

Fort Collins-Loveland ranks seventh in country for volunteerism

BY COLORADOAN STAFF • AUGUST 12, 2009

United Way of Larimer County's Volunteer Center announced today that the Fort Collins-Loveland area was named in a new report focused on volunteer rates in all 50 states, U.S. Regions, and large and mid-sized cities.

Volunteering in America, a detailed, multi-year report on volunteering trends reveals that Fort Collins-Loveland ranked seventh in mid-sized cities with a 38.3-percent volunteer rate. According to the study, the median volunteer rate for Mid-sized cities is 28.6-percent. This is the second year in a row that Fort Collins-Loveland ranked seventh. Denver ranked eighth among big cities.

"This national recognition is a reflection of the thousands of people in northern Colorado who dedicate themselves to enriching our community," Adam Molzer, director of United Way of Larimer County's Volunteer Center, said in a statement. The Volunteer Center is a local clearinghouse for people who want to volunteer and a place where organizations can register volunteer projects. The Volunteer Center provides opportunities for individuals, and business and community organizations to make a difference in Larimer County.

The Corporation for National and Community Service released the report. The research is based on surveys of thousands of individuals collected by the U.S. Census and the Bureau of Labor Statistics which examines volunteering from many angles, including age, gender, economic status, education level and geography.

Statistics for this area were collected within the Fort Collins Metropolitan Statistical Area, which includes Loveland:

Highlights:

The bullets below are all based on an average using 2005 and 2008 data

- > 86,900 volunteers.
- > 38.3 percent of residents volunteer - ranking them seventh within the 75 mid-size cities.
- > 43.7 hours per resident - ranking them 16th within the 75 mid-size cities.
- > \$200.7 million of service contributed

For more information about the report and local volunteer needs go to: www.uwaylc.org