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For Immediate Release

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Governor Encourages Nebraskans to Nominate Volunteers for the Step Forward Awards

NEBRASKA, Apr. 1, 2024 – ServeNebraska is now accepting volunteer nominations for the 10th annual Step Forward Awards. The Step Forward Awards are the most prestigious awards given to volunteers in Nebraska and highlight our state's remarkable culture of community service. Award recipients will be selected by the Governor and honored at the 2024 Step Forward Awards Luncheon in October. Businesses, civic clubs, schools, and other organizations are encouraged to submit individuals and groups who they believe should be recognized for their service. Nominations must be submitted by June 1st.

"Volunteers keep Nebraska communities going every day and we shouldn't let their hard work go unrecognized," said Gov. Jim Pillen. "I encourage all Nebraskans to nominate a volunteer for recognition this year and I look forward to reading about this year's group of outstanding nominees."

Nomination categories include Adult Volunteer, Youth Volunteer Leadership, Mentorship, Senior Volunteer, Volunteer Group, Corporate Community Volunteer, National Service, Veteran Volunteer, Disaster Volunteer and Lifetime Achievement.

"Reading about the stories of volunteer service happening in Nebraska is one of the highlights of my year," said Cathleen Plager, executive director for ServeNebraska. "We're honored to be able to celebrate these individuals and groups and help tell their stories."

For more information about ServeNebraska and the Step Forward Awards, or to submit a nomination, visit www.serve.nebraska.gov/awards

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About ServeNebraska

ServeNebraska is the Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission and is governed by a bipartisan board appointed by Nebraska's governor. Its mission is to mobilize Nebraskans to strengthen their communities through collaboration, volunteering and national service. ServeNebraska oversees AmeriCorps programming, hosts the state's most prestigious volunteer awards – the Governor's Step Forward Awards and provides training and technical assistance. To learn more, visit serve.nebraska.gov.