

Serving Hamilton and Webster Counties

Spring 2025



RSVP: What Does it Mean to be an RSVP Volunteer?

What does it mean to you to be an RSVP volunteer? I am hoping that it means being part of an organization that helps people make a difference in their community. I hope you see it as being connected to a group of like-minded people who want to give back with their time and talents. I hope it means that you are happy to be associated with a program that helps you find just the right ways to spend your precious spare time doing what you really enjoy. Inside this issue:Brag Book2Volunteer
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In April, to celebrate National Volunteer Month, we plan to hold a very special meeting that will celebrate what RSVP is, and what you as volunteers mean to your community.

I **FIGURE 3** RSVP will be held on Monday, April 14 at 10:00am at the Elderbridge Building, 308 Central Avenue, Fort Dodge, and on Tuesday, April 15 at 10:00am at the Webster City Senior Center, 749 2nd Street, Webster City.

The program will highlight what RSVP volunteers do, the history of the organization, and our goals for the future. Please come, and bring a friend! Cookies and coffee will be served.

Computer Literacy for Beginners Classes Launched at Kendall Young Library

A new educational program has been added to our repertoire! Central Iowa RSVP is offering classes on Computer Literacy for Beginners.

After working together with area librarians and volunteers, a curriculum has been developed, and is ready to begin. The classes are led by trained RSVP volunteers. The first class was held at Kendall Young Library in Webster City March 18.

The classes are free of charge, and will be offered monthly at several area libraries. The topics available are Computer Basics, Smart Phone Basics, How to Set up a Gmail Account, How to Use a Tablet/iPad, Using Google Docs, and Saving and Storing Digital Photos.



The libraries we have been in contact with and which have expressed interest in our Computer Literacy classes include Kendall Young Library, Webster City, Fort Dodge Public Library, Montgomery Memorial Library, Jewell, Dayton Public Library, and Williams Public Library.

If you are interested in attending any of these classes, or in helping as an instructor, please contact Becky at 515-832-2525, or at our new email address, hamweb@rsvpvolunteer.org

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RSVP Brag Book



Top left: New BASE class meeting at Citizens Central in Fort Dodge, led by Gwenda Naylor; top right: Bonnie Reck promotes RSVP at Dayton Expo; BASE class at Webster City Community Center, Lorie Spanjers gives Fraud Fighters presentation at Fort Dodge Public Library; Computer Literacy for Beginners led by Deb Palmer, holds first class at Kendall Young Library, BASE class at Fuller Hall incorporates use of light balls for exercise.

Current Volunteer Opportunities

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These are some of the opportunities available to volunteers in Hamilton and Webster counties. If you are interested in an assignment in another community, RSVP can provide mileage reimbursement. For more information, call 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 the following activities: reading, book shelving/organizing, alphabetizing books/making room for new books, craft helpers, summer library program helpers, after-school helpers -Leading a program of a skill they possess (gardening, quilting, sewing, crafting, cooking, etc.)

Elderbridge

Errand Buddies may assist with and provide transportation to and from day-to-ay 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

Fort Dodge Elementary Schools

Help students in a variety of classroom activities

Fort Museum

Get museum ready for season opening Apr.12; stocking, arranging, updating filing system, arranging rock collection **Also booths available for craft fairs**

Grandview Health Care Center, Dayton

Intereact with residents in a number of ways, volunteer interests can be incorporated into activities

The Key on Central

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

Marion Home

Read to residents, play card games, help with activities

Village Thrift Store—Opportunity Village Sort incoming donations, stock shelves, run cash register

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

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^{nd} and 4^{th} 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

Newsletter Preparation

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. Done on a monthly basis, and on holidays.

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

Youth and Shelter Services

Youth Mentor—program for 4th and 5th grade students. Meet with student one day a week for about 35-45 minutes at middle school

2025

Central Iowa RSVP Staff Members

Kalen Petersen, Director 515-733-4917 director@rsvpvolunteer.org

Becky Koppen, Volunteer Coordinator

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Laura Severson, Office Coordinator 515-733-4917 office@rsvpvolunteer.org



You are invited to attend the Senior Expo, presented by Seniors in Story on Thursday, May 8, from 9:00am to 3:00pm at the Gateway Hotel and Conference Center in Ames. There will be many vendors at the center, and a free lunch is provided. Free programs will also be offered during the morning and afternoon. Please come!

We're on the web! www.rsvpvolunteer.org

