



Volunteer Service

Americans 55+ have a lifetime of experience to share and the desire to make a real difference in their world. Now they are ready to put their unique talents and expertise to work in their communities, and enrich their own lives in the process. Senior Corps and the Retired & Senior Volunteer Program, commonly known as RSVP, can help achieve this! Senior Corps and RSVP connects today's 55+ population with others that need them the most. Together, they nationally link more than 500,000 Americans to service opportunities. Their contributions of skills, knowledge, and experience make a real difference to individuals and community organizations throughout the U.S.A.

Senior volunteers make a contribution that suits their talents, interests and availability. Some serve in teams while others go it alone. Everyone has unique gifts to share and our volunteers make significant contributions by putting their best talents to work. The high number of senior volunteers and their level of commitment make them an essential resource in meeting critical community needs.

RSVP volunteers must be 55 years of age or older and willing to serve on a regular basis. They can choose how, where, and when they want to serve, with time commitments starting from as little as an hour a week. As a volunteer, you will receive pre-service orientation and training from your volunteer station. RSVP volunteers are not paid any wage or stipend, but can be reimbursed for mileage expenses incurred.

When you volunteer, you're not just helping others - you're helping yourself. Volunteering leads to new discoveries and new friends. Plus, studies have shown that volunteering helps you live longer and promotes a positive outlook on life. Research suggests that volunteering is particularly beneficial to the health of older adults serving 100 hours annually. It also suggests that volunteering leads to lower rates of depression in individuals 65 and older. Helping others makes people healthier and happier. Of course, please note, we welcome volunteers of any age!

Through the Department of Human Services, RSVP offers the following volunteer opportunities :

Homebound Meal Delivery	Homebound Transportation Driver
Congregate meal sites volunteer	Crafters Groups
Rivertown Thrift Shop	Telephone Reassurance

We also have numerous volunteer opportunities with other agencies in the community:

AARP	American Red Cross
Area libraries	Area Nursing Homes
Athens Cultural Center	Catholic Charities
Community Hospice	Community Action of Greene County
Greene County Chamber of Commerce	Greene County Council of the Arts
Greene Medical Arts Center	

There is no more satisfying activity than giving of your time to help others. Volunteers play a vital role in area communities by contributing their talents and experience. If you think you may be interested in volunteering, take a next step. You can find our registration application on the department's web site under Volunteer Services/Forms. Please complete it & return to our mailing address or email address. Once we have received it, your application will be reviewed and a background check will be completed. Shortly thereafter, you will be notified of the decision to approve you as a volunteer for the Greene County Department of Human Service Aging Department.

HOW CAN I GET FURTHER INFORMATION?

Contact Greene County Department of Human Services or Department for the Aging at 719-3555 or toll-free at (877) 794-9266. Please ask to speak with Ruth Pforte, Volunteer Coordinator, who will assist you.

Are You Interested Iní ?

Driving a homebound senior to a medical appointment

Delivering meals to a homebound senior

Helping at a senior center

Regularly visiting or phoning a homebound person

Participating in a craftersøgroup

Being a senior advocate

Assisting at a blood drive

Assisting Hospice patients

Working at a thrift store

Teaching an AARP driver safety class

Manning an information desk

Helping with activities at a nursing home

These are just some of the many
RSVP volunteer opportunities in Greene County

To volunteer or for further information,
contact Ruth Pforte, Volunteer Coordinator
Greene County Department of Human Services, Aging Division
(518) 719-3555 or Toll-free (877) 794-9266