



Family Service

RSVP—Retired & Senior Volunteer Program

48 Main Street, Champaign, IL 61820

Phone: 217/359-6500

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# Volunteer Connection

September-October 2011

## Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Round Barn Banquet Centre

1900 Round Barn Road, Champaign, IL 61821

Registration 11:15 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

Luncheon seating will begin at 11:30 a.m.

Please fill out and return the registration form (below) if you would like to attend.

Mail to: RSVP Luncheon, 48 E. Main St., Champaign, IL 61820

### REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s) of those attending (please print name):

RSVP Member?

Yes  No

Yes  No

This luncheon is provided at no charge for RSVP members. Please enclose a \$15 check, payable to RSVP, for any non-members.

**Deadline for Reservations is September 20, 2011**

[We regret that we cannot accept any reservations by phone]

*A buffet lunch will be provided. Assistance will be available from  
RSVP Staff, Volunteers, and Lincoln Challenge Cadets for those who require it.*

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

### From the Director's Desk

Dear Friends,

As the 10th anniversary of the tragedy of 9/11 nears, we have been thinking more and more about the sacrifices of our Nation's first responders, active service personnel, and our veterans. We want to thank you for all you have done. With this in mind, I have a favor to ask of each of you—please let us know if you are a veteran! You can email me at [rsvpchampaign@gmail.com](mailto:rsvpchampaign@gmail.com), call me at 359-6500, or indicate somewhere on your next timesheet that you are a veteran.

To thank service men and women who are coming home from active duty, Stevick Center and RSVP are collecting your donations to assemble personal care packages to be delivered to the VA in Danville. Items needed include shampoo, spray deodorant, liquid body and hand soap, shaving cream, razors, mouthwash, toothpaste, and hair combs. We are also looking for volunteers to help us transport (in your vehicle) the donations to Danville.

Finally, recent funding cuts have forced us to reduce our budget for volunteer mileage reimbursement. Our new monthly allotment is considerably lower than in the past. We know some volunteers cannot continue to volunteer without it, so I ask that you request reimbursement only if you are in need. You might consider claiming a tax deduction for your mileage instead. We will continue to look for new funding and hope to be able to increase this amount in the future.

Thank you for your service!

*Karen Bodnar*

### TIMES CENTER IN CHAMPAIGN ... *STONE SOUP: A MIRACLE FOR A MISSION* PERFORMANCE

Tickets are now on sale for this one-night-only performance which will take place Saturday, October 15 at 6 p.m. at the Savoy United Methodist Church. The classic fable of Stone Soup is being retold by Mrs. Gladys Pope and interpreted by members of the community. A soup dinner will be provided after the performance. All proceeds will benefit the TIMES Center in Champaign. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$20 for seniors/students. To reserve tickets, please call 693-4629.

### SENIOR PEN PALS NEEDED!!

If you enjoy writing letters, if you have an hour or so a month to volunteer, and if the idea of performing volunteer service from the comfort of your home appeals to you, then becoming an RSVP Pen Pal would be perfect for you! Seniors exchange letters with local elementary students, giving them the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of writing letters and addressing envelopes. It gives kids a positive perspective and relationship with older adults. And, it allows the senior volunteers to be in touch with what's going on in the lives of today's youngsters. Throughout the school year, pen pals share stories about their families, hobbies, favorite books or movies, current events, and more.

PLEASE consider becoming a volunteer pen pal! We have more students and schools interested in participating in the RSVP Pen Pal Program than we have seniors to write letters! For more information, please contact Marsha or Karen at RSVP by calling 359-6500 today!

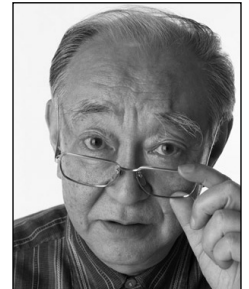


*RSVP volunteers are part of the Family Service team,  
and together we make our communities better.*

#### What's new for me?

**Do federal and state budget changes have you wondering how you will be impacted? There's one number to call for seniors and their families.**

**217-352-5100**



*"Seniors get a great deal of paperwork; it can be confusing, frightening, and overwhelming. This additional help from someone who 'knows the ropes' can be a tremendous relief. You feel like someone cares."*

*— from a client survey*

**Family Service Senior Resource Center** specialists are available **M-F, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm** with answers to your questions about federal, state, private, and community resources. You will be walked through the process one step at a time and this free service is strictly confidential. Call today to feel better prepared to face tomorrow's challenges.

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### COMMUNITY ELEMENTS CRISIS LINE

Volunteer to help handle various crisis situations, including assistance with information, depression, social support, and suicide prevention. It is mandatory for volunteers to attend all training sessions plus 12 hours of on-the-job training. Training dates are: Mondays: Sept. 12, 19, 6:00–8:30 p.m.. and Wednesdays: Sept. 14, 21, 6:00–8:30 p.m.. Contact the Crisis Line Coordinator at 373-2430 ext. 2190.

### PRAIRIE VILLAGE IN RANTOUL

Friendly volunteers are needed to staff the Country Store by taking care of sales, running the register, greeting guests, etc. Must be able to count out and make change for customers and fill out item forms and receipts. Store is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Prairie Village is also seeking a piano player to play for residents (scheduling flexible). Contact Roberta Fisher at 892-2800.

### YOUTH CENTER MENTORING

Make a difference in a young person's life by volunteering for Community Elements Prevention Department's Youth Center Mentoring program. Volunteers are matched with a youth, ages 9-13, to meet one-on-one for one hour/week through the school year. Mentors and mentees will engage in group led activities, arts and crafts, recreational games and getting to know one another. Contact Melissa Kearns at 693-4633 for more information.

### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Habitat is seeking volunteers to help in their ReStore. Those interested must attend orientation held Tuesdays at 11 a.m. or Thursdays at 3 p.m. Volunteer hours/dates are flexible. Also, Habitat will be starting a new home build this month and is seeking volunteers (individuals or groups) to work at the build site. Call 355-6460 to volunteer.

### CHAMPAIGN COUNTY CASA

Help give children in need a voice by becoming an advocate. A new advocate class will begin in early September. No experience is necessary; volunteers will be trained on everything they need to know. Please call Rush Record at 384-9065 for more information.

### Senior Transportation & Meals on Wheels

Family Service Senior Transportation and Meals on Wheels volunteers support seniors by either offering them transportation or bringing them nutritious meals daily. Volunteer

times and dates are flexible. Volunteers must have access to a vehicle and a valid driver's license. Mileage reimbursement is also offered. For more information, please contact Yvonne Fulton at 352-5100.

### CHAMPAIGN COUNTY HEALTH CARE CONSUMERS (CCHCC)

CCHCC is seeking volunteers to become Consumer Health Care Advocates or Task Force Members. There is also a current need for office support; Data entry, making phone calls, posting flyers, and scheduling are common tasks at the office. Volunteers who can create a set schedule are preferred. Please call 352-6533.

### ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION WALK— SEPTEMBER 17TH AT HESSEL PARK

Join the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's and unite in a stand against the devastating disease. Walkers do their part to fundraise for the cause in teams. All proceeds go to Alzheimer's care and research. Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the walk begins at 9:30 a.m. Call Rachel McCameron at (309) 319-9066 for more info.

### SPOTLIGHT ON A NEW STATION . . .

#### VA ILLIANA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM, DANVILLE

The VA Hospital in Danville is RSVP's newest site and volunteers are needed to help provide veterans the benefits and services they have earned. Volunteers are needed to visit with the folks at the VA. They may share a talent, read books to patients, spend time talking with and listening to patients, etc. Volunteers may also help fellow seniors visit the VA by transporting them with their personal vehicle. Those driving must have a vehicle and valid license. Volunteer times/dates are flexible. For more information, please contact Marsha Reardon at 359-6500.

### WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS

Grant W. Collins • Cynthia S. Hall • Tina Meeks-Britt  
P. Anne Reeser • Pauletta Sanders • Rae Tessler  
Alyce Tinsley • Stephen A. Wolf  
Adiline Young • Robert E. Young



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

