

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR VOLUNTEERS

What is RSVP? The Retired & Senior Volunteer Program rose out of an outgrowth of efforts by private groups, gerontologists and government agencies during the 1960's and 1970's to address needs of retired persons in America.

Chisholm Trail RSVP was established in 1973 through linkage with the University of North Texas. In 1983, Chisholm Trail RSVP departed from the norm for RSVP programs across the nation with sponsoring institutions and became an independent, non-profit, tax-exempt corporation. Operating for 46 years, RSVP boasts close to 800 volunteers serving at 110 nonprofit agencies and governmental agencies. It matches the skills and interests of adults 55+ with volunteer opportunities.

What are the requirements for becoming an RSVP volunteer? You need to be at least 55 years of age and be willing to volunteer in Denton County. You must report one hour of volunteer work a month and be willing to accept instruction and supervision from the volunteer site.

What if I want to volunteer outside of Denton County? RSVP is a national program. Please visit www.nationalservice.gov to find the RSVP nearest you.

What are the benefits of being an RSVP volunteer? First and foremost, you will be making a big difference in the lives of others. Second, you will be working with dedicated staff and volunteers to improve the lives of Denton County residents. All RSVP volunteers receive supplemental accident insurance coverage. You are also invited to education seminars and events, such as the Annual Recognition Luncheon.

What do RSVP volunteers do at nonprofit agencies? RSVP has more than 110 partnering organizations ready to engage volunteers. RSVP members serve in many different ways such as mentoring or reading to students, assisting Veterans, helping in libraries volunteering in hospitals, and so much more!

How do I become an RSVP volunteer? First, complete a volunteer enrollment form. Second, you will go through a comprehensive one-on-one interview to help you connect with volunteer opportunities that suit your skills and interests.

I don't know what type of volunteer work I'd like to do. Can RSVP help me figure it out? Yes! When you contact RSVP you are scheduled for a one-on-one interview with a placement expert who will work with you on finding the right opportunity that fits your skills and interests. You will be connected with the potential placement organization through personal introduction.

Is there training for volunteer opportunities through RSVP? Yes. All opportunities have training. The length and extensive nature of the training depends on the position.

I don't want to do the same thing I did in my career. Can I try something new? Of course! RSVP strongly believes in finding a volunteer role that suits what you want. Volunteering can be a great way to discover new skills and interests that you never knew you had.

