

# RSVP

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program



On the peninsula



May 2017

"OlyCAP - Helping People- Changing Lives"

Clallam & Jefferson Counties

## 2017 Governor's Service Award Recipient for Human Services

There is an RSVP volunteer working in Clallam County at the Port Angeles Food Bank, who welcomes clients three days a week, rain or shine. Her name is Mary Patterson. She is a winner! She feels empathy for the people she serves and does an outstanding job greeting each individual who attends the food bank for emergency food supplies. Mary was recently honored at the Governor's mansion in Olympia for outstanding service to the community in the area of Human Services. The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Clallam and Jefferson Counties is honored to call this hardworking individual volunteering throughout the year one of our prized volunteers. She participated in serving 10,260 families and 23,077 individuals (46% over 55 years of age).



## Focus on...

### Food Bank Locations and Distribution Hours\*

**Brinnon Booster Club**  
151 Corey Lane  
Tuesdays, 10:00—1:00

#### Port Townsend

1925 Blaine Street (Old Mountain View School)  
Wednesdays, 10:00-3:00 clients under 65  
Senior Saturdays, 11:30-2:00 seniors 65 and older

**Quilcene Community Center**  
294952 Hwy. 101  
Wednesdays, 11:00-2:00

#### Tri-Area Community Center

10 West Valley Road, Chimacum  
Wednesdays, 10:00-1:00

#### Port Angeles

402 S. Valley Street  
Mon./ Wed./ Fri. 1:00-3:30

\*Food banks listed above are RSVP sites.

## Feeding the North Olympic Peninsula

A dedicated group of volunteers staff food banks located in population centers throughout the North Olympic Peninsula. In addition to the obvious work that occurs on food distribution days, volunteers serve many roles. Volunteers pick up food from locations near and far, stock shelves and coolers, and even conduct workshops on how to prepare fresh, healthy food.



*Washington is the 23rd hungriest state in the nation.*

*- 1 in 5 kids in Washington lives in a household that struggles to put food on the table.*

*- 1 in 5 Washingtonians rely on their local food bank.*

Interested in more WA Hunger Facts? See Northwest Harvest. <http://www.northwestharvest.org/wa-hunger-facts>

## Mayor's Day of National Service Recognition

*On April 4, more than 4,500 local leaders – representing 194 million Americans – united behind a single issue: National Service.*

In Port Angeles RSVP and AmeriCorps thanked the Mayor and the City for participating in the *Mayor, County, and Tribal Recognition Day for National Service* through a service project.



Clallam County RSVP member Abe Ringel and RSVP Volunteer Coordinator Pam Leonard-Ray joined forces with a crew of Port Angeles-based AmeriCorps members for a clean-up event at Francis Street Park above the waterfront in Port Angeles. The group spent the morning working alongside several city employees pulling weeds, raking leaves, picking up trash and sweeping sidewalks to beautify the park, which is home to the city's 911 memorial.

Mayor Patrick Downie arrived at the conclusion of the event to pay tribute to the group's service. At the City Council meeting that evening, the mayor read a volunteer appreciation proclamation.

In Jefferson County Mayor Deborah Stinson read a proclamation announcing the amount of volunteer hours served by Retired and Senior Volunteer Program and AmeriCorps members this past year. RSVP volunteers in Jefferson County served over 34,000 hours in 2016 and AmeriCorps provided 6,800 hours of service.



Francis St. Park in PA

### Join us at these Jefferson County RSVP Sites

#### ECHHO- Volunteer Services

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

In Jefferson County contact: Jane Covella  
RSVP Program Manager (360) 385-2571



### Clallam & Jefferson RSVP

There has been an amazing amount of change for our program since December. Sheila Ramsey, former RSVP Program Manager, retired at that time. I entered the position to take the reins in January.

A new grant was written for 2017-2019 within two weeks of my start date- to apply for federal funding from the Corporation of National and Community Service. The renewal was successful- as long as funding is not withdrawn through a Senate vote in DC.

Funding through Washington State and the Department of Commerce has been renewed and may actually increase for the 15 RSVP programs statewide.

This year will be a period of time for us to strengthen our volunteer support for community programs in both counties and to extend services to a growing number of youth, seniors, veterans, families, disabled and homebound.

I look forward to the experience as RSVP Program Manager to support the hard work of enthusiastic volunteers. These individuals give their time to work purely for the pleasure of supporting others with a variety of life experience and professional skills.



## Pleased to Meet You

It is hard to believe we have already marked the first day of spring. I have been on the job as Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Volunteer Coordinator here at the Port Angeles Senior and Community Center for three months. I have been learning about and visiting Clallam and Jefferson RSVP sites, meeting volunteers, and recruiting new volunteers for a variety of opportunities. I have also learned about the many programs which OlyCAP offers.

One thing I quickly learned to value about RSVP is that we serve as a valuable bridge between people who are 55 years of age or older and hope to gain meaningful volunteer opportunities. In 2013, I retired from a career in higher education and moved to Sequim from Charleston, South Carolina. I grew up in Washington State, but so much had changed. At first I was lost - had I made a mistake? What would I do with my free time? Although I found part-time work in the non-profit sector, it was my position as Volunteer Coordinator with the City of Sequim that I credit with saving me as I transitioned into semi-retirement.

Whenever someone thanked me for volunteering, I thanked them back for allowing me to serve. Now as I interview potential volunteers to find service opportunities that fit each individual and their interests, I know the benefits they will gain.

### 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, Jefferson, & Roosevelt**

**Senior Nutrition: Sequim, Port Angeles**

**Volunteer Services**

**In Clallam County contact: Pam Leonard-Ray  
RSVP Volunteer Coordinator (360) 460-2458**

***Last year our team of 273 volunteers provided 40,199 hours of service to these programs and others in our community.***

Our program operates with qualified volunteers at partner sites in Clallam and Jefferson Counties:

**Port Angeles School District and Jefferson Community School-** tutoring assistance to elementary age students and teens

**Early Childhood Services-** school readiness and literacy to preschoolers

**Boys & Girls Club of the Olympic Peninsula-** tutoring and mentoring support- all ages

**ECHHO-** drivers to medical appointments and delivery of medical equipment to disabled adults

**Encore!**- respite support of caregivers and adult daycare

**Food Banks in Port Angeles, Port Townsend, Quilcene, Brinnon, and Chimacum (Tri-Area)-** client food distribution services and nutrition specialists

**Senior Nutrition and Meals on Wheels-** drivers for food delivery services and kitchen assistants

**Volunteer Services-** senior and disabled assistance with chores, small construction projects, and transportation for errands and medical appointments

**Vet Connect-** referring veterans to medical and dental services and event support

Currently there are volunteer openings available! We also have community projects available for short stints of volunteer service. Contact me.



## 2017 Volunteer Appreciation Event

Clallam and Jefferson County RSVP members gathered for "We're So Lucky to Have You," a Saint Patrick's Day themed celebration for their volunteer services. The event was held at the Gardiner Community Center, which is close to the midpoint for volunteers traveling from as far away as Port Angeles and Brinnon.

Volunteers enjoyed music provided by four members of the Washington Old Time Fiddlers Association District 15. They enjoyed a lovely buffet and lively conversation. OlyCAP staff Jane Covella- RSVP Program Manager and Pamela Leonard-Ray- RSVP Volunteer Coordinator were on hand to assist with all aspects of the event.



PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE