



# CELEBRATING VOLUNTEERS

*by* Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL VOLUNTEER Appreciation Week (April 18-24), the employees of the Attorney General's Child Support Division would like to thank its volunteers for their service and dedication to the children of Texas.

Each year, volunteers across the state help the Office of the Attorney General serve Texas families and children more efficiently and effectively. Volunteering can be beneficial to people from different walks of life, including individuals seeking new job skills; student-interns seeking to satisfy course requirements; retirees and other Texans who simply wish to give back to their communities.

Child support volunteers perform a variety of duties, including data entry, filing, and assisting attorneys and child support officers. The time and skills

volunteers contribute help each office operate more efficiently.

Not only do volunteers make an impact on children, but they positively impact taxpayers as well. The Attorney General's Office saved taxpayers \$1.67 million last year through the use of 725 volunteers statewide.

These dedicated Texans are vital to the success of the child support program. By graciously donating their time, volunteers are helping the Attorney General's Office provide children with critically important financial and medical resources. Thanks to these individuals, the Office of the Attorney General can help ensure that young Texans have the resources they need to grow healthy and strong.

Child Support volunteers share a passion and genuine desire to help

the children of Texas. Francis Perkis, 77, has volunteered for the Paris child support office since 1992, rarely missing a day of work. She works with fellow volunteer, 86-year-old Wilma Rhea, helping mail legal notices to parents who receive or pay child support.

Both women are past recipients of the President's Volunteer Service Award, which is a national award that recognizes individuals, families and groups that have achieved a certain number of service hours.

Ninety-one-year-old Doris Morton is another impressive volunteer who deserves recognition. Doris has volunteered in the Abilene office for the past 28 years, driving 15 miles to and from the office. Every Monday afternoon, Doris assists the legal staff by completing administrative tasks. In addition, her

positive attitude and outgoing nature help keep office morale high.

These women are just a few examples of the outstanding volunteers that the OAG is lucky to have. Their dedication and hard work helps the Child Support Division make an impact and serve the greater needs of Texans.

Thank you to each volunteer who has left a mark on the Child Support Division — many lives have now been enriched.

Individuals interested in volunteering Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. should contact their local child support office. Contact information can be found on the Community Services/Volunteer Program section of the Attorney General's Child Support Web site at [www.texasattorneygeneral.gov](http://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov).