

NEVADA RURAL COUNTIES RSVP PROGRAM, INC.

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Program of: The Corporation For National And Community Service

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 1708
Carson City, NV 89702
Location: 3303 Butti Way, Building 1
Carson City, NV 89701
(775) 687-4680
Fax (775) 687-4494
Toll Free: 1-800-992-0900 Ext: 4680
E-mail: branded@rsvp.carson-city.nv.us
www.nevadaruralrsvp.org

NEVADA RURAL COUNTIES RSVP PROGRAM

The Nevada Rural Counties Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), provides volunteer opportunities for people aged 55 and older with a lifetime of experience, to serve in a variety of settings throughout their communities. The mission of the RSVP Independent Living Programs is to help keep low income seniors independent and in their own homes as long as possible. In 2006, over 950 RSVP volunteers in rural Nevada provided more than 220,000 hours of volunteer service to 160 public and non-profit community agencies, and Nevada's elderly population. RSVP plays a vital social services leadership role in the communities we serve, and we continue to expand our role of assisting not only the low income and homebound seniors in our service areas, but serving all persons in need, enhancing the quality of life for all citizens. RSVP is a national Senior Corps program under the umbrella of the Corporation for National and Community Service, a federal agency established by Congress in 1971 (then Action) to motivate retired citizens to remain active, contributing members of their communities through volunteer service.

The RSVP Independent Living Programs to help keep seniors in their own homes are the Home Companion Program that utilizes volunteers to provide seniors with basic needs services; the Lifeline Program that provides an emergency telephone response security system for those seniors living alone; the Resistance Exercise Program that helps keep seniors active by providing light weights training; the Transportation Programs that provide critical care trips to medical and dental appointments; the CARE Law Program that provides pro bono legal services for low-income seniors; the Legacy Corps Program that provides respite care for caregivers. In addition, RSVP volunteers serve their communities through a variety of non-profit organizations and government agencies. RSVP volunteer activities include crime prevention, adult literacy tutoring, Medicare and Medicaid counseling, environmental surveys and education, hospital volunteer service, center based nutrition programs, public museum docent services, library services for the community and homebound, computer assistance for the elderly and needy, veterans memorial services, homeless shelter and food bank services, USDA commodity foods distribution, free Senior Farmer's Market produce coupon distribution and many more.

Exhibit M-1 Senior Citizens and Veterans
Document consists of 6 pages.
Entire Exhibit Provided.
Meeting Date: 12-11-07

Named Outstanding Non-Profit Agency in Nevada for 2001 - Governor Kenny Guinn's "Points of Light Award."

Carson City Co. - Churchill Co. - Douglas Co. - Elko Co. - Esmeralda Co. - Eureka Co. - Humboldt Co. - Lander Co. - Lincoln Co. - Lyon Co. - Mineral Co. - Nye Co. - Pershing Co. - Storey Co. - White Pine Co.

RSVP's MISSION: To stimulate voluntary citizen participation in addressing the needs of Nevada's Rural communities particularly those of the poor, the disadvantaged and the elderly, through the work of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP).

THE NEVADA RURAL COUNTIES RETIRED AND SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM FACT SHEET

HISTORY:

1973 - Carson City began the first RSVP rural program as a satellite of Washoe County RSVP.

1974 - A 5 Rural Counties RSVP program was launched by a grant to the Carson River Basin Council of Governments as sponsor.

1982 - A 13 Rural Counties RSVP grant from ACTION was given to City of Carson City as sponsor.

1986 - A 15 Rural Counties RSVP grant was given by ACTION to NACO as sponsor.

1988 - A 15 Rural Counties RSVP grant was given by ACTION to City of Carson City as sponsor.

1993 - The sponsorship for the 15 Nevada Rural Counties under a non-profit agency, Nevada Rural Counties RSVP Program, Inc. awarded by ACTION.

1993 - Older American Volunteer Program (OVAP) re-authorized as National Senior Volunteer Corps by National and Community Trust Act.

Current - RSVP is a part of the national Senior Corps funded through the Corporation for National and Community Service, a federal agency in Washington D.C. The Nevada Rural Counties RSVP Program, Inc. is a self-sponsored 501 (c) (3) corporation, a non-profit agency.

MISSION: RSVP's mission is to help strengthen the fabric of the communities in which we serve by fostering greater civic engagement for citizens in partnership with their communities through volunteerism, and by providing independent living programs to assist seniors in remaining independent and in their own homes.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: RSVP volunteers serve an average of four to five hours per week through a variety of local non-profit organizations, agencies, and institutions designated as volunteer stations. Volunteers over 55 may receive reimbursement for transportation and other out-of-pocket expenses. On-duty accident and liability insurance is provided, as well as accidental death/dismemberment insurance. RSVP also has several direct services they provide, all geared toward independent living for the elderly.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES: Crime prevention projects, home companion services, budget and tax assistance, telephone reassurance, legal assistance, home weatherization, adult literacy tutoring, hospital volunteer service, docent services, resistance exercise training, lifeline emergency telephone service, veterans memorial services, homeless shelter services, USDA commodity foods distribution, free Senior Farmer's Market produce coupon distribution, respite care for caregivers and many more. Transportation for medical, dental and vision appointments is also provided for seniors 60 years of age and older.

PARTNERSHIPS: The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), the State of Nevada Division for Aging Services (DAS), the United Way of Northern Nevada and the Sierra, the United Way of Southern Nevada, and the United Way of the Great Basin.

FUNDING: RSVP is funded from several sources: CNCS (federal) – 15%; DAS – 30%; RSVP Fundraisers – 10%; Foundation and Business Grants – 20%; Nevada County and City Support – 25%.

IMPACT

* In 2006, RSVP volunteers provided over 220,000 hours of service in their respective communities. The value of this service was over \$3.6 million and represented a 20-fold return on the federal dollars invested in RSVP.

* Over 950 Nevada Rural Counties RSVP volunteers serve through 160 public and non-profit community agencies including RSVP's Independent Living Programs in the rural counties of Nevada. Each RSVP volunteer averages 20 hours of service per month. The value of a volunteer hour according to the Independent Sector is Washington D.C. is currently \$18.55, or an annual contribution to the State of \$455,200 per 100 volunteers!

Eighty percent of RSVP volunteers are over the age of 60, with the average age of a volunteer at 68.

CURRENT RSVP SERVICE ACTIVITIES STATEWIDE

RSVP volunteers serve at the following work places:

- 28 State of Nevada volunteer work stations (offices)
- 106 local and county government volunteer work stations (offices)
- 73 non-profit agency volunteer work stations (offices)
- 207 volunteer work stations total
- 950 total volunteers gave 220,000 hours of their time to enhance the above agencies services:

RSVP volunteers work for Crime prevention projects, home companion services, budget and tax assistance, telephone reassurance, legal assistance, home weatherization, adult literacy tutoring, hospital volunteer service, museum docent services, resistance exercise training, lifeline emergency telephone service, veterans memorial services, homeless shelter services, USDA commodity foods distribution, free Senior Farmer's Market produce coupon distribution, respite care for caregivers and many more. Transportation for medical, dental and vision appointments is also provided free of charge for seniors.

Each RSVP volunteer averages 20 hours of service per month. The value of a volunteer hour according to the Independent Sector in Washington D.C. is currently \$18.55. RSVP volunteers gave 220,000 hours in 2006 or a contribution of over 4 million dollars to the State! RSVP Home Companion volunteers also helped keep 764 seniors at home. If institutionalized as indigent, this would have cost the State almost 5 million dollars! (The average cost of institutional care per senior per year in Nevada is estimated at \$62,500 according to a study by GE Financial's Long Term Care Division released by AARP) The Nevada Legacy Corps provided 60,000 respite care hours to 238 caregivers.

FUTURE RSVP EXPANSIONS NEEDED TO SERVE PERSONS IN NEED IN RURAL NEVADA

- Increase the number of volunteer workstations statewide by 50%
- Increase the number of volunteers by 100%
 - Home Companion Program needs at least 100 more volunteer companions
 - Lifeline Program needs to add 500 more units
 - Transportation Program needs to improve mileage reimbursement to increase volunteer activity.
 - Respite Care Program should move into 5 more counties who are requesting help.
 - Care Law Pro Bono Law Program is understaffed to fill rural needs
 - Resistance Exercise Training Program is statewide but needs funding to train more leaders.
 - State, Local and Non-Profit agencies need more volunteers to continue service levels reduced by budget cuts of manpower.

CLIENTS SERVED IN 2007

TRANSPORTATION – 14 Counties	585
RESISTANCE TRAINING – 17 Counties	817
HOME COMPANION – 14 Counties	764
LIFELINE – 15 Counties	521
CARE LAW – 14 Counties	635
SFMNP – 5 Counties	794
USDA COMMODITIES – 6 Counties	3,060
RESPIRE CARE – 5 Counties	238

** RSVP Volunteers at city, county and state agencies and non-profit organizations serve a conservatively estimated additional 8,000 to 10,000 Nevada citizens annually.*

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION FOR NEVADA RURAL COUNTIES RSVP PROGRAM, INC

1973 & 1981	Carson City Chamber of Commerce Award for Outstanding Agency in the community.
1985 thru 1991	United Way "Gold Award" for outstanding service to persons in Northern Nevada.
1986 & 1987	Award from the Voluntary Action Center for "Outstanding Dedication and Contribution" to volunteerism in Northern Nevada.
1987	March of Dimes Award, Outstanding Community Service Award.
1987 & 1988	Governor's Honor Role of Excellence in Volunteerism.
1988	Outstanding Community Service Award from the Sierra Nevada Chapter, American Red Cross.
1989	Outstanding Volunteer Director Award given by First Interstate Bank, United Way, DOVIA and J.C. Penney Golden Rule Award to Nevada Rural Counties RSVP Executive Director Janice Ayres. \$1,000 awarded to her went to RSVP.
1991	The top J.C. Penney Golden Rule Award for Human Services went to Carson City RSVP volunteer Dorothy Dahm. She received plaques, certificates and \$1,000 for the RSVP program.
1981 thru 1991	Joint Action in Community Service top award for Distinguished Volunteer Service to graduating Job Corp youth in helping them to establish themselves in their community.
1993	Carson City Chamber of Commerce Annual Community Awards, Outstanding Organization Award
1994	The Top J.C. Penney Golden Rule Award for Human Services went to Carson City RSVP volunteer Pauline Bevill. She received Plaques, certificates and \$1,000 for the RSVP program.
1995	Governor Bob Miller appointed Janice Ayres, Executive Director, RSVP, Inc. to the Nevada Commission for National Service. He appointed her Chairperson in 1996.
1999	Governor Kenny Guinn re-appointed Janice Ayres, Executive Director, RSVP, Inc. as Chairperson to the Nevada Commission for National Service.
2000	Governor Kenny Guinn appointed Janice Ayres, Executive Director, to the Nevada Commission on Aging.

- 2005 Governor Kenny Guinn appoints Janice Ayres as his representative to the White House Council on Aging (WHCOA).
- 2005 Governor Kenny Guinn named Judy Harris, Lyon County RSVP volunteer, "Outstanding Rural Counties Volunteer" to receive the 'Points of Light' award.
- 2005 Nevada Legacy Corps is recognized as the Senior Service Network 'Community Service Organization of the Year', and the University of Maryland's 'Most Innovative Start-Up Program of the Year'.
- 2006 Nevada Legacy Corps receives the University of Maryland's 'Sustainability Development Award', the Archstone Foundation award from the U.S. Department of Public Health, and the University of Nevada Sanford Center on Aging's 'Senior Star' award.