

# Volunteer Connection

January-February 2012

## From the Director's Desk

Dear Friends, ✍️

As this new year begins I have two really big favors to ask each of you. First, please take a minute to **COMPLETE AND RETURN THE VOLUNTEER SURVEY** that is on the back side of the timesheet included with this newsletter. I'd love to hear from each of you!

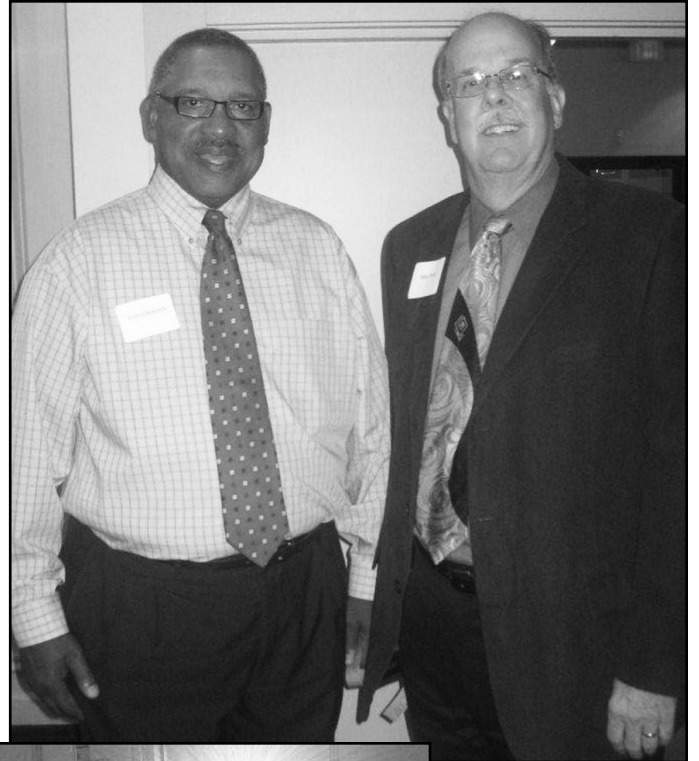
Next, **PLEASE REPORT EACH HOUR OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE THAT YOU PERFORM** so we can get an accurate count. Our continued funding depends on it. You can help ensure our future by sending us your timesheet each month. Your hours are important, too, to help show our community how much senior volunteers contribute each year—your volunteer hours are valuable!

You may report your volunteer hours in a number of ways:

- Depending upon your volunteer job, your volunteer station coordinator may collect the hours and report them to us.
- You may submit your own hours by completing and submitting an RSVP Volunteer Timesheet by the 5th of each month.
  - A timesheet is included with this newsletter; feel free to photocopy.
  - You may download copies of the timesheet from the Family Service website at [www.famservcc.org](http://www.famservcc.org).
  - Stop by our office to pick up a supply of timesheets anytime.
- You may email your hours to us at [rsvpcomp@gmail.com](mailto:rsvpcomp@gmail.com).

*Wishing You a Healthy & Happy New Year!*

*Karen Bodnar*



Above: Tony Clements and Mike Haile provided lots of laughs and made our Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon a great success.



Left: Karen Bodnar, RSVP Director, presented Erma Bridgewater with a Lifetime Achievement Award at the luncheon.

*Happy New Year to All from the Staff at RSVP*

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

### **FREE MEDICARE PREVENTIVE SERVICES**

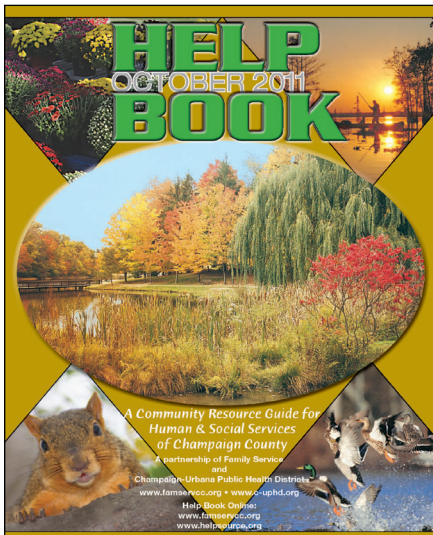
Have you heard about Medicare's preventive benefits? The health care law gives everyone with Medicare a yearly wellness visit to talk with their doctor about their care. These are important preventive benefits—like recommended cancer screenings to detect disease early when it is most treatable.

For a detailed list of these services and any respective restrictions or costs, please stop by our office at the Stevick Senior Center at 48 E. Main St. in downtown Champaign. Or, call the Family Service Senior Resource Center at 352-5100—*One number to call for seniors and their families.*



*RSVP volunteers are part of the Family Service team,  
and together we make our communities better.*

Get prepared for the new year by picking up the 2011 Help Book today. This latest version of the directory is a partnership of *Family Service First Call for Help*, and the *C-U Public Health District* and an incredible resource for our community. It's your best tool for finding answers when you need assistance.



The human and social services directory includes more than 250 local services listed both alphabetically by name and by type of service. Addresses, phone numbers, web sites, and program descriptions are included.

Pick up your complimentary copy at Family Service, 405 S. State St. or the Stevick Center, 48 Main St. in Champaign. You can beat the cold and find the Help Book online at our website at [www.famservcc.org](http://www.famservcc.org).

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### **KRANNERT CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**

What Lincoln Center is to New York and the Kennedy Center is to Washington, D.C., Krannert Center is to the Midwest—a magnificent showcase for the performing arts. Training and certification for ushering and leading tours begin at the start of each University semester. Volunteers interested in ushering, conducting tours of the Center, or helping with mailings and other projects should contact Crystal Womble at 244-0549.

### **TRANSITIONS RETAIL SHOP CLERK**

Help customers make sales selections, bag items, return items to racks, ring up items on a computer cash register and receive donations at the Center for Women in Transition's Transitions thrift store in Lincoln Square in Urbana. To schedule training, please call Yolanda at 819-4608.

### **SENIOR MEDICARE PATROL**

Help prevent Medicare fraud by helping seniors become educated about their Medicare benefits, rights, and statements. Senior Medicare Patrol volunteers are trained to recognize and report fraud, as well as educate the public on the matter. All volunteers will receive training and are required to fill out an application and background check. For more information, please call Karen at RSVP at 359-6500.

### **CUMBERLAND & ASSOCIATES**

#### **SENIOR PROGRAMS**

Volunteers are needed to call clients for a monthly wellness check. Times are flexible, anytime between 8AM and 5PM on Thursdays or Fridays. Volunteers are required to have good telephone skills and will complete some light paperwork. Please call Emily Reed at 384-3360 for more information.

#### **GENERAL BULK MAILINGS & OFFICE ASSISTANCE**

Volunteers are needed to aid several agencies with bulk mailings and other light office work. Some of the agencies RSVP works with frequently are the Champaign County Circuit Clerk, Crisis Nursery, and the MDA. To sign up to be on the call list for bulk mailings, please contact either Marsha or Jean at RSVP at 359-6500.

#### **FOOD FOR SENIORS**

The Food for Seniors Program meets twice a month to distribute bags of supplemental groceries to low-income seniors. The program runs early mornings on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday

of each month and drivers, substitute drivers, and sackers are needed for these sessions. Please call Robbie at 359-6500 to volunteer.

### **CITY OF URBANA HEARING OFFICER**

A volunteer is needed on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month, 2-4PM, to listen to citizen complaints about parking and nuisance violation tickets. The volunteer will provide a fair and unbiased opinion about the validity of the tickets, using good listening skills and the ability to compose a written response. Contact Dede at the City of Urbana Legal Division at 384-2464.

### **DON MOYER BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**

A receptionist is needed to help to cover shifts at the front desk of the Boys & Girls Club on weekdays from 8:30 AM-6:30 PM. Volunteers times and dates are flexible according to their schedules. Receptionists will be responsible for answering phone calls, greeting guests, and some light office work. All volunteers must fill out an application and be background checked. For more information, please contact Tracy Days at 355-5437.

### **CHAMPAIGN PUBLIC LIBRARY FRIENDS SHOP**

Book-loving volunteers are needed to assist in the Friends Shop Saturdays and Sundays from 1:30-4:30 PM. Volunteers will price items, sort donations, and aid customers during shop hours. To learn more about becoming a Friend of the Library, please contact Eva Liu at 403-2076.

### **STEVICK CENTER RECEPTIONISTS**

Receptionists and substitute receptionists are needed at the Stevick Center/RSVP office. Greet guests, answer phones, and assist with special projects at the Center. This is a perfect opportunity for those who are organized, friendly, and have good communications skills. For more information, please contact Marsha at 359-6500.

### **DRIVERS FOR SENIOR TRANSPORTATION & MEALS ON WHEELS**

Family Service is in need of drivers to either help bring seniors to their appointments, pick up prescriptions, etc. or to help deliver meals to homebound folks. All drivers must have their own insured vehicle and a valid driver's license. Mileage reimbursement is available. Please call the Family Service Senior Resource Center at 352-5100 to learn more about each program.

### **TIMES CENTER ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Volunteers interested in issues regarding the homeless and who would like to make an impact in our community may be interested in joining the TIMES Center Advisory Council. Council members meet the third Monday of each month at 4 PM to discuss the Center's needs and aid in the implementation of fundraising and decision-making for the Center. To learn more, please call Marsha at 359-6500.

### **ANGEL WINGS AT THE VA HOSPITAL**

We are seeking RSVP members to fill an important new role as **Angel Wings Volunteers** for a new program, "No One Dies Alone", at the Danville VA. Please contact Volunteer Services at 554-5700 or email [Teresa.Ard@va.gov](mailto:Teresa.Ard@va.gov) or [Karie.Drolinger@va.gov](mailto:Karie.Drolinger@va.gov) to learn more.

### **Danville VA**

RSVP and Stevick Center are continuing to collect **donations of personal care items** for the clients of the Danville VA to thank the service men and women for their service. The VA Illiana Health Care System provides health care services to veterans in Central Illinois. Please stop by Stevick Center to drop off a few items if you can. Donations needed include shampoo, spray deodorant, liquid body and hand soap, shaving cream, razors, mouthwash, toothpaste, and hair combs.

### **Rules of the Road Review Classes for 2012**

The Rules of the Road Review Course is designed to give drivers the knowledge and confidence needed to renew or obtain a driver's license. Classes will be offered at Stevick Senior Center, 48 E. Main Street in downtown Champaign on Tuesdays, 10am-noon, on February 7, May 1, August 7 and November 13. Registration is not required. Our RSVP offices are inside Stevick Center, so while you are here stop in to say hello to Karen, Robbie and Marsha!

### **WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS**

- Elizabeth Anderson • John Bennett • Jerry L. Hite •
- Lois Kendall • Jeanne Lewis •



*The VC Newsletter is prepared for mailing by  
Members of the RSVP General Assembly Team.*

