

## Illinois State Organization National Society Daughters of the American Revolution Marria Elliott Blinn, State Regent



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Service is at the core of what we do. DAR founder Eugenia Washington once said, "We want a society founded on service," and our service is one of the most tangible ways we can make an impact at all levels of society. The Storage Administration aims to reach 17.76 million logged Service to America hours by the end of the administration in 2028. Illinois Daughters, we can do it!

Every hour counts, including hours spent on your DAR work; however, attending chapter meetings, travel time, and DAR webinars do not qualify. Hours serving other groups and organizations may be counted, though! Add your hours to the <u>Service to America Online Tally</u> or ask a chapter member to assist you. **The deadline to log hours for 2025 is January 31, 2026.** 

September 2026 is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11, so this year's <u>Annual Service to America Project</u> is to thank our first responders. Reach out to your local fire station, hospital, or police dispatch and see how you can provide support in your community.

Celebrate the legacy of our founders, like Eugenia Washington, by planning a <u>National DAR Day of Service</u> event on or around October 11. Bring your chapter together with a meaningful project of your choice.

Do you have a busy schedule? Not to worry. There's always time for <u>Service in Seconds</u>! Bring an idea to a chapter meeting or take some time on your own to complete a small project with a big impact.

The Storage Administration is continuing the <u>Salute to Service</u> initiative, and Daughters are encouraged to continue their efforts to thank active-duty military, veterans, and first responders for all they do for our communities. Don't forget to "Snap A Salute" and post your photo on social media!

Submit your projects for recognition through one of the two Service to America contests. More information on requirements and eligibility is available on the <u>contests webpage</u>. The submission deadlines for both contests are on or before January 15, 2026.

- National DAR Day of Service: Project must be completed between October 1, 2025, and October 31, 2025
- Service in Seconds: Project must be completed between January 1, 2025, and December 31, 2025

Don't forget to join us over on the <u>Service to America Committee Daughters Online Community</u> (<u>DOC</u>) to explore new opportunities and share ideas around the country.