logic Models



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CONGRATULATIONS TO  
**Mary Grace Landrum**  
 2019 ASC Innovation & Leadership Awards  
 OUTSTANDING COMMISSIONER



We are so grateful for your tireless efforts to advocate for national service and promote volunteerism in the state of Texas!

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*Congratulations*

**Metropolitan  
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THE CLASSROOM IS THE  
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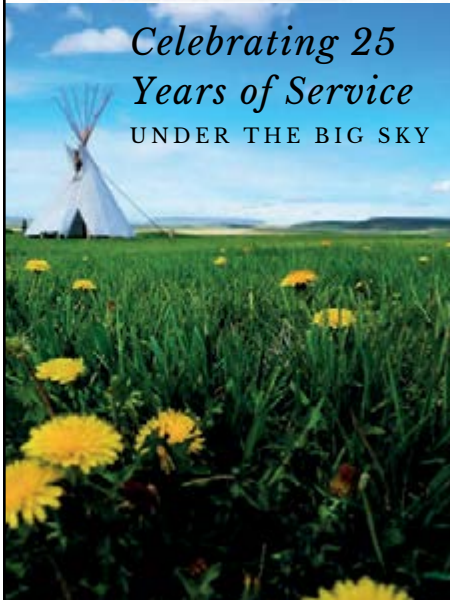
City Year is proud to build and celebrate national service in partnership with America's Service Commissions



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