



# Senior Corps

Corporation for  
**NATIONAL &  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICE** ★★ ★



## Making a Difference for Generations

Senior Corps taps the skills, talents, and experience of more than 243,000 Americans age 55 and over to meet a wide range of community challenges through three programs — the Foster Grandparent Program, RSVP, and the Senior Companion Program.

- **Foster Grandparents** serve one-on-one as tutors and mentors to young people with special needs.
- **RSVP** volunteers recruit and manage other volunteers, participate in environmental projects, mentor and tutor children, and respond to natural disasters, among many other activities.
- **Senior Companions** help frail seniors and other adults maintain independence primarily in the clients' own homes.

## Senior Corps By the Numbers

- **243,500** total volunteers
- **74.6 million** hours served
- **649,820** elderly in need served
- **288,800** children in need served
- **332,100** veterans served

*Statistics data from FY 2017.*

## Foster Grandparent Program

The Foster Grandparent Program (FGP), which began in 1965, provides loving and experienced tutors and mentors to children and youth with special needs. Working one-on-one and serving between 15 and 40 hours a week, Foster Grandparents provide support in schools, hospitals, drug treatment centers, correctional institutions, and child care centers. Among other activities, they review schoolwork, reinforce values, teach parenting skills to young parents, and care for premature infants and children with disabilities. Foster Grandparents often maintain an ongoing, intensive relationship with the children and youth served for a year or longer. Eligibility: Volunteers must be 55 years of age or over. Those who meet certain income guidelines receive a small stipend. All FGP volunteers receive accident and liability insurance and meals while on duty, reimbursement for transportation, and monthly training.

## RSVP

Established in 1971 and now one of the largest senior volunteer organizations in the nation, RSVP engages Americans age 55 and older in a diverse range of volunteer activities. Volunteers tutor children, renovate homes, teach English to immigrants, assist victims of natural disasters, provide independent living services, recruit and manage other volunteers, and serve their communities in many other ways. RSVP volunteers choose how, where, and how often they want to serve, with commitments ranging from a few hours to 40 hours per week. Eligibility: RSVP is open to all people age 55 and over. Volunteers do not receive monetary incentives, but sponsoring organizations may reimburse them for some costs incurred during service, including meals and transportation.

## Senior Companion Program

The Senior Companion Program (SCP), which began in 1974, helps frail seniors and other adults maintain independence primarily in the clients' own homes. Senior Companions serve between 15 and 40 hours a week and typically serve between two and four clients. Among other activities, they assist with daily living tasks, such as grocery shopping and bill paying; provide friendship and companionship; alert doctors and family members to potential problems, and provide respite to family caregivers. Eligibility: Volunteers must be 55 years of age or over. Those who meet certain income guidelines receive a small stipend. All SCP volunteers receive accident and liability insurance and meals while on duty, reimbursement for transportation, and monthly training.

