



# VOLUNTEER SERVICES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Goal Statement

To empower citizens to answer local needs through volunteerism and community engagement.

## Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

### Governance

- As a part of Leon County's Summer Youth Training Program, 63 students were introduced to the world of volunteerism and civic engagement in 2015. Each student participated in meaningful service projects and opportunities to learn more about how decisions are made in local government. Feedback from students was overwhelmingly positive; many students reported that they now have a better understanding of how policies and programs are developed, and more importantly, how necessary it is for young citizens to use their voices, skill and talents to contribute to the community.
- Volunteer Services, in its role as the County's Emergency Support Function coordinating volunteers and donations, trained more than 225 County employees and volunteers to support Leon County's Emergency Operation Center during critical activations. Advanced emergency training curriculum was created for "leadership" volunteers, creating a well-prepared team of staff and citizens.

## RESPONSIVE VOLUNTEERISM & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Leon County continued to leverage the vast talents and resources of the community's residents for the benefit of a diverse group of organizations and individuals.
- Through internships and volunteer service, more than 5,000 citizens volunteered in Leon County government programs and special events and contributed over 120,000 hours of service.
- VolunteerLEON is the only local resource that provides the Florida Volunteer Administration Certificate Program, a comprehensive volunteer management training series that provides up-to-date, practical guidance for the major areas of volunteer leadership and management. In March 2015, 35 participants from all parts of the state traveled to Leon County to attend the highly acclaimed training series.
- VolunteerLEON's Internship Program connects students to meaningful resume-building internships. The success of this hands-on learning program has generated more interest than available positions. Evaluations of the internship program

by participating students and County department supervisors indicated satisfaction rates greater than 95 percent.

- VolunteerLEON continues to play a leadership role in the activities of Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD), an association of non-profits and government agencies that participate in all phases of a disaster response and recovery. A full-scale Volunteer Reception Center exercise was conducted in May 2015, providing an opportunity for COAD members, Emergency Management, Leon County's Management Information Systems staff, and disaster volunteers to practice, test, and evaluate steps and systems.
- VolunteerLEON staff, volunteers, and interns participated in 30 community events. Also staff conducted presentations and outreach on program services by speaking at workshops and serving on panels, attending volunteer fairs, and assisting with community events.



Summer Youth Program at America's Second Harvest



Volunteers form a flag line at Operation Thank You

## Contact Us

(850) 606-1970  
www.VolunteerLEON.org



# 9/11 Day of Remembrance and Service



## Demonstrating Highest Standards of Public Service

Leon County's annual 9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance program received a 2015 Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties. In addition, the program received the "Best of Category" designation, indicating that the 9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance was the most outstanding program nationwide in the Volunteer category. Resource Center.

