

February 27, 2015

The Honorable Mark Dayton
130 State Capitol
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor Dayton,

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 Minnesota.

The attachment includes a brief summary of each grant awarded in Minnesota, 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

cc: Audrey Suker, Chief Executive Officer – ServeMinnesota

Minnesota – 4th Congressional District

Senior Corps 2015 RSVP Grants

Project Sponsor: Ecumen
3530 Lexington Ave N
Shoreview, MN 55126-8166
(320) 373-6501

Contact: Blaine Gamst
BlaineGamst@ecumen.org

Project Name: Ecumen RSVP

Service Area: Kandiyohi, McLeod, Meeker and Renville Counties

Estimated Volunteers: 151

CNCS Award Amount: Up to \$ 37,510

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).

Minnesota – 8th Congressional District

Senior Corps 2015 RSVP Grants

Project Sponsor: Crow Wing Social Services
PO Box 686
Brainerd, MN 56401-0686
(218) 824-1345

Contact: Michael Koecheler
RSVP@crowwing.us

Project Name: Crow Wing County RSVP

Service Area: Crow Wing County

Estimated Volunteers: 808

CNCS Award Amount: Up to \$35,557

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: **Disaster Services**
Grants will help individuals and communities prepare, respond, recover, and mitigate disasters and increase community resiliency. Grant activities will:

- Increase the preparedness of individuals,
- Increase individuals' readiness to respond,
- Help individuals recover from disasters, and
- Help individuals mitigate disasters.

Minnesota – 8th Congressional District

Senior Corps 2015 RSVP Grants

Project Sponsor: ElderCircle
1105 NW 4th Street
Grand Rapids, MN 55744-2205
(218) 999-5441

Contact: Valerie Cromell
valerie@eldercircle.org

Project Name: ElderCircle RSVP

Service Area: Itasca and Koochiching Counties

Estimated Volunteers: 622

CNCS Award Amount: Up to \$53,970

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).

Minnesota – 8th Congressional District

Senior Corps 2015 RSVP Grants

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| Project Sponsor: | Horizon Health, Inc. 26814 143rd Street PO Box 220 Pierz, MN 56364-0220 (320) 468-6451 |
| Contact: | Tiffany Pyka tpyka@horizonhealthservices.com |
| Project Name: | Horizon Health RSVP |
| Service Area: | Beltrami, Cass, Lake of the Woods and Morrison Counties |
| Estimated Volunteers: | 712 |
| CNCS Award Amount: | Up to \$ 20,500 |
| 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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). |