

RSVP Newsletter Volume 10, Issue 3 May - June 2024

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RSVP Retired & Senior Volunteer Program Blair and Huntingdon Counties sponsored by 1-800-323-9997

RSVP Recognition For AmeriCorps Seniors

AmeriCorps Seniors provide services that strengthen Blair and Huntingdon counties by helping those in need. Some services that AmeriCorps Seniors offer include preparing and distributing meals, escorting and transporting veterans to their medical appointments, answering questions regarding PA MEDI, providing hospitality and a listening ear for those who need it, verifying historical documents, responding to emergencies, preparing VITA taxes, and many more.

The organizations where AmeriCorps Seniors serve are called RSVP stations. The following organizations are currently RSVP stations:

- o Huntingdon County
 - Center for Community Action
 - Huntingdon County Emergency Management Agency
 - Huntingdon County Register & Recorders Office
 - Meals on Wheels of Huntingdon
 - James E. Van Zandt VA Medical Center
- Blair County
 - Altoona Food Bank
 - Blair Senior Services, Inc.
 - Center for Community Action
 - CONTACT Altoona
 - Fort Roberdeau
 - Garvey Manor
 - James E. Van Zandt VA Medical Center
 - United Way of the Southern Alleghenies



Since AmeriCorps Seniors do so much for their communities, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is delighted to recognize their service by providing mileage reimbursement for travel to and from their home to their RSVP station and three types of supplemental insurance coverage during their hours of service.

RSVP also provides an annual recognition event to recognize AmeriCorps Seniors' efforts and volunteerism. This year, the RSVP recognition events were in-person and sit down which helped AmeriCorps Seniors be able to catch up with their fellow volunteers and learn about other services that AmeriCorps Seniors do at other organizations. The RSVP recognition event for Huntingdon County was held on March 7 at the Smithfield Firehall and the RSVP recognition event for Blair County was held on March 17 at the American Legion Post 516 Social Hall. The AmeriCorps Seniors who were able to attend the events were given a delicious meal, a Sheetz gift card, and the chance to win door prizes that were donated from various organizations in their counties.

The following are a few photos of AmeriCorps Seniors who attended the RSVP recognition events.

RSVP Recognition Event – Blair County



Bonnie DeLozier, Legislative Aide at Altoona City Hall Presenting Certificate of Recognition for RSVP













RSVP Recognition Event – Huntingdon County





Huntingdon County Commissioners: Scott Walls (left) and Patrick Reeder (right)











Happy Birthday AmeriCorps Seniors!



RSVP Benefits

RSVP connects adults 55 and over with local community volunteer opportunities. Once enrolled in RSVP, the volunteers are recognized as "AmeriCorps Seniors." RSVP provides support for AmeriCorps Seniors in addition to what is provided at the organizations where they serve. These benefits are especially helpful to grass roots organizations that partner with RSVP because they often do not have extra funding to invest in volunteer support.

As noted earlier in this newsletter, RSVP hosts annual recognition events during which AmeriCorps Seniors receive meals and gifts of appreciation. Additionally, the volunteers receive the following benefits year-round while actively enrolled in RSVP:

- The opportunity to use their life and job skills to strengthen their communities.
- Get to meet new people and enjoy new experiences.
- Are provided mileage reimbursement for travel to and from their home to the RSVP Station.
- Are covered by 3 types of supplemental insurance coverage during their hours of service (accident, personal liability, and excess automobile liability).
- Enjoy a sense of purpose and the knowledge that you are making a difference.

To become an AmeriCorps Senior volunteer or learn more about RSVP, contact Danielle Ochs, RSVP Project Coordinator, at 814-643-4202 ext. 4202 or <u>dochs@ccaofpa.org</u>.

What do you know about RSVP?

Can you answer the following questions about RSVP?

- 1. What does RSVP stand for?
- 2. Who is the sponsoring agency for RSVP of Blair & Huntingdon Counties?
- 3. How many RSVP stations are there?
- 4. How old must a person be to enroll in RSVP?
- 5. What does it cost to enroll in RSVP?
- 6. Does a person have to be retired to enroll in RSVP?
- 7. What are volunteers who serve in RSVP called?
- 8. What are the benefits of enrolling in RSVP?
- 9. What 3 insurance benefits does RSVP provide to volunteers for free?
- 10. Does RSVP have a Facebook page?
- 11. Who is the RSVP Project Coordinator?
- 12. How can a person enroll in RSVP?

Answers to this quiz will be posted in the next RSVP newsletter.

Answers To Spring It On Volunteers!

Below are Answers to the March/April newsletter crossword puzzle:

