



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Prisons

Office of the Director

Washington, D.C. 20534

Volunteers of the Federal Bureau of Prisons,

In 1974, President Richard Nixon signed the first Executive Order establishing National Volunteer Week; every President since then has signed an annual proclamation. This year we celebrate and honor you during the 44th Annual National Volunteer Week, April 15 - 21, 2018.

The Bureau of Prisons has more than 10,000 volunteers who provide services and support at our 122 prisons. With so many opportunities available to volunteer in the community and so many great causes, we are grateful you chose to volunteer with the Bureau. You make a difference by sharing your time and talents -- mentorship, fellowship, education, recovery maintenance, and support of self-help efforts, to name a few.

Every day you walk through our front gate, you serve as an agent of change and a positive role model for the men and women in our prisons. Your partnership in helping Bureau staff prepare inmates to become productive, law-abiding citizens upon their release from prison is very much appreciated and valued.

To be a volunteer, it takes...

- Generosity, a willingness to give your time to others.
- Understanding, because their lives might be very different from your own.
- Empathy, an ability to put yourself in someone else's shoes and feel what they must feel.
- Compassion, to truly care about making someone else's life better.
- Patience, because the process doesn't always go as smoothly as it might.
- Dedication, to stick with the project and see it through.

You've shown these qualities and so much more, so thank you for all that you do.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Mark S. Inch". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Mark S. Inch
Director