



Thank You for a Wonderful Year!



As 2025 draws to a close, I want to take time to thank all of you volunteers who have given of your time and talents in so many different ways.

I will be hosting a **holiday open house** at both of my office locations, on Monday, Dec. 22, 1-4pm at the Elderbridge building in Fort Dodge, and on Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1-4pm at the Senior Center in Webster City. Please stop by!

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If you need an RSVP Individual Timesheet, call Becky at 515-832-2525.

As our holiday gift to you we have attached a handy calendar for your home or auto. Season's Blessings!



2025 in Review—RSVP Volunteer Accomplishments

It is fun to look back over the year and see what RSVP volunteers in Hamilton and Webster counties have accomplished. Here are some interesting statistics:

- 40 new volunteers registered in 2025, currently over 400 people registered in Hamilton/Webster
- 272 volunteers served 5,886 hours at 27 different locations doing 41 different jobs
- 27 volunteers served as BASE leaders at 18 classes, with 367 people participating in exercise classes
- 233 volunteers served as pen pals at 6 area schools
- 53 stations are registered in Hamilton and Webster counties where volunteers can serve in various jobs
- 3 community education programs are being offered, Fraud Fighters, SPAN (Seniors Preventing Addiction to Narcotics) and Computer Literacy for Seniors, all led by trained RSVP volunteers

RSVP volunteers make a difference in their communities by giving freely of their time to help individuals and non-profit agencies. Thank you for all you do!

Laura Severson to Take the Helm as New Central Iowa RSVP Director

Laura Severson of Story City will take over the position of Director of Central Iowa RSVP, starting January 1. Laura has been working as RSVP Office Manager for the past two and a half years. She is married to her husband, Grant, and they have three boys, Jerry (14), Henry (11), and Charlie (8). Her hobbies include sewing, crafting, camping, and reading.

All the staff are excited to have Laura at the helm, and wish her the best.





Winter 2025-2026 RSVP Brag Book Photo Collage



BASE class at Fuller Hall, celebrating a special birthday; volunteers delivering packages for Santa for Seniors project—Mark Dohms, Diane Eckers and husband Michael, Barb Law, Carolyn Day, Wil Groves, Kelli Ubben, Andrea Cook, Diane Larson, Merrily Dixon; Karen Camp created gifts for Santa for Seniors using dish towels and hot pads.

RSVP Advisory Council Member and Fraud Fighter Presenter Remembered for her Service

Lorie Spanjers, a long-time RSVP volunteer and active advisory council member as well as accomplished presenter for the Fraud Fighter program, passed away November 2, 2025. Lorie was a resident of Fort Dodge, and in addition to volunteering for RSVP was involved in a number of other activities. She taught bridge lessons, was an officer for the Webster County Democrats, was a member of the Fort Dodge Retired School Personnel and was a Friend of the Fort Dodge Library. Lorie's energy and cheerfulness will be missed.



Current Volunteer Opportunities Winter 2025-2026



The following opportunities are available to all volunteers in Hamilton and Webster Counties. If you are interested in an assignment in another community, RSVP can provide mileage reimbursement. For more information, contact Becky Koppen at 515-832-2525.

WEBSTER COUNTY:

BASE Senior Fitness

Exercise leaders are needed to co-lead senior fitness classes. Training is provided by RSVP

Dayton Public Library/Harcourt Public Library

Volunteers are sought for a variety of activities

Elderbridge

Errand Buddies may assist with and provide transportation to and from day-to-day activities such as shopping. Medical Transportation Drivers provide transportation to medical appointments. Telephone Reassurance Callers provide friendship and companionship as well as checking on the well-being of participants

First Baptist Church SALT Center

Warming/cooling center, help clients access resources

Fort Museum

Bingo runners, tour guides, set up marketing system

Friendship Haven

Volunteers are needed to assist in community activities, visit/read to residents, teach a craft, help with transport

The Key on Central

Volunteers are needed to sort and fold donated items, dust and vacuum, set up displays, carry boxes and bags

Make-a-Wish Foundation

Meet with family, determine child's wishes, fill out paperwork solicit donations

Marion Home

Read to residents, play card games, help with activities

Salvation Army

Food pantry volunteer is needed to assist with food box distribution, receptionist needed during special events

Unity Point Hospice

Work directly with patients and caregivers, provide breaks, run errands

Webster County Conservation

Many volunteer opportunities both indoors and outdoors. The park technician can fit a task to most anyone. Opportunities in River's Edge Discovery Center

Webster County Genealogical Society

Data entry, scanning/indexing documents, microfilm

Youth Shelter Care

Play games, do a movie night, do a craft, do some baking, done with a group, as often as you choose

HAMILTON COUNTY:

All Cultures Equal

Food pantry at ACE, 2nd and 4th Thursday each month, help distribute food

Community and Family Resources

Volunteers are needed to label brochures. Work can be done at home

Crestview Nursing and Rehabilitation

Elderly activities—Bingo, one-on-one visits, sing-along leaders, pet visits, etc.

Food Bank of Iowa

Help with food distribution at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, W.C. Food distribution takes place every other month

Head Start

Work with 3-5 year-olds—play time, small group activity time, rest/reading time. M-F 9:00-1:15, you choose how much time you wish to spend

Lotus Community Project

Helpers are needed in the Lotus Treasures thrift shop in Webster City to sort donations

Newsletter Preparation

RSVP puts out a newsletter to approximately 400 addresses each quarter. Helpers are needed to fold, seal, and label newsletters

Nursing Home Note Writers

Nursing homes in Hamilton and Webster counties are looking for volunteers to write cards and notes to residents.

Southfield Wellness Community

Elderly activities—Bingo, crafts and cards, one-on-one visits. Flexible times

VanDiest Medical Center

Greeters and Guides are needed as well as Bedside Visitors

Webster City Community Schools

Reading Buddies, tutors, pen pals, mentors welcome

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Santa for Seniors Delivers Joy to Area Elderly

Central Iowa RSVP, Elderbridge Area Agency on Aging and Upper Des Moines Opportunity teamed up to spread Christmas joy to selected elderly residents. Christmas gifts were purchased through donations from area businesses and organizations.

18 RSVP volunteers had the pleasure of delivering the packages on Dec. 11 and 12 in Hamilton and Webster counties.

Many RSVP volunteers assisted in pairing up sets of gel pens and adult coloring books which were donated to RSVP to be included in the gifts.

Thank you to all who took part in this project!



Visit us on the web!
www.rsvpvoluteer.org



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Seniors**



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