

Public Service

RECOGNITION WEEK

MAY 7-13, 2023

CAPITOL HILL GUIDE

WHAT IS PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK?

Celebrated the first full week in May since 1985, *Public Service Recognition Week* (PSRW) is a time to honor the people who serve our nation as employees of our democratic institutions. PSRW is hosted by the Public Employees Roundtable (PER), a non-partisan coalition of good government organizations representing civil servants and retirees from all levels and throughout the country.

FIVE WAYS YOU CAN RECOGNIZE PUBLIC SERVANTS

At the heart of *Public Service Recognition Week* is recognizing the important contributions that government employees make and the impact their work has on the health and welfare of our country. Here are five ways that you can honor public sector employees during PSRW:

1. **Deliver a floor speech** expressing your gratitude to public sector employees and recognizing their contributions to our country. In your speech, you can highlight the work of a specific individual or team of people who exemplify excellence in public service. Consider talking about a *Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals* finalist (servicetoamericamedals.org) from your state or district. You can also celebrate your own staff and caseworkers who embody public service in their legislative service. For help identifying someone outside of your own office to highlight, contact Abbi Fine at afine@ourpublicservice.org. As examples, you can read a past floor speech honoring public servants by [Rep. Jamie Raskin](#) (MD), [Rep. Keith Rothfus](#) (PA) or [Sen. Mark Warner](#) (VA).

2. **Attend a virtual event** celebrating *Public Service Recognition Week*. You can also consider hosting a virtual celebration for your staff and constituent caseworkers in district offices who interface with the public every day, as they also embody the tenets of public service. Visit our [website](#) to learn more about virtual events, like the Fed 35 challenge and the *Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals* finalist announcement.
3. **Write a letter to the editor or op-ed** to the newspapers in your state or district recognizing the achievements of public servants and their contributions to the safety, health and welfare of the nation. Highlight a public sector employee (see our [library](#) of *Service to America Medals* finalists) to share the good work of government service happening in your state or district.
4. **Visit an agency office** in D.C. or in your district to learn about a specific program and express your thanks for the work that they do. Take time to meet the employees and observe their work.
5. **Reach out** using social media to talk about PSRW and the importance of public service across all branches of government. Follow us on Twitter at @PublicService and join in the conversation about Public Service Recognition Week by using the hashtag #PSRW.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Abbi Fine at the Partnership for Public Service at (202) 775-9111 or afine@ourpublicservice.org for more information about how your office can participate in PSRW.

For more online resources, including quick facts about public service, sample talking points, PSRW logos and details of PSRW events, visit psrw.org.