

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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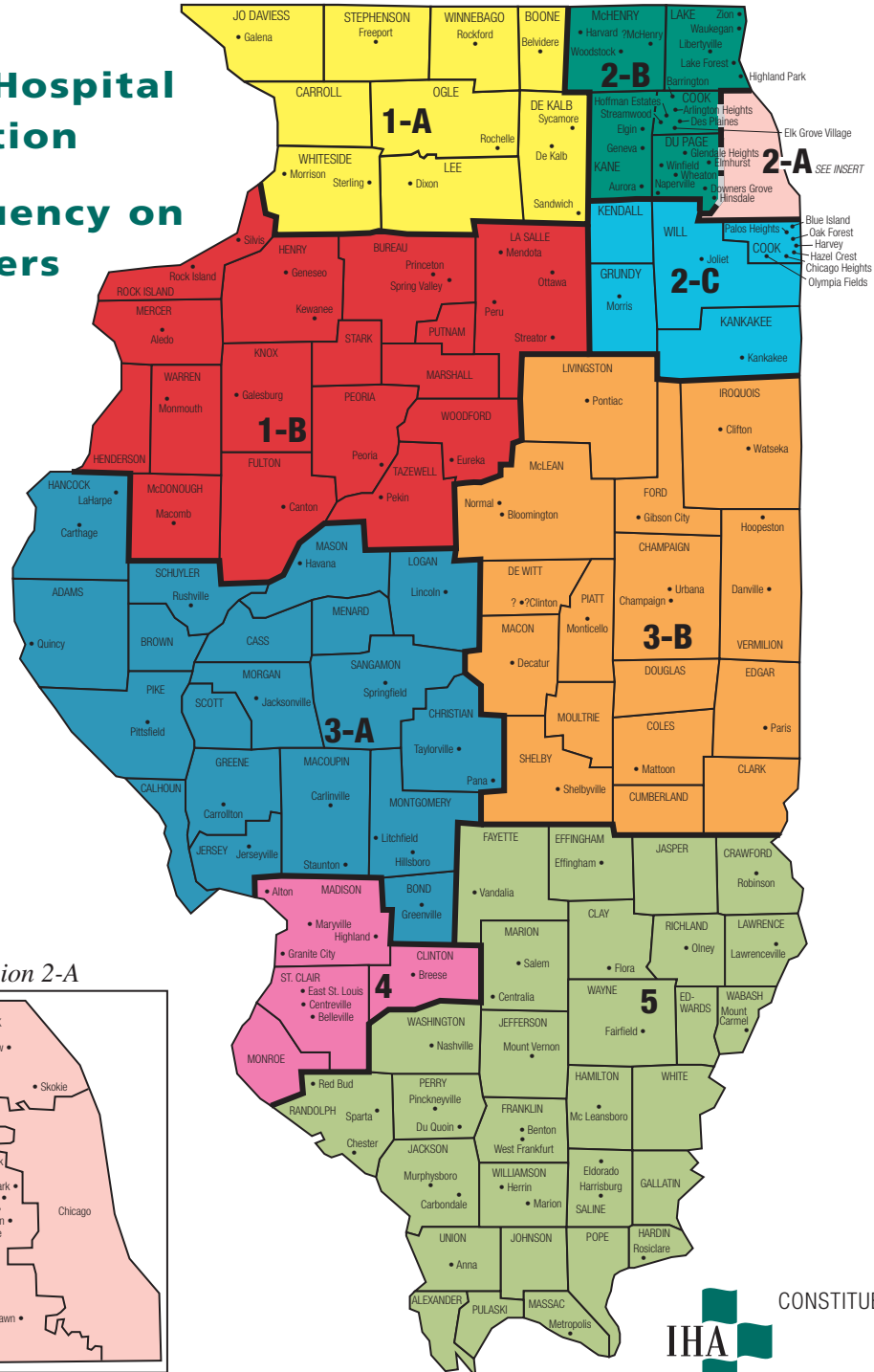
IHA Volunteer Department
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Web Site

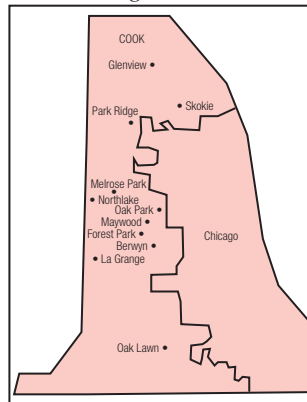
www.ihatoday.org

Visit our Web Site for copies of pertinent material and information: CoV information can be obtained under the *Constituency Section* of the site.

Illinois Hospital Association Constituency on Volunteers



Insert: Region 2-A



Illinois Hospital Association
 1151 East Warrenville Road, P.O. Box 3015
 Naperville, Illinois 60566
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PURPOSE

The IHA CoV focuses on providing the hospital volunteer community with opportunities for educating their leaders, members, staff and future health care workers. In addition to formal education opportunities, the CoV offers members the opportunity to learn from each other. The focus of education is addressed in four areas:

- Formal Education Presentations
- Networking Opportunities
- Scholarships Awarded to Illinois Students Pursuing a Clinical Health Career
- Information on Policy and Advocacy Strategies on Issues of Importance to Hospitals

STRUCTURE

CoV is governed by an elected steering committee. The steering committee includes three officers: chair, vice chair, and immediate past chair; two designated state project chairs: scholarship and volunteer leadership retreat; and up to ten at-large members. The CoV immediate past chair is responsible for monitoring the CoV guidelines for operation and the CoV vice chair is responsible for overseeing the four annual education offerings.

CoV steering committee members are elected for one year with the opportunity for reelection. Interested members are asked to complete a profile form that is reviewed by the CoV nominating committee. The nominating committee is chaired by the immediate past chair of the CoV and comprised of the current CoV chair and vice chair as well as the IHA staff and IHA president. Prior to the CoV steering committee slate being finalized, a candidate's CEO will be contacted to ensure support for this commitment.

Two task forces are appointed annually: scholarship and volunteer leadership retreat. Local members are asked to assist with the implementation of education programs for the day of the event.

The CoV business meeting is held every year in conjunction with the Volunteer Leadership Retreat.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Three education programs are offered between the months of March and August. These one day events are held in three different geographic locations around the state. The topics and speakers for these events are determined by the CoV steering committee based on member input.

A one and one-half day Volunteer Leadership Retreat (VLR) is held in September. On even years it is held in Springfield and in odd years in Naperville. The VLR attracts nationally known speakers as well as offering three concurrent tracks of education: auxiliary leadership, gift shop managers and volunteers, and administrators of volunteer resources. In addition to the education content, vendors are offered the opportunity to support the event through displays of their merchandise which allow members to access new ideas and contacts. Also, scholarship fund raising events are held during this conference.

SCHOLARSHIP

The CoV offers \$1,000 scholarships to students enrolled in the clinical sequence of a health career. Applications are available January 1 and due April 15. Pre-screening of candidates is done each May by a CoV scholarship work group. Final selection is made in June by the scholarship selection task force. Eligible students are ranked in the area of scholastic achievement, financial need, and personal profile.

The CoV scholarship program is funded by donations from hospital auxiliaries and volunteer organizations as well as through individual contributions made as a memorial, honor, or recognition. Hospitals often choose to match funds their auxiliaries have contributed.

MISSION STATEMENT

Support, enhance and expand hospital volunteerism through education.

MEMBERSHIP

Participation in the Illinois Hospital Association's (IHA) Constituency on Volunteers (CoV) is open to any auxiliary/volunteer leader, auxilian, volunteer, director of volunteers, or other related staff of an IHA member hospital.

ADVOCACY

The CoV supports IHA's overall advocacy efforts by educating and involving the community through our volunteer constituents. Volunteers are encouraged to become familiar with issues of importance to hospitals and to work with their hospital CEO in identifying appropriate advocacy strategies at their local level.

Volunteers are encouraged to support the hospitals' political action committee, IHA PAC.

Eligible auxiliaries and volunteer organizations are recognized annually with the Health Care Advocacy Award. Criteria includes: appointing a volunteer health care advocacy chair and notifying the IHA volunteer department; supporting the IHA PAC through donations made by 50% of the auxiliary board or 10 members of the auxiliary or volunteers; supporting IHA's grassroots advocacy requests through letter-writing campaigns, resolutions, or other strategies encouraged by IHA and the hospital CEO; contributing to the CoV IHREF scholarship fund; attending one education event or the Volunteer Leadership Retreat; and completing the application and returning it to IHA by January 15.