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NEWS RELEASE

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BUSINESS VOLUNTEER COUNCIL SEEKS STATEWIDE NOMINATIONS FOR VOLUNTEER AWARDS

West Virginia – Many businesses and organizations make significant contributions to their communities in both large and small ways every day. Now, there is an opportunity to recognize those companies for the important way they play a role in making West Virginia communities better places to live and work.

The West Virginia Business Volunteer Council (BVC) announces the first annual Business Volunteerism Awards. Nominations are now being accepted through March 31. The awards recognize West Virginia businesses, labor organizations, professional associations, and nonprofit organizations that incorporated volunteer service into their policies and practices in 2009.

The BVC encourages professionals to nominate an outstanding business or organization that displayed enduring commitment for the betterment of West Virginia through volunteerism in 2009.

Recipients of the Business Volunteerism Awards will receive recognition from First Lady Gayle Manchin and the BVC at the annual Business Volunteerism Reception held in Charleston at the Governor's Mansion during National Volunteer Week on Monday, April 19, 2010.

Nomination forms are available on Volunteer West Virginia's web site, [.volunteerwv.org](http://volunteerwv.org). Nominations should be postmarked by March 31, 2010. For more information, please contact Emily Schoen at (304) 558-0111 or email .r.schoen@wv.gov.

The West Virginia Business Volunteer Council (BVC) is a statewide initiative open to all private sector businesses, labor organizations, nonprofit organizations, and business and professional associations. The BVC is a way for the private sector to join government and non-profits in building a better West Virginia through volunteer service. The BVC is a primary resource for encouraging, educating, and connecting businesses that support employee volunteer programs as a business strategy.

The BVC is a program of Volunteer West Virginia, the state's Commission for National and Community Service, which provides critical administrative resources, guidance, and support, in addition to access to hundreds of non-profit agencies in the Mountain State through [.volunteerwv.org](http://volunteerwv.org). To learn more about the West Virginia Business Volunteer Council, visit [.volunteerwv.org](http://volunteerwv.org).

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