

RSVP

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program



On the peninsula



January 2019

OlyCAP Helping People- Changing Lives

Clallam & Jefferson Counties

Clallam/Jefferson RSVP sponsored by Olympic Community Action Program

“The effect of one good-hearted person is incalculable.” Oscar Arias Sanchez
Nobel Peace Prize Recipient

The education of children is vital to our community and to future economic growth. In Clallam County 30% of children under five live in poverty and in Jefferson County 27% of children, according to 2017 statistics. Studies show that children living in poverty may have a 29% gap in school readiness skills. Volunteers working with the Head Start and Early Head Start programs in the *Clallam/Jefferson RSVP* program would like to provide mentoring opportunities for children to improve skills and provide positive support. As Oscar Arias (Nobel Peace Prize awardee) mentioned a good-hearted individual can make an incalculable difference not just in the present but in the unforeseeable future.

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OlyCAP's Senior Nutrition



Focus on...

Dinner Locations and Hours

- Port Angeles Senior Center: Tuesday through Friday at 4:00 pm
No service on Mondays call: (360) 457-8921 at least 24 hours in advance for reservations
- Sequim Suncrest Village: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday at 4:00 pm
No service on Wednesday call: (360) 683-8491 at least 24 hours in advance for reservations
- Tri Area Community Center: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday at 4:00 pm
No service on Thursday call: (360) 390-4013 at least 4 hours in advance for reservations

Lunch Locations and Hours

- Port Townsend Community Center: Tuesday & Wednesday 11:30-12:30
For reservations call: (360) 385-9007 Menu furnished by Garden Row Cafe at Jefferson Healthcare
- Forks Community Hospital (Spoon's Cafe): Sunday through Saturday from 10:30 am- 2:00 pm
See online menu at: www.forkshospital.org



Holiday Greetings! This has been a wonderful year for Clallam/ Jefferson Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP). We acquired Becky Acevedo our very own capable and friendly RSVP Volunteer Coordinator. She has made my job so much easier. She communicates directly with each site or individual volunteer to request and input volunteer hours from 264 RSVP volunteers and 130 North Olympic Volunteer Corps (NOVC) volunteers who are assigned to 22

different sites. We have welcomed almost 20 new volunteers this year. Volunteers entering RSVP and NOVC are placed at job sites which utilize skills they bring with them or are provided new learning opportunities. The monetary value for these 'hours served' has saved Jefferson and Clallam county areas over one million three thousand dollars in labor costs for work at food banks, elementary schools, senior nutrition programs, and other adult services. The really big story is how these clients are supported by national service volunteers in a variety of ways. The ability to support people who are confined to their homes because of disabilities, age, or infirmity or to provide families with emergency food supplies, reach deep

into a child's life to provide tutoring and mentoring support is huge! Vice-versa many volunteers have spoken to me about how this chance to help outside of home, meeting and helping others has provided personal growth and a lot of satisfaction. We are social creatures and this program provides beneficial supports and service activities to promote better nutrition, educational support for youth, respite care to care-givers, household help and transportation assistance for independent living, veteran referral services, and companionship for adults in isolated circumstances. Together we talk, laugh, share funny stories, or provide a listening ear for our fellow citizens. It makes us better and more connected to our communities and to each other! Watch for information to be posted soon for a Volunteer Appreciation event to be hosted by RSVP in March. Thank you all for supporting your friends and neighbors throughout this past year at your various work site stations.

A special congratulations to: Shirley Moss, Ronald Brantner, and Karen Putterman for their fantastic volunteer work recently earning them recognition in the Reader's Choice section of the Port Townsend Leader.

**Join us at these
Jefferson County RSVP Sites:**

- **ECHHO**
- **Food Banks-
Brinnon, Quilcene,
Port Townsend, Tri-Area**
- **Early Childhood Development
Head Start**
- **Jefferson Community School**
- **OlyCAP Emergency Services**
- **Senior Nutrition-
Tri Area & Port Townsend**
- **Vet Connect**
- **Volunteer Services**

Contact:

**Jane Covella
RSVP Program Manager
(360) 385-2571**

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Two volunteers working with children ages 2-5 years may be making this difference in twenty-five young children's lives. They work two days a week reading to children, listening to them, and providing comfort and support. Both volunteers are 70 years of age, found the Retired and Senior Volunteer program for similar reasons, and have a great reason to climb out of bed each morning.



Mary Tyburski was looking for volunteer work. Her grandchildren lived too far away to see regularly and she had a granddaughter who had benefited from participating in a Head Start program. She saw the opportunity and felt it was a good fit to join RSVP. She says, "Kids learn so much between 12 and 36 months of age. They are like sponges and develop so quickly. I enjoy seeing new skills develop and working with them is very rewarding. Each day I learn from the teachers that it is okay to allow children to make mistakes- to step back as an adult and allow the children to have a chance to learn from their

attempts. I would say to a new volunteer considering participation at an Early Head Start site- if you enjoy children this will be a very rewarding experience and a chance to have a big impact and provide positive effects for these kids. It is an incredible experience- I highly recommend it!"

Sidney Goodman had spent a lot of time volunteering before he retired from his volunteer position at a private school in Lynnwood, Washington and has always enjoyed working with younger children. He is happy to have a chance to be active in a similar role, this time as a volunteer. The most rewarding aspect of this two day a week commitment is reading one-on-one with all of the children. His volunteer hours were extended from two hours per day to three and a half hours so that he could participate and converse with children at lunch meals. Two hours each day just wasn't enough time for the satisfaction he gains as he helps each child. He learned proper cleaning procedures to keep the children safe and the facility clean. Sidney mentioned, "I have learned to be observant and to be aware of what can be learned from the teachers and from each child. Seeing how the children play can tell you a lot about how they interact, who they are inside, and what their needs may be. I see how I can best interact with them in a positive and nurturing way. I am very thankful for this opportunity and I hope to be able to remember all of the children's names by the end of the quarter."



Join us at these Clallam County RSVP Sites:

- **Encore!**
- **Boys & Girls Club- Sequim & Port Angeles**
- **Early Childhood Development Head Start**
- **Port Angeles Food Bank**
- **Port Angeles School District
Dry Creek, Franklin, Hamilton, Roosevelt & Jefferson Elementary Schools**
- **Senior Nutrition:
Sequim & Port Angeles**
- **Volunteer Services**

Contact:

**Becky Acevedo
RSVP Volunteer Coordinator
(360) 460-2458**

2018 Port Angeles Veteran's Stand Down



RSVP/NOVC Vet Connect volunteers: Mike, Cindy, Tim, and Brian with Becky Acevedo and Rita Frangione at the 2018 Port Angeles Veteran's Stand Down held at the Clallam County Fairgrounds on October 4th.



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