



CENTRAL IOWA  
**RSVP**  
Connecting People To Purpose

Serving Hamilton and  
Webster Counties  
Winter 2025-2026



## 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.







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## 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, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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



## Central Iowa RSVP Staff

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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.rsvpvolunteer.org](http://www.rsvpvolunteer.org)



**AmeriCorps**  
**Seniors**



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