



Nomination Form

The Florida Recreation and Park Association's Voluntary Service Award is presented annually to citizens, businesses or organizations whose contributions of volunteer service over a period of time, have improved the quality and quantity of leisure opportunities through parks, recreation and leisure service programs and projects in neighborhoods, communities, or the State of Florida.

Volunteer efforts may include:

- An individual or group contribution of time and effort to the parks, recreation and leisure services movement for a minimum of three years.
- Advocacy activity on behalf of parks, recreation and leisure services, through involvement in other organizations or endeavors outside the parks, recreation and leisure services field.
- Advocacy activity on behalf of parks, recreation or leisure services, through involvement in local or state legislative activity resulting in the heightened awareness of the benefits of parks, recreation and leisure services.

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Nominator Name	Monette Preston
Nominator Phone	561-630-1107
Nominator Address	4404 Burns Road
Nominator City/State/Zip	Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
Nominator Email Address	mpreston@pbgfl.com
Nominator Relationship to Nominee	Community Partner
Name of Nominee	Christ Fellowship Church
Nominee Address	5343 Northlake Blvd
City/State/Zip	Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418
Nominee Contact (if needed)	Becky Kyle
Nominee is a(n)	Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Organization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does this nominee represent an underrepresented population?	No

Continued on next page

This award will be judged with a maximum of 70 points available. A minimum score of 56 is required to be considered an award finalist. In order to maximize the number of points earned it is imperative that the nominator thoroughly completes all elements of the application. Application must include submission packaged in the following format to be considered:

<p>NARRATIVE 1 30 points maximum available 3 typed 1.5 spaced pages max</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the nominee’s contributions to the parks, recreation and leisure services movement over the last three years. • Describe advocacy activity on behalf of the parks, recreation and leisure services movement, through involvement in other organizations or endeavors outside the parks, recreation or leisure services field. • Describe advocacy activity on behalf of parks, recreation or leisure services movement through involvement in local or state legislative activity resulting in the heightened awareness of the benefits of parks, recreation and leisure services. • If a group, describe how the program was received in the community by way of public response. • If a group, share demographic makeup and describe efforts made to encourage a diverse group of volunteers. 	<p>NARRATIVE 2 30 points maximum available 2 typed 1.5 spaced pages max</p> <p>Provide any additional information to describe why you believe the individual or organization being nominated is deserving of this recognition.</p>	<p>LETTERS OF SUPPORT 10 points maximum available</p> <p>Attach a letter of support for the Nomination from the Agency Director. You may also include up to 3 additional letters from program benefactors, or others that support the value of the corporate/individual contribution as well as the value of the program or project.</p>
---	---	---

Continued on Next Page

Florida Recreation and Park Association, Inc. 2022 Voluntary Service Award

Your application and submission will be reviewed by a panel. The panel will score your application and submission based not only on the completeness of your application, but also for how creative and thorough you are in your submission and narrative descriptions. This application is not just a checklist. It is an opportunity for you to demonstrate why this volunteer or volunteer organization excels, and why the work provided is deserving of this recognition.

SUBMISSION FORMAT: All Award Nominations must be submitted electronically. Please follow the steps below to make your submission:

1. Complete the nomination form (page one) by typing directly onto this document. This must be included in your final submission.
2. Include a snapshot page that outlines or bullets the main ideas and concepts you'd like to communicate to the judges. This should also include the basic answers to any required information.
3. Type your responses to the Narrative sections.
4. Your submission should be in this order
 - a. Nomination Form
 - b. Narratives
 - c. Letters of Support
 - d. Supplementary Material
5. If you need direction about creating a pdf from multiple documents, [click here](#).

All applications MUST BE TYPED. NO HANDWRITTEN SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Complete the Nomination Form in its entirety and send as ONE pdf file to eleonor@frpa.org. To be eligible, nominations must be received via email no later than April 29, 2022. You will receive a confirmation email that the nomination has been received.



Florida Recreation and Park Association, Inc. 2022 Voluntary Service Award

Narrative 1

Describe the nominee's contributions to the parks, recreation and leisure services movement over the last three years.

Behind every community project, there is a great team filled with incredible staff and exceptional volunteers. Christ Fellowship, a faith-based organization in South Florida, has been instrumental to the coordination of many recreation initiatives for Palm Beach Gardens residents. Christ Fellowship is defined by their passion for people. Their desire is to reach out and serve others in their point of need which makes them a perfect community partner. Since 2017, Christ Fellowship has lightened the burdens of Palm Beach Gardens residents and staff while promoting positivity and selflessness in the process. It does not matter how great or how small, Christ Fellowship is ready to fill the needs of the Recreation Department and City itself.

Christ Fellowship truly cares deeply about the community and steps up to support regardless of the event, time, or cost. Throughout our community partnership, Christ Fellowship generously provided a cash donation, event supplies, costume characters, attractions, and countless volunteer hours to support Recreation special events. They provided over 100 volunteers, giveaways, and event supplies for the Glow with the Flow Egg Hunt in April. During summer 2020, they partnered with the Recreation Department to sponsor summer camp, for a single-parent family who lost their business due to the pandemic. As we continue to partner with Christ Fellowship, it brings awareness of parks and recreation professionals to our community.

Describe advocacy activity on behalf of the parks, recreation and leisure services movement, through involvement in other organizations or endeavors outside the parks, recreation or leisure services field.

Despite the challenges brought by the pandemic, they eagerly agreed to continue supporting city initiatives. In May 2020, the City implemented the Unemployed Resident Relief Fund, a program

Florida Recreation and Park Association, Inc.
2022 Voluntary Service Award

created to assist residents who have experienced employment issues caused by COVID-19. After the announcement, Christ Fellowship provided meals, supplies, and volunteers. This event was orchestrated by the Recreation staff and their support of this program was key to its success.

Describe advocacy activity on behalf of parks, recreation or leisure services movement through involvement in local or state legislative activity resulting in the heightened awareness of the benefits of parks, recreation and leisure services.

Christ Fellowship has been instrumental providing resources related to emergency management throughout the city and state. Started in 2017, Christ Fellowship team delivered hot meals, snack bins, and refreshments to all emergency management staff during pre/post storm activation. In 2018, staff heard the devastating news of Hurricane Michael and quickly found a solution to help first responders and families in the panhandle. The City established Operation Sister City project, a joint-relief effort to help the employees of Bay County Public Works and the City of Callaway after Hurricane Michael with funding and supplies.

Without hesitation, Christ Fellowship called to see how they could serve. Within hours, they were at the community center with care packages for two panhandle communities affected by Hurricane Michael. The care packages included essential items and heartwarming letter from Christ Fellowship Kids. In December 2018, they provided a holiday party in Bay County and the City of Callaway to bring encouragement to the community members by lifting their spirits during these unprecedented times.

Less than one year after Operation Sister City project, Recreation and Public Services launched Gardens Gives, a disaster relief drive for the Bahamian communities impacted by Hurricane Dorian in 2019. Christ Fellowship partnered with the Recreation Department to collect new/unused essential items specifically for mothers, infants, and toddlers. The Recreation staff collected donations for a few months and Christ Fellowship shipped the items when the relief drive ended.

Florida Recreation and Park Association, Inc. 2022 Voluntary Service Award

If a group, describe how the program was received in the community by way of public response.

During the time of uncertainty, it was important for our community partner to remember those who are especially vulnerable. Thousands of people, both locally and internationally, have benefited from this organization in the past and present. Christ Fellowship volunteers emulate compassion in whatever job they work in. Below are several examples they have help the public.

- *April 2020 - approximately 1,700 supply kits were created and delivered to the elderly, single mothers, people with compromised immune systems and emergency room workers at nine area hospitals.*
- *May 2020 - organized Feeding South Florida that served many people during the recent economic challenges.*
- *September 2021 - partnered with Convoy of Hope for Make a meal, Make a difference. They packed 500,000 meals that will be delivered to Honduras—directly impacting communities and families that need it the most.*
- *March 2022 - sent 80,000 to 90,000 diapers to Poland for Ukrainian families who were forced to leave behind personal belongings in search of safety.*

If a group, share demographic makeup and describe efforts made to encourage a diverse group of volunteers.

Christ Fellowship is a multi-ethnic, all-generation church that reflects the diversity of its 13 locations throughout South Florida. The church provides opportunities to volunteer for every age and stage of life and believes that everyone contributes. Every day, the volunteers of Christ Fellowship propel its mission to impact the world with the love and message of Jesus Christ—everyone, every day, everywhere.

Florida Recreation and Park Association, Inc. 2022 Voluntary Service Award

Narrative 2

Provide any additional information to describe why you believe the individual or organization being nominated is deserving of this recognition.

Whether it is helping to provide food or household items to families in need or making sure our community events have the support needed to be successful, volunteers make a difference. Christ Fellowship is one of the most productive volunteer partnerships within the City of Palm Beach Gardens. Recreation staff continues to set goals towards FRPA's strategic plan and Christ Fellowship have risen to the challenge and exceeded expectations towards the community building pillar. Their volunteers are dedicated men and women of our community who are ordinary people doing extraordinary things.

Christ Fellowship continues to go above and beyond to bring awareness to city initiatives while working alongside with the Recreation and Public Services departments. In direct support of all staff, their team provided lunch served from their food truck during the recent challenges of the pandemic. Regardless of the task, they understand that an individual or family may be experiencing either a physical, emotional, or financial malady so they are eager to help. We would like to thank Christ Fellowship for investing energy into the well-being of our community through the demonstration of true civic leadership.