



NEWS FOR YOU

A News Brief for Senior Corps-RSVP Volunteers
of Northern Cook and Northern DuPage Counties



Sponsored by HandsOn
Suburban Chicago

MAY 2018

Engaged at Every Age

May is a month of celebration for Senior Corps-RSVP, highlighted by our annual member brunch on May 16th. Additionally, the Administration on Aging, leads our nation's observance of Older American's Month. The 2018 theme, **Engage at Every Age**, emphasizes that you are never too old (or young) to take part in activities that can enrich your physical, mental, and emotional well-being. It also celebrates the many ways in which older adults make a difference in our communities.

I can definitely say that members of our Senior Corps-RSVP program are very **Engaged at Every Age**. In this newsletter we share our member's accomplishments and photos from our celebration.

Carolyn Roberts *Project Director, Senior Corps-RSVP*



Annual Community Paint-A-Thon - Saturday, September 15, 2018

Do you know an older or disabled homeowner of a single-family residence who is financially disadvantaged and who is physically unable to paint their home themselves? If so, they may qualify to have the exterior of their home repainting due to peeling, fading or worn paint. The program provides for the painting of the exterior of single family homes in Barrington, Elk Grove, Hanover, Maine, New Trier, Niles, Northfield, Palatine, Schaumburg and Wheeling Townships at no cost to those who qualify. To request an application, please contact Catholic Charities at 847-253-5500 as soon as possible.

The Paint-A-Thon is a community-wide event. Teams of volunteers are recruited from businesses, churches, social and civic groups. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact HandsOn Suburban Chicago, 847-228-1320.

Annual Member Recognition Event *Give Yourself a Hand!*

On Wednesday, May 16th, 150 Senior Corps-RSVP members attended our volunteer recognition brunch. The First Bank of Highland Park, the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Korean Cultural Center of Chicago, the Sion Club, and the HandsOn Suburban Chicago Board of Directors sponsored this brunch.

For those not in attendance we send our sincere thanks to you for your volunteer service this past year. We applaud all our members!

See
next page
for a
photo
montage
of the
event!

Annual Member Recognition Event



Senior Corps-RSVP
Member Recognition Brunch
Give Yourself A Hand!

10:00am WELCOME
10:00am BRUNCH SERVED
11:00am ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
11:30am VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION
11:40am GIVEAWAYS

FILE OF LIFE
KEEP INFORMATION UP TO DATE

Senior Corps-RSVP
Member Recognition Brunch
Give Yourself A Hand!
Event Sponsors

First Bank of Highland Park
Where Community is First!



HandsOn
SUBURBAN CHICAGO
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sion Club

Special Thanks
David Jacobson - Photographer,
Senior Corps-RSVP Member

Thanks to our Senior Corps-RSVP Member Donors
Darinka Bikneris Sally Lettecci
Marilyn DeFilippo Lorraine Tancredi
Eleanor Walters



Senior Corps–RSVP service *by the numbers!*

Following is a summary of the outstanding service provided by our members to their communities during our fiscal year, ending March 31, 2018.

162 members

assisted 410 adult learners improve their English language skills to become better informed parents, neighbors, and increase their employment opportunities

10 members

worked with 27 high school students helping them to develop a commitment to giving back to their community

41 members

painted the exterior of 14 financially disadvantaged seniors and disabled individuals enabling them to remain in their homes with pride

67 members

tutored 583 students helping them improve academically

41 members

processed thrift shop donations resulting in additional revenues

11 members

supported food distribution pantries to 2,144 individuals helping to alleviate hunger

57 members

transported 428 older adults to medical appointments

23 members

members in our new Pen Pal program wrote letters to 71 third-fifth grade bi-lingual and ESL students improving their communication skills

26 members

delivered meals to 331 adults providing them with a hot nutritious meal and well-being check

23 members provided specialized skills to our member organizations helping those organizations do more with fewer dollars

47 members helped 1,228 filers complete their income tax returns, saving them the cost of tax preparation fees on average of \$250

297 members volunteered as advisory board members, animal and farm care, reception and administrative support roles, airport guides, art, craft, knit and crochet groups, choir members, current and special events assistance, hospital and nursing home activities, instructors, and homeless shelter workers. This list goes on.

These statistics are impressive!

We ask that you share this information with your Congressman and let them know the value of Senior Corps-RSVP service. You can help sustain our program for the future. **See next page for more...**



Alan Lopatin, Director, National Senior Corps Association (NSCA) called for action by our Senior Corps members. He wrote, *"Time and again, we (NSCA) hear from congressional staff that their bosses do not hear from any constituents in support of Senior Corps. With the short time we spend on this earth, let every day be a gift, enabling each of us to make life a little better for the rest of us....If we can find a way to make life better for even more of our neighbors through the enrollment of more Senior Corps members, shouldn't that be motivation enough to call our Congressman and Senators and let them know supporting funding for Senior Corps means supporting more constituents back home?"*

Call today: Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121."

Senior Corps- RSVP Member Insurance

A policy requirement for all Senior Corps-RSVP programs is to provide our members with complimentary insurance protection while driving directly to and from, and while you are participating in, community service as a volunteer. It is highly appropriate that the satisfaction and appreciation you experience as a volunteer be supported by the comfort of knowing you have some help in the event of an accident. The insurance policy is not a substitute for any insurance you now carry. The three kinds of insurance are: Accident Medical Coverage, Volunteer Liability, and Automobile Liability. To accurately know the number of our members that use their own vehicle to commute to

and from their volunteer assignment, you will receive a phone call from our Senior Corps-RSVP office in the month that your current license expires, asking you to verify that you have renewed your driver's license. While we understand peoples' reluctance to provide personal information over the phone, we stress the necessity of being able to have current information. We immediately identify that the call is from the Senior Corps-RSVP Program office and all information remains confidential. We hope that this notice will help to relieve any concerns regarding these phone calls to you. Your cooperation in responding to these phone calls is appreciated.



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Be Environmentally Friendly!

If you have email access and received this newsletter in the mail, please contact us at rsvp@handsonsuburbanchicago.org to share your email information so that future newsletters can be sent to you electronically. You'll then also receive a Spotlight on Service newsletter.

A huge thanks to Senior Corps-RSVP member Richard Westgard, for the layout and design of our Senior Corps-RSVP newsletters. It wouldn't happen without you! Another thanks to the Senior Corps-RSVP members who helped prepare this newsletter for mailing and get it out to you!

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Proud Sponsor of **Senior Corps-RSVP** of
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