

**ROLLING HILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
a certifying organization for the

**PRESIDENTIAL VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD**

**AWARD GRANT PRINCIPLES**

The **Presidential Volunteer Service Award (PVSA)** is an award created by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation to thank and honor Americans who, by their demonstrated commitment and example, inspire others to engage in volunteer service. The President's Volunteer Service Award recognizes individuals who have achieved a certain standard of civic contribution measured by their hours of service over a 12-month period. Hours for which you are paid or serve as part of court-ordered community service do not count.

*At this time, Rolling Hills UMC only grants the PVSA to youth in middle school or high school. For more information about the PVSA generally, please visit the website:*

*<http://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov/index.cfm>.*

The PVSA is awarded based on the following hours of service in a 12-month period:

	Youth 11-15	Youth Ages 16 to 25
<b>Gold</b>	100 hours or more	250 hours or more
<b>Silver</b>	75 to 99 hours	175 to 249 hours
<b>Bronze</b>	50 to 74 hours	100 to 174 hours

RHUMC will grant awards based on the following principles:

- 1) The 12-month period will be measured based on hours served between July 1 of one year and June 30 of the next.
- 2) Age category will be based on your age on December 1 during the PVSA awarding year period.
- 3) Recipient(s) must be a United States citizen or a lawfully admitted permanent resident of the United States.
- 4) You must keep a record of your hours. RHUMC will not keep a record for you.
- 5) You may count 100% of actual service hours for approved service projects sponsored or organized by RHUMC.

Examples of projects that qualify for credit towards a PVSA are:

- All Faith in Action activities.
- Sierra Service Project.
- Kid Zone Summer Junior Counselor.
- Assisting in Sunday School.
- Club Maintenance.
- Serving as an acolyte
- Helping with special children's programs.
- Other activities approved by the RHUMC PVSA Awards Committee.

You should request a community service award certificate for each of your RHUMC organized activities. You will not receive credit towards a PVSA for any activity unless you have evidence indicating how many hours you served for that activity.

- 6) You may also count 100% your actual service hours for service projects sponsored or organized by organizations other than RHUMC. In order for these hours to count towards a PVSA, you must complete the Non-RHUMC activity form, and attach any supporting documents with your application. Final approval will come from the RHUMC PVSA Awards Committee. Supporting documentation is a certificate or letter evidencing your service that clearly identifies the organization and is signed by a leader of that organization. An email from the leader of that event or organization stating your involvement and hours earned may also be accepted. You can send completed applications, supporting documentation or questions regarding approval to [jrhighrhumc@gmail.com](mailto:jrhighrhumc@gmail.com).
- 7) If you traveled more than 15 miles for a service project, you may be permitted to count your approximate travel time.
- 8) Decisions of the RHUMC PVSA Awards Committee as to whether an activity counts as credit towards a PVSA are final.

Awards will be distributed at a church service in November. You can submit your record by giving the following to the PVSA Awards Committee by **July 15** of each year.

- PVSA Application.
- A completed log showing all of your service activities.
- Copies of the certificates or letters you received when you performed the service, and/or other supporting documentation.
- Non-RHUMC activity form.

We are asking for the youth to include in their application a photo of the youth volunteering, if possible. Send the picture via email to [Kristin@rhumc.org](mailto:Kristin@rhumc.org) as a jpeg, and include a brief caption describing the photo and the event. The photos may be used during the PVSA ceremony.