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**SERVENEBRASKA ANNOUNCES STEP FORWARD AWARDS; SEEKS
NOMINATIONS**

LINCOLN, NE – ServeNebraska is now calling for nominations for the Step Forward Awards. The Step Forward Awards are the most prestigious awards given to volunteers across Nebraska who have gone above and beyond the call of service to their community. Award recipients will be selected by the governor. Businesses, civic clubs, schools, and other organizations are encouraged to submit the names of individuals who they wish to recognize for their efforts. Nominations will close July 1st.

“The dedication of volunteers helps to make Nebraska the best place in the world to live, work, and raise a family,” said Gov. Ricketts. “This year’s Step Forward Award recipients exemplify the generous and community-minded spirit of our state.”

Nomination categories include: Adult Volunteer, Youth Volunteer, Senior Volunteer, Volunteer Group, Corporate Community Volunteer, National Service, Veteran Volunteer, Disaster Volunteer, Community Media Partner, and Lifetime Achievement.

“With our state, and the world, facing such challenges in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, community service has proven to be more important than ever,” said Cathleen Plager, executive director of ServeNebraska. “Nebraskans are out in their communities stepping forward and banding together to keep our state safe and healthy. The Step Forward Awards provides an opportunity to recognize these individuals or groups for their time, dedication, and work in service to others.”

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

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About ServeNebraska

ServeNebraska is governed by a 17-member, bi-partisan board appointed by the governor. ServeNebraska’s 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, and provides training and technical assistance to program staff throughout Nebraska. To learn more, visit

www.serve.nebraska.gov