

**THE POWER OF SERVICE:
ENRICHING
THE QUALITY OF LIFE
IN SANTA CLARITA**



2024

VOLUNTEER IMPACT REPORT

2024 BY THE NUMBERS

5,678
Volunteers

39,131



Volunteer
Hours

482

Volunteer Positions
Filled

\$1.51M

Dollar Value of Volunteer Hours
(Based on 2023 rate)

19

Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)
Positions



25

City Events
Impacted

President's Volunteer Service Award

55 Awardees

7,809 PVSA
Hours

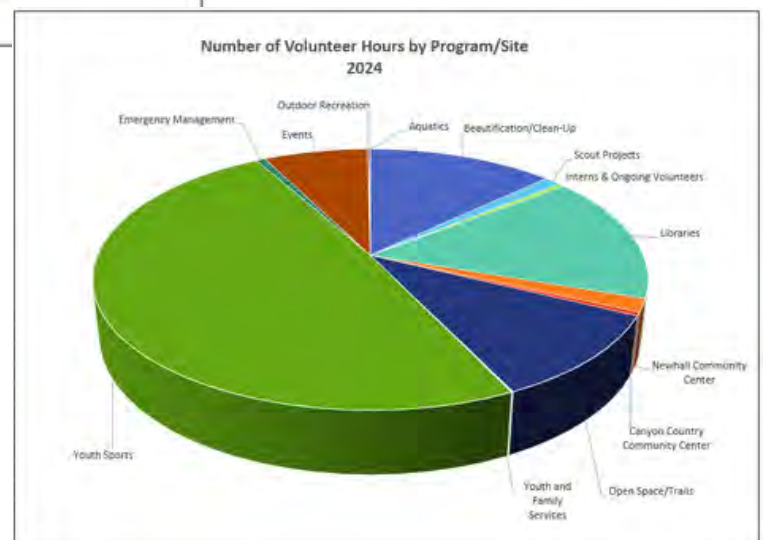
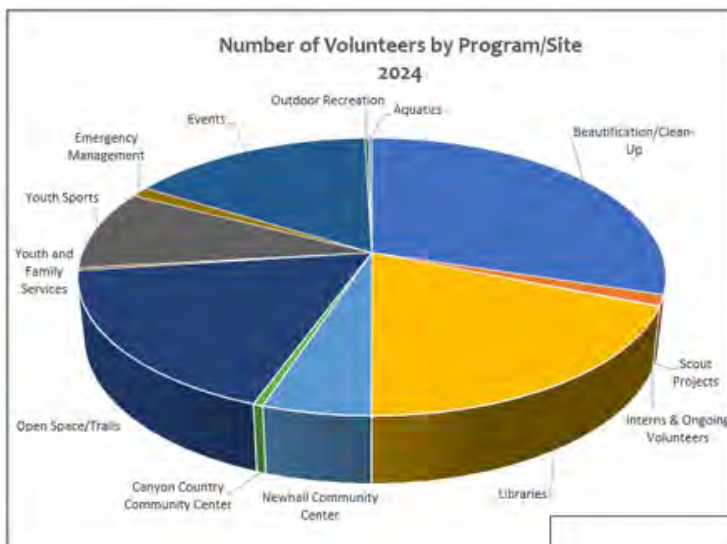


VOLUNTEER IMPACT

Through our volunteers' dedicated efforts and contributions to the community, the City of Santa Clarita (City) was honored with the **2024 Organizational Excellence Award** by the **Municipal Management Association of Southern California**. This award is presented to a public agency whose accomplishments have significantly contributed to the advancement of local government service or otherwise improved the quality of service provided to the community. This was reflected in events such as the River Rally, Graffiti Removal Day, and Make a Difference Day. **This recognition is a testament to what we can achieve when we work together as a community!**

City Divisions/Programs Impacted by Volunteers

- Adult Sports
- Aquatics
- Building & Safety
- City Clerk's Office
- Community Centers
- Community Court
- Community Preservation
- Emergency Management
- Environmental Services
- Facilities Maintenance
- Finance
- General Services
- Graffiti Removal
- Human Resources
- Libraries
- Open Space and Trails
- Outdoor Recreation
- Special Events
- Transit
- Youth and Family Services
- Youth Sports



● PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

- **Fifty-five (55) volunteers** earned the prestigious **President's Volunteer Service Award**, with a total of **7,809 volunteer hours** given collectively to the City

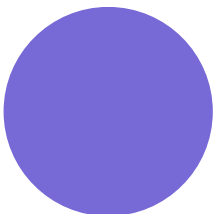
● EVENTS

- Crucial to the **success of 25 City events**, bringing **joy to thousands** of residents who attended such events as the Cowboy Festival, Light Up Main Street, and Family Literacy Festival, among others
- Helped the City promote and celebrate **six different cultures** at the 2024 **Celebrate** series -- Brazil, South Korea, Sweden, Cuba, Japan, and Germany
- Supported the City in offering a successful **first-ever indoor Eggstravaganza Egg Hunt** for hundreds of children, as the City expeditiously pivoted to an indoor event due to heavy rains



● SCOUT PROJECTS

- New features were added to enhance the Santa Clarita Archery Range, including **13 archery stands** and **3 wooden puncheon bridges** to elevate the trail across areas with poor drainage, thus making it safer for trail-users when it rains
- A **mini library** was built and installed at Towsley Canyon's parking lot, helping promote a **love for reading** and community engagement
- A **bridge was installed** and the **trail cleared and widened** at the Newhall Pass Open Space
- Enhanced Heritage Park by **planting a tree** as part of Earth Arbor Day, fostering a **sense of community pride** and environmental awareness
- Improved the looks of Avenue Stanford by **spreading mulch**



● OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS

- **8.3 miles of new trails designed and built** in the Rivendale Park and Open Space, East Walker Ranch Open Space, and Newhall Pass Open Space
- **New trail created** in the newly-acquired open space, formerly the Regan property, at Rivendale Park and Open Space, **connecting City open space to MRCA open space**
- **1.7 miles of trails built and maintained** in the Santa Clarita Archery Range at Haskell Canyon Open Space
- **47 miles of trails maintained** in various open spaces, including the new Pioneer Oil Trail that connects the Pioneer Oil Park and Pine Street Trailhead in the Gates Family Wildlife Preserve, as well as the Taylor, Elder, Uncle Remi, Shadow Glen, Cabin, and Heritage Trails
- **Successful outdoor restoration projects** at Golden Valley Ranch and Elsmere Canyon Open Spaces, including removing more than 17 bags of weeds and invasive plants to **help reduce fire risks** and make room for native plants to naturally grow, and planting **245 native plants**, 75% of which are growing well and are watered regularly
- Positively impacted the Grit Obstacle Course Race at East Walker Ranch by clearing the trail to make sure it was **safe for race participants**
- A long-time trail volunteer (Steve I.) **generously donated a Volunteers trailer** where equipment and tools for trail projects are now stored and can be readily and conveniently delivered to project locations in various open spaces, thus, **creating efficiencies**



LIBRARIES

- Played an integral part in making the **Summer Reading Program** a success and a delightful experience for over **2,000 program participants**
- **Teen Advisory Board** members helped develop and implement **teen library programs**, craft marketing strategies, and curate engaging book displays
- **Raised funds** for library programs through bag sales and maintained the **Friends of the Library Bookstore**
- Helped **promote a love for reading and literacy** through events like Dia de los Niños/Día de los Libros, Teen Fan Fest, and Family Literacy Festival, among others
- Provided students and community members **opportunities to practice their English** in a relaxed environment through **volunteer-led programs**, such as the English Conversation Club, Spanish Conversation Club, and the new Teen English Conversation Club
- Ensured public spaces and high-touch surfaces were sanitary for library patrons through the **Tween Clean-Up** projects for students aged 11-14



COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION

- **12,555 pounds** of trash and debris were picked up from a portion of the **Santa Clara River** at the annual River Rally, bringing the event's historic total to 499,651 pounds
- **Improved the appearance of Bouquet Canyon Road**, from Seco Canyon Road to Alamagordo Road, and **Avenue Stanford**, from Avenue Hall to Vanderbilt Way, by spreading mulch
- Beautified the **Chuck Pontius Commuter-Rail Trail** by picking up trash
- Painted **25,000 square feet of walls** under the Soledad Canyon Road overpass, using **100 gallons of paint**
- **Enhanced neighborhoods, paseos, and trails** by removing litter and debris during the annual Neighborhood Clean-Up



● COMMUNITY CENTERS

- Benefited **over 50 students** per day through **Homework Help** and other activities, such as the Reading Club, Read to a Dog program, and arts and crafts, among others
- Helped the Centers offer **popular community events**, including the Halloween Fiesta and Haunted House, Dia de los Muertos, Thanksgiving Community Dinners, and others



● YOUTH SPORTS & OUTDOOR RECREATION

- Impacted **over 100 Outdoor Recreation program participants**
- Allowed **Youth Sports leagues to grow** by **coaching** and **mentoring 2,924 youth** in **322 teams**, an increase of roughly four percent from 2023
- Helped make the **Community Hikes fun and safe** for participants, particularly the Halloween-themed hike where volunteers dressed up in costumes
- Allowed a **better riding experience** for bike enthusiasts at the Trek Bike Park by cleaning up the site

● EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

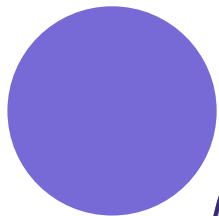
- **Empowered Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** class participants to put into practice what they have learned by acting as “injured survivors” in a **real-world disaster simulation**

● COMMUNITY COURT

- Made possible the participation of **97 students** in the Community Court Diversion Program

● VOLUNTEER HUB

- Supported **22 local non-profits** by volunteering to support **various causes benefiting the community**



● MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

22 Projects **8 Non-Profits** **300 Volunteers** **1,106 Volunteer Hours**

- **230%-increase in the number of volunteers**, from 91 in 2023 to 300 in 2024, ranging in age from 2 to 77
- **144%-increase in the number of projects**, from 9 projects in 2023 to 22 in 2024:
 - > **ARTree Community Center** – enhanced the courtyard by painting a glass window and small rocks on the landscaped area
 - > **Avenues Supported Living Services** – sorted and organized supplies and donated items
 - > **Boys and Girls Club** – assembled new cabinets in the Teen Room
 - > **Bridge to Home** – organized and freshened up the BTH office by moving furniture and painting the walls in the offices and conference room
 - > **Bridgeport Park** – painted the concrete fence along Newhall Ranch Road
 - > **Canyon Country Park Residence** – helped a wheelchair-bound resident make his backyard safe and up-to-code by landscaping, mulching, and moving items
 - > **Canyon Country Library** – dusted and cleaned up furniture and high-touch surfaces
 - > **Central Park** – assisted residents by bagging and loading mulch into vehicles for the mulch give-away project
 - > **Chuck Pontius Commuter-Rail Trail** – spruced up the trail by picking up trash and debris
 - > **Circle of Hope** – assembled care packages for clients and Thank You cards for donors
 - > **Newhall Community Center** – spread decomposed granite and mulch to create a safe pedestrian walkway
 - > **Newhall Library** - dusted and cleaned the furniture and high-touch surfaces
 - > **Newhall Park** – installed sand in the playground area
 - > **Paseos behind Granary Square** – painted light poles
 - > **Santa Clara River Trail by Discovery Park** – painted the walls along the wash
 - > **SCV Food Pantry** – sorted and organized food items, and made bags for distribution
 - > **Straightening Reins** – power-washed the barn, cleaned the chicken coop, raked the pasture, and tended to the herd
 - > **Tesoro Adobe Historic Park** – painted light poles
 - > **The Salvation Army** – deep cleaned the kitchen/food pantry
 - > **Transit Maintenance Facility** – painted the exterior wall
 - > **Valencia Library** - dusted and cleaned the furniture and high-touch surfaces
 - > **Valle Del Oro** – picked up trash in the Village Apartment Complex and at Valle Del Oro, Dockweiler Drive, Newhall Avenue, Carl Court, and at the shopping center



Our Volunteers Did These...and Much More!

~ Before-and-After Pictures ~



Spread mulch on Bouquet Canyon Road (*Saugus Community Beautification Day*)

Painted concrete fence at Bridgeport Park (*Make a Difference Day*)



Painted light poles on the paseos by Granary Square (*Make a Difference Day*)

Created a decomposed granite pathway from Race Street to the Newhall Community entrance (*Make a Difference Day*)



President's Volunteer Service Award 2023-2024 Recipients

Gold Level

- Omkar Adduri
- Arundhathi Jathin
- Arene Oh
- Katherine Turner
- Kayton Wickremasuriya

Silver Level

- Candace Ford
- Landon Rivas
- Anita Singh

Bronze Level

- Pranavi Adduri
- Malik Ahmed
- Eliseo Altamirano
- Ryan Arditty
- Brian Arkus
- Alexandra Avram
- Justin Bush
- Jason Carter
- Fernando Cuevas
- Ajay Dhawan
- Richard Galvan
- Anthony Guzman
- Arif Harsolia
- Travis Hayden
- Mary Herr
- Geovanni Herrera
- Jagger Hunt
- Steve Ioerger
- Brian Jagers
- Deborah Jagers
- Art Jamgochian
- Juan Jimenez
- Chad Johnson
- Betty Kelly
- Esther Kunz
- Heedon Daniel Lee
- Lucy Liu
- Erick Luna
- Steve Martin
- MaryAnn Mays
- Jerrid McKenna
- Lynn McKenzie
- Tarek Mohana
- Juan Ortiz
- Chris Padula
- Mark Paguio
- Cesar Perez
- Mario Perez
- Penni Perrault
- Russ Pope
- Dante Quintana
- Eric Reifman
- Andres Rubalcava
- Angelynn Singley
- Anjela Toteva
- Avery Watson
- Linda Williams



Official Certifying Organization

Valuable in more ways than words can say

Optimistic and helpful every day

Lending support with a heart-warming smile

Unselfishly going the extra mile

Notable for all the work you do

Trusted because we can count on you

Effective in all you undertake

Esteemed for the difference that you make

Ready to serve in so many ways

Special and deserving of our praise!

