

February 25, 2015

Dear Members of the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation,

It is my pleasure to inform you that the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) has awarded a 2015 Senior Corps RSVP grant to one or more organizations in Massachusetts.

The attachment includes a brief summary of each grant awarded in Massachusetts, including local contact information for the grantee.

This funding builds on Senior Corps RSVP's longstanding history of civic engagement. Established in 1971, Senior Corps RSVP is one of the largest senior volunteer organizations in the nation. Senior Corps RSVP taps the skills, talents, and experience of thousands of Americans age 55 and older. In 2009, Congress passed the Serve America Act, the most sweeping expansion of national service in a generation. This landmark law established an annual competition of the Senior Corps RSVP program that began in 2013. This competition requires grantees to meet performance measures and funds projects that meet a diverse range of specific local and community needs. Senior Corps RSVP volunteers serve through Area Agencies on Aging, Community Action Agencies, Volunteer Centers, United Ways, social services agencies, faith-based organizations, and many others. Together these Senior Corps RSVP volunteers have improved lives in the following ways:

- Served 329,400 veterans in activities such as transportation and employment service referrals
- Mentored nearly 78,000 children
- Provided independent living services to 797,000 adults, primarily frail seniors
- Provided respite services to 20,300 family or informal caregivers
- Engaged 20,100 veterans who served as Senior Corps RSVP volunteers.
- Leveraged an additional 18,500 volunteers to support Senior Corps RSVP activities such as delivering meals to those in need and tutoring at-risk children.

In a time of significant economic challenges, national service is a critical and cost-effective method to engage America's citizens in solving problems in their communities. Our agency seeks to expand service opportunities for older Americans and make service a transformative experience for all who serve and for the communities that they support.

I welcome the opportunity to discuss national service with you at your convenience. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Kimberly L. Allman, Director of Government Relations, at kallman@cns.gov or (202) 606-6707.

Warmest regards,



Wendy Spencer
Chief Executive Officer

Massachusetts – 1st Congressional District

Senior Corps 2015 RSVP Grants

Project Sponsor: City of Pittsfield
City Hall
70 Allen St
Pittsfield, MA 01201-6250
(413) 499-9321

Contact: Susan Santolin
ssantolin@pittsfieldch.com

Project Name: RSVP Berkshire

Service Area: Berkshire County

Estimated Volunteers: 280

CNCS Award Amount: Up to \$ 40,689

Grant Type: New RSVP grants - funds will support RSVP projects in established geographic service areas that were competed per the Serve America Act beginning in 2013. These competitive grants ensure investment in quality programming within communities across the country.

Program Primary Focus Area: **Economic Opportunity**
Grants will provide support and/or facilitate access to services and resources that contribute to the improved economic well-being and security of economically disadvantaged people. Grant activities will help economically disadvantaged people to:

- Have improved access to services and benefits aimed at contributing to their enhanced financial literacy;
- Transition into or remain in safe, healthy, affordable housing; and
- Have improved employability leading to increased success in becoming employed.

Massachusetts – 2nd Congressional District

Senior Corps 2015 RSVP Grants

Project Sponsor: Hampshire Council of Governments
Old County Courthouse
99 Main Street
Northampton, MA 01060-3163
(413) 584-1300 121

Contact: Todd Ford
tford@hampshirecog.org

Project Name: RSVP of Hampshire & Franklin Counties

Service Area: Hampshire and Franklin Counties

Estimated Volunteers: 525

CNCS Award Amount: Up to \$ 147,182

Grant Type: New RSVP grants - funds will support RSVP projects in established geographic service areas that were competed per the Serve America Act beginning in 2013. These competitive grants ensure investment in quality programming within communities across the country.

**Program Primary
Focus Area:**

Healthy Futures:

Grants will assist with meeting health needs within communities including access to care, aging in place, and childhood obesity.

Grant activities will:

- Increase seniors' ability to remain in their own homes with the same or improved quality of life for as long as possible;
- Increase physical activity and improve nutrition in youth with the purpose of reducing childhood obesity and increasing access to nutritious food, and
- Improve access to primary and preventive health care for communities served by CNCS-supported programs (access to health care).

Massachusetts – 8th Congressional District

Senior Corps 2015 RSVP Grants

- Project Sponsor:** Old Colony Elder Services, Inc.
144 Main St
Brockton, MA 02301-4046
(508) 584-1561 240
- Contact:** Diana Digiorgi
ddigiorgi@oldcolonyelderservices.org
- Project Name:** Old Colony Elder Services, Inc.
- Service Area:** Plymouth County: Abington, Bridgewater, Brockton, Carver, Duxbury, E Bridgewater, Halifax, Hanover, Hanson, Hingham, Hull, Kingston, Lakeville, Marion, Marshfield, Mattapoisett, Middleborough, Norwell, Pembroke, Plymouth, Plympton, Rochester, Rockland, Scituate, W Bridgewater, Wareham, Whitman
- Estimated Volunteers:** 356
- CNCS Award Amount:** Up to \$ 126,132
- Grant Type:** New RSVP grants - funds will support RSVP projects in established geographic service areas that were competed per the Serve America Act beginning in 2013. These competitive grants ensure investment in quality programming within communities across the country.
- Program Primary Focus Area:**
- Healthy Futures:**
Grants will assist with meeting health needs within communities including access to care, aging in place, and childhood obesity. Grant activities will:
- Increase seniors' ability to remain in their own homes with the same or improved quality of life for as long as possible;
 - Increase physical activity and improve nutrition in youth with the purpose of reducing childhood obesity and increasing access to nutritious food, and
 - Improve access to primary and preventive health care for communities served by CNCS-supported programs (access to health care).