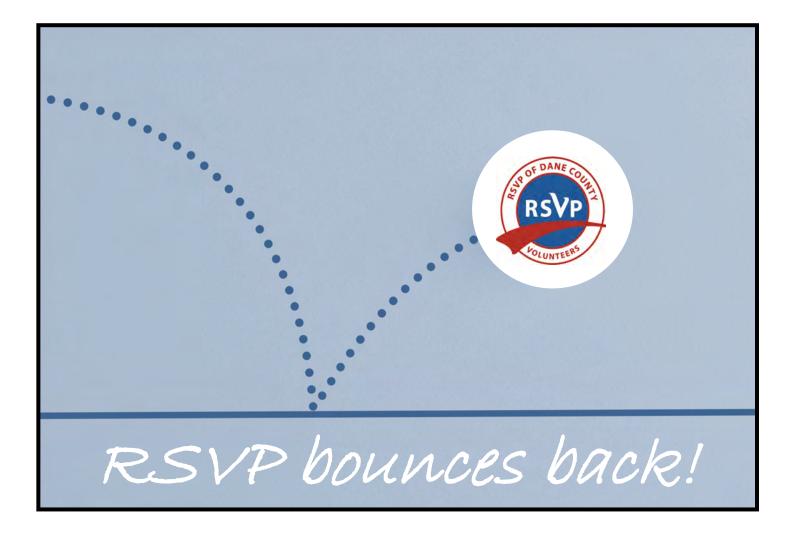
RSVP of Dane County

...where volunteers make a difference

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program & Foster Grandparent Program 2021 Annual Report



Our 49th Year

RSVP...where volunteers make a difference

The theme for this 2021 annual report is *RSVP Bounces Back!* In 2021, despite the pandemic, 1,006 RSVP volunteers served 109,277 hours helping Dane County residents in need. In addition, 15 Foster Grandparent Volunteers served 12,494 hours. We enrolled 252 new RSVP volunteers and two new Foster Grandparents during 2021 and helped our volunteers find safe ways to continue serving.

Highlights from our 49th Anniversary Year:

- In August, 88 of our RSVP volunteers were honored at the 2021 Governor's Service Awards for volunteering 20+ years and Betty Elsner, one of our volunteers, received the AmeriCorps Seniors Lifetime Impact Volunteer award for delivering meals since 1978!
- RSVP Group Projects/Homeworkers volunteers made a record number of beautiful handmade items (over 15,000) for those in need! Most group members continued to work at home. During 2021 we welcomed two NEW groups—the Middleton Glen Knit Pickers and The Hmong Institute. And, we hosted an appreciation event for all Group Projects & Homeworkers volunteers at Tenney Park in September of 2021.



• One of our greatest concerns has been the effects of the pandemic on our volunteers, especially the feeling of loneliness.

During 2021 we held monthly Zoom presentations to stay connected and help reduce social isolation. Our Zoom events featured presentations by some of our volunteers. RSVP Board member Melvin Hinton read excerpts from the writings of James Baldwin. RSVP Board member Carroll Heideman, and volunteer Doris Koster led a discussion on Reminiscence Writing. RSVP volunteer Karen DuCharme conducted a class on Chair Yoga and mindful relaxation and meditation. Dane County Supervisor, Kate McGinnity, also a Computer Buddy Volunteer, did a presentation on RSVP's Computer Buddy Program. And, former Board member, Muriel Whiteagle-Lee led a discussion on Native Americans in Military Service. We also honored volunteers in each of our programs at these events.

• Looking back at 2021, we appreciate the many ways RSVP and FGP volunteers helped others during the pandemic. We thank all our volunteers who were able to serve safely. In 2022, we will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary. We hope you will be able to join us on October 6th to mark this special occasion!

Margie Zutter, Executive Director

I believe most people have talents that they can use to contribute to the community. Volunteers address real needs and volunteer service also leads to other RSVP friendships. RSVP allows us to be active and visible." - RSVP Volunteer serving 20+ years

...back at ít...

HISTORY, MISSION, VISION AND INCLUSION STATEMENT

HISTORY

In 1969, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) was created as a national volunteer program under the Administration on Aging as part of the Older Americans. In 1971, eleven programs were launched, and they became part of the national volunteer agency ACTION (now the Corporation for National and Community Service--AmeriCorps Seniors programs.)

In 1972, we became the first RSVP program in Wisconsin and then in 2000, added a Foster Grandparent Program (FGP). Today, 170,000 AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers in RSVP, FGP, and Senior Companion programs serve nationwide. With over 1,000 volunteers, RSVP of Dane County is one of the largest AmeriCorps Seniors programs in the United States.

MISSION

To make a positive impact in the community by recruiting volunteers 55 and older to help deliver priority services to people of all ages, providing Dane County with a valuable resource.

RSVP seeks to:

- utilize the skills, knowledge, and life experiences of people who are retired, helping them to lead healthy, productive lives;
- respond to increasing requests for volunteers to help meet critical needs;
- increase the variety of volunteer opportunities;
- provide opportunities for intergenerational projects and age-integrated activities;
- plan programming in cooperation with the groups, agencies and institutions with which it is involved, as needed and requested;
- involve volunteers in planning and decision-making on community programs, boards, and committees;
- increase public awareness concerning contributions and needs of people age 55 and older and improve the image of aging.

VISION

RSVP aspires to build and expand a community-wide network of volunteers and organizations that unites compassionate, experienced adults with meaningful and fulfilling service opportunities, which enrich the lives of the volunteers while enhancing support for people in need.

INCLUSION STATEMENT

RSVP is committed to a culture of inclusion and connectedness. RSVP volunteers and staff come from many backgrounds, and this makes us stronger. Individual differences, life experiences, knowledge, innovation, self-expression, and talent that our volunteers contribute, represent the service and compassion we offer our community.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Richard R. Hoffman, President Retired, Stoughton Bank Executive

LuAnn Paepke, Vice President Retired, State of Wisconsin FGP Coordinator

Kelly Krein, Secretary Student Government Advisor, UW-Madison

Jack Anderson, Treasurer Retired, University Teaching

James G. Jenkins, Immediate Past President Retired, State of Wisconsin

RSVP COMMITTEES

Board Committees: Assessment Development Diversity Executive Financial Oversight and Planning Grants Marketing Nominating Personnel Recognition

Support Committees and Subcommittees: TRIAD Conference Planning Cottage Grove Triad West Madison Triad Verona Triad FGP Advisory Council Karen M. Cunningham Retired, U.S. Department of the Interior

> **Carroll Heideman** Retired, MMSD Teacher

Melvin Hinton Teacher, Performing Artist, Radio Host

Tom Howells Retired, Wisconsin Motor Carriers Association

> **Isabel Hubbard** Retired, Educator

Thomas Krauskopf Retired, State of Wisconsin

Donna Montgomery Retired, Marketing/Communications, CUNA Mutual Group

Deborah Speckmann Retired, Employee Trust Funds Employee

> Mary Stamstad Retired, RSVP of Dane County

> > * Term Ended in 2021 Michael (Mick) Meier

RSVP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ann Albert, Courtney Anclam, Jack Anderson, Mike Austin, **Christine Beatty, Margaret** Bomber, Kevin Brown, Diana Camargo, Karen Cunningham, Mel Davis, Mary Dwyer, Barb Evans, Luanne Fax, Landon Flora, Leslie Fox, Lea Gough, Kevin Gould, LeAnn Grimm, Carroll Heideman, Melvin Hinton, Dick Hoffman, Tom Howells, Isabel Hubbard, Jim Jenkins, Margaret Jensen, Alison Koelsch, Tom Krauskopf, Kelly Krein, Gene Kundert, Mick Maier, Heidi Musombwa, Neil McCallum, **Donna Montgomery, Jayne** Mullins, Mary Odell, Larry Orr, Pat Osborn, LuAnn Paepke, Mike Plautz, Sonia Ramirez, Charlotte Rankin, Nathan Reynolds, Melody **Riedel, Tiffany Schultz, Deborah** Speckmann, Mary Stamstad, Luann Williams, Laura Whitmore

WHO WE ARE/VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE

RSVP seeks to utilize the skills, knowledge, and life experiences of older adults, helping them lead healthy, productive lives while making a positive impact in the community. RSVP volunteers provide direct service, helping a wide variety of public and nonprofit organizations in Dane County. What makes RSVP so unique? Volunteers are personally interviewed and matched with appropriate assignments that meet their time, interest, and lifestyle needs, as well as skills required by community agencies. We also provide regular follow-up to ensure volunteer satisfaction. Survey results indicate that over 94% of RSVP volunteers feel their volunteer work keeps them active, and that they have a more positive outlook because they help their community.

2021 Volunteers in Service

Total volunteer hours: 121,771

This is the equivalent of a 58-person workforce dedicated to serving thousands of Dane County residents in need! Our volunteer hours are valued at over \$3 million using data reported by the Independent Sector (www.independentsector.org).

> Total volunteers reporting hours: 1,021 Gender: 29% Male, 71% Female

Number of Volunteers by Age

Honorary	97	9.6%
Age 55-59	40	4.0%
Age 60-69	225	22.4%
Age 70-79	436	43.3%
Age 80-84	128	12.7%
Age 85+	80	8.0%

"I have been with RSVP for over 20 years and love doing the work I have done." - RSVP Volunteer

"Sewing is cheaper than therapy." - RSVP Group Projects Volunteer

Number of Volunteers by Community Belleville - 49 Black Earth - 5 Blue Mounds - 4 Brooklyn - 10 Cambridge - 9 Cottage Grove - 10 Cross Plains - 16 Dane - 3 Deerfield - 4 DeForest - 51 Hollandale - 3 Madison/Monona/Fitchburg - 333 McFarland - 53 Marshall - 3 Mazomanie - 8 Middleton - 88 Monticello - 3 Mt. Horeb - 27 New Glarus - 7 Oregon - 73 Stoughton - 39 Sun Prairie - 35 Verona - 44 Waunakee - 102 Windsor - 4 Other Communities - 23 Total Volunteers - 1.021 Total volunteers recruited

in 2021: 252

341 Volunteers

44 Volunteer

Stations

29,712 Hours

Community Connections volunteers extend agency services in nonprofit and public agencies throughout Dane County. RSVP matches a wide variety of volunteer options with the skills and interests of willing volunteers.

Community Connections

"Volunteering is my retirement job! I knew when I retired that all I wanted to do was volunteer!" -Community Connections Volunteer

"Both my wife and I find our volunteering activities a very rewarding part of our lives. Being very long-time empty nesters, volunteering gives us other "families" for friendship and support. Thanks for your help in making it so." - Community Connections Volunteer





214 Volunteers

10 Volunteer

Stations

61,579 Hours

Group Projects/

Homeworkers

"As we age, opportunities diminish. Volunteering provides a purpose and commitment, therefore extending our values and purpose in life. It gives me direction and desire and fills in those gaps of loneliness." - RSVP Group Projects Volunteer

Group Projects/Homeworkers volunteers share their knitting, crocheting, and sewing skills to create quilts, afghans, items for warmth (hats, mittens, scarves), shawls, tote/walker/wheelchair bags, baby items (hats, sweaters, blankets), fidget blankets, face masks, and other handmade items. Finished items are distributed to schools, community and low-income healthcare centers, and many other nonprofit and public agencies, who in turn share them with people in need of all ages.

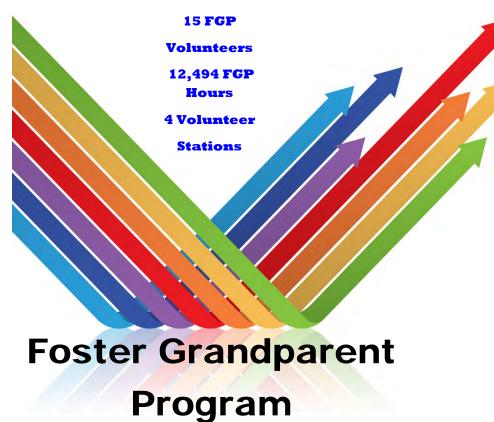


15,024	5,479 lbs of	60
Items	Recycled	Recipient
Distributed	Donated	Agencies

"We just want to say thank you again for having your volunteers take on this project (of making bright and cheerful colored hospital gowns) for us...the gowns are amazing! Please pass along to your volunteers how much joy these bring our patients and how useful they are for our staff! You are all amazing, and we are so grateful for the incredible talents you share with us! -Volunteer Coordinator at Heartland Hospice



...back with new opportunities...



"May 25th was the last day of school for me this year. I did get to address the kids and wish them well. Waunakee Prairie Elementary School had a morning meeting honoring all of the volunteers with a breakfast buffet. It was really sweet." - RSVP Foster Grandparent Volunteer

Foster Grandparents volunteer 5-40 hours/week in Dane County schools, preschools, and ReachDane HeadStart sites, helping children improve academic and social skills directed at school success. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Foster Grandparents have become Postcard Penpals with kindergartners in a Madison school, recorded stories for Dane County students to use as literacy learning, and started a Movie Club and a Book Club to learn new things and combat isolation. In a safe and virtual format, Foster Grandparents have continued with inservice training and attended author presentations on topics of diversity, health, and scientific topics. Income-eligible volunteers age 55 and older receive a tax-free stipend, meal, and travel reimbursement.



4 Volunteer Stations (School Districts)

58 Volunteers 565 Hours

The Intergenerational Program connects older adults with children and youth in Dane County. Intergenerational volunteers work with students across Dane County, volunteering as tutors, computer buddies, guest speakers, and as support to students in the classroom. Intergenerational volunteers also work with children at various community nonprofit organizations in Dane County.

Intergenerational

"The computer buddy program developed into one of my favorite activities. I began the semester with one buddy who was a great writer and I got to know her pretty well over the course of the semester. Late in the semester I got a second buddy who was more of a reluctant writer but wrote much more about himself as the weeks passed by. I really enjoyed watching his growth. I loved meeting both kids the day we met in person... I would recommend this program to both adults and students..." - RSVP Deerfield Computer Buddy



...back with fresh ideas...

"I am blind so depend on volunteers. Very happy drivers are back!" - RSVPpassenger

Driver Escort

Drivers provide rides to Dane County residents, 60 years and older, to medical and other important appointments.

Volunteer drivers provide help that promotes independent living for Dane County Seniors, 60 years and older, and Veterans of any age, through four different programs.

"RSVP program is truly wonderful and well needed service and an absolute blessing to

many." -- RSVP passenger

Driver Services/ VHV Drivers

Vets Helping Vets

Veteran Drivers provide rides to veterans and their immediate family members of any age.

Home Delivered Meals

Drivers deliver noon hour meals to seniors and veterans in Dane County communities outside Madison/Monona to help them maintain access to healthy, nutritious meals.

Food Bridge

Drivers are paired with a senior living in Madison or Monona who is low-income and homebound, to shop for and deliver groceries from area food pantries to them on a regular basis.

Driver Escort

- 1,841 rides for
 397 passengers
- 144,731 meals delivered to 2,270 frail elderly
- 224,878 miles of driving
- Helped 2,667

 older adults
 remain
 independent
 and in their
 homes longer

Driver Services/ VHV

- 477 Volunteers
- 15 Volunteer Stations 17,004 Hours
- Vets Helping Vets
- 139 Vets rides for 30 passengers



...back for you...



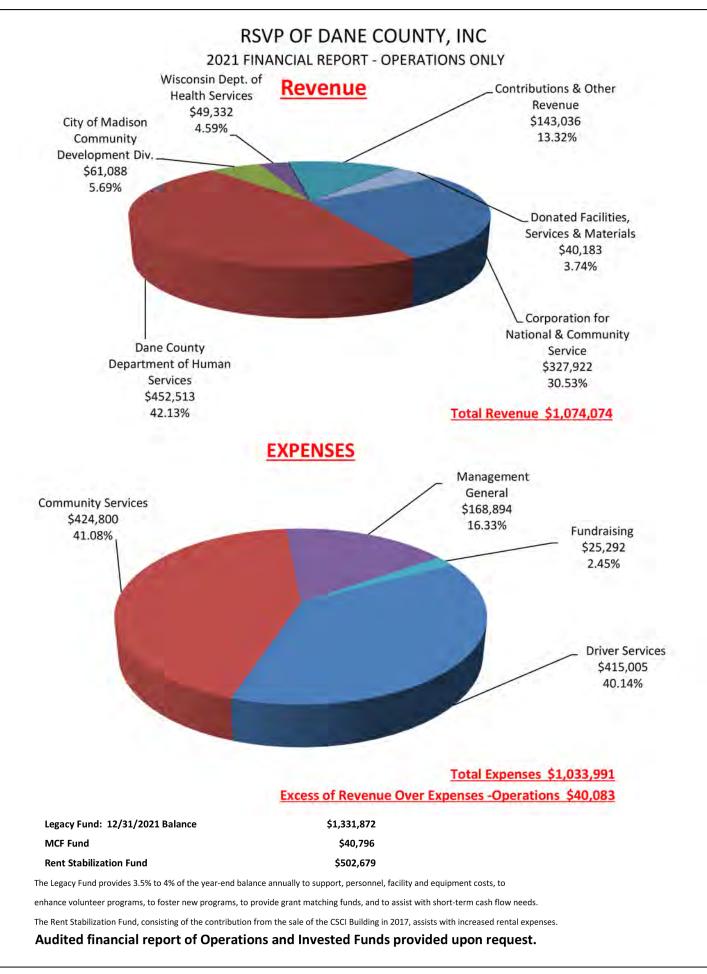
"These classes are great!" - 2021 Triad Conference Participant



2021 Governor's Service Award Winners

Submitted Photo. Governor's Service Award Winners (left to right): Carroll Heideman, Lee Ihlenfeldt, Bill Arthur, Dawn Stucki, Pat Osborn, Roger Utermark, Marlene Gerner, Barbara Bristol, Joanne Berschet, Phyllis Johnson, Charlotte Marshall, Everett Johnson, Bob Topel, Sharon Owen, Jeanne Topel, Kathryn Disch

FINANCIALS



GIVING STATEMENT

Thank you to all who support RSVP of Dane County. We are grateful for all the individuals, community groups, corporations, and funders who have helped RSVP volunteers respond to community needs through a 2021 contribution. Due to space constraints, only gifts of \$100 or more are recognized here. We also thank our many in-kind donors who help sustain our programs. All donors are listed in RSVP News Notes.

Annual Fund, Memorials and Tributes: Volunteers, family members, and friends can be recognized through a tribute or memorial listed in *RSVP News Notes*, our quarterly newsletter.

Sweepstakes: An annual fundraising appeal with a chance to win a prize!

Tony Farina Endowment Fund: This permanent endowment fund was created in 1998 to support RSVP volunteer programs. You may make your gift directly to RSVP of Dane County, Inc. or to the Madison Community Foundation by noting your contribution is for the Tony Farina Endowment Fund for RSVP.

Heideman Endowed Fund for Staff Compensation: This fund was created in 2007 to provide program and support staff with a minimal salary increase during difficult economic times. You may make your gift directly to RSVP by noting your contribution is for the Heideman Endowed Fund.

Legacy Fund: By including a planned gift in your estate plan, you help to ensure that RSVP will have the financial support to continue its programs for future generations. You also make a lasting, powerful statement to family and friends about your values and encourage others to share in your vision.

In-Kind Gifts: RSVP welcomes in-kind contributions such as program supplies, volunteer appreciation gifts, and office equipment or supplies.

In the 40th Anniversary year, the **Leadership Circle**, formed in 2008, was restructured to recognize a range of cumulative individual contribution levels. There are now more than 100 people who have made significant financial contributions over time. These contributions have been so important, enabling RSVP to maintain and even expand some services in spite of our challenging economic years. *"Never in my wildest imaginings did I think that my small donations could ever be counted as significant. But small efforts over time really do add up and now I find myself a member of RSVP's Leadership Circle!"*

In 2015, RSVP received significant planned gifts from the Eileen Erb Trust, and the Dave Stucki Individual Retirement Account, establishing a Legacy Fund. Our **Legacy Circle** recognizes our friends and supporters whose generous donations will help us meet the ever-growing demands for our services in the future.

Would you like to provide for RSVP of Dane County as part of your legacy? You might designate RSVP as a beneficiary in a will, trust, insurance policy, or investment. Please talk to your legal or financial advisor. For more information, you may also contact Executive Director Margie Zutter at (608) 663-7536.

DONORS

2021 MAJOR FUNDERS

AmeriCorps Seniors (Corporation for National and Community Service) City of Madison Community Development Division Dane County Department of Human Services WI Department of Health Services

LEGACY CIRCLE

Jack and Donna Anderson Kathryn S. Arndt Bill Arthur Holly Brassington Eileen Erb Trust* George A. Fait Family Trust* Rose Mary Feltzkowski Kevin Gould Carroll Heideman Isabel Hubbard Roland Krogstad* Harold and Donna Sabot Dave Stucki* Dick Sweet* Margie and Keith Zutter

* In Remembrance

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

Diamond Level - \$10,000+ cumulative Jack and Donna Anderson Michael J. and Barbara Foley Kevin Gould and Nancy Baillies Carroll Heideman

Margaret Jensen Thomas and Margie Krauskopf Kit-Yin Ling Rita* and Reiny Meihsner Michael and Marita Menard Jack and Patricia Mitchell Mary Odell Mary Stamstad Dawn Stucki Tom and Kathy Thousand Margie and Keith Zutter

Gold Level - \$5,000 - \$7,999 cumulative

Leroy Adler Thomas and Ann Duter Wayne and Barbara Halverson James and Sue Jenkins Donald and Audrey Kasper Mick and Linda Maier Daniel and Robin McCarthy Judy Olson Doris Schroeder Barbara and Morris Schoenberg John and Carmen Skilton Richard and Marcia Taugher Dave and Helen Tetzlaff Tom and Kathy Thousand David and Julie Worzala

Silver Level - \$2,000 - \$4,999 cumulative

Bill Arthur John Betthauser Holly Brassington James J. and Mary M. Brill Charles and Joanne Bunge Arnold and Donna Chandler Jenny Dahm Richard T. Dewitt Thomas and Cynthia Erickson James and Kathy Esser Arnold and Diane Evenson David Fisher Grant Gelhar Rolf R. and Kathleen Hempel Tom and Muriel Howells Lee and Mary Ihlenfeldt Kim and John Jensen Alison Koelsch Monna Kolbe Kelly Krein Frederick Kruger Jim Leggett and Janet A. Ladowski Robert Lenz Virginia Logsdon Lucile McFee John and Donna Montgomery Dale Nordeen* Kim and Mark Pilgrim Patrick Reidy Ron and Cathy Rotter Harold Sabot Ron and Ann Semmann Charles and Kay Spelbring Bob and Jeanne Topel Sandy L. Turk William Wiedenbeck Judy Zvara

ANNUAL FUND - Friends of RSVP

PATRON

(**\$500-\$999**) Trudy Brule Alois and Mary Clary Karen Cunningham Connie Kraus Diane Muehlemann Richard Riesen Tim and Lori Stadelman

SPONSOR

(\$250-\$499)

Mel Bankes Christine Beatty June and Steve Bennett Andrew Brantmeyer Joan Burns Rodney Huebner Diana Jost Lori and Dick Kalnicky Georginana Lueckner John and Pat Perkins Thomas and Susan Seal Deborah Ann Speckmann Robert and Pat Thomasgard Muriel Whiteagle-Lee

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(\$100-\$249) Peter and Linda Acker Khosro (Ed) Adib Brian Alme Judith Amacker Kathryn S. Arndt Mary Ashley Jane Bannerman Clem and Mary Batz Jim and Molly Berry Abigail Christianson Mary Cochems Theresa Conger Jane G. Cordero Shirley and George Coulter Shirley Culp James Cymbalak Peg Davey Ross and Penny DePaola Arne Dullum Jane Eisner Ann Fisher Susan Fulks Pam Gallagher Ronald Goral Leona Grubb Lydia Haynes Kathleen Heimann

(continued on page 14)

(continued from page 13) Marilyn Henry Robert W. Hoffman **Richard Holthaus** Lorrie Hylkema Richard and Mary Ann Ihlenfeld Jeanne H. Jacob Carol and Richard Karls Mikel and Sharon Kezer Janet Kleiboer Woody Kneppreth and Monica Sitter Nancy and Helmut Knies Greg and Ann Landry Ilene Lawson Jay and Gina Lengfeld Saul Levin Mike Lovejoy Rod Matthews Jack Meyer Mike and Sue Mohoney Melvin B. Morgenbesser Steve Mueller David and Ann Nelson Patti Offer Margaret Olson Peter Orlik Mary Kay Palmer Mike Plautz and Mary Dwyer Tom Poppe Georgia Punswick Karl and Jan Raymond Roger and Sue Richards Susan Ridley Steven and Janet Riehbrandt Sally Ross Bob and Roberta Ruder Jean Rush Mary V. Schroeder Rhea Schultz

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RSVP also expresses its sincere appreciation to the Donors who contributed up to \$99 during 2021 but due to space constraints could not be listed. All donors are listed in RSVP News Notes.

RSVP appreciates donors who contributed through the United Way of Dane County State Employees Campaign.

GRANTS

Alliant Energy Foundation Endres Manufacturing Company Foundation The Evjue Foundation Madison South Rotary Foundation Middleton VFW Post 8216 NewBridge Madison, Inc, Stoughton Area Community Foundation

CORPORATE EVENT AND PROGRAM SPONSORS

Madison Gas & Electric UW Health, Unity Point Health -Meriter & Quartz Custer Financial Services Mike and Barbara Foley US Bank Corporate Business Systems Group Health Cooperative Herb Kohl Charities Sub-Zero Wolf Foundation TDS Telecom Wegner CPAs

BUSINESSES PROVIDING HOME - DELIVERED MEAL DRIVERS

RSVP Driver Services salutes the following businesses for encouraging their employees to serve as Home Delivered Meal Drivers: Belleville High School BMO Harris Bank McFarland State Bank Old National Bank Placon

TRIAD CONFERENCE SPONSORS

AARP Wisconsin GWAAR Medicare Patrol Old National Bank Wisconsin Police Leadership Foundation

"As a new resident of Madison, I knew I wanted to volunteer - I just didn't know what opportunities were available. If not for RSVP, I would never even have heard of the place where I now volunteer." - RSVP Volunteer

"Thankful for this service and the wonderful volunteers!" - RSVP Passenger

... back to a new normal...

RSVP OF DANE COUNTY STAFF

RSVP STAFF

Margie Zutter Executive Director

Diana Jost Assistant Director

Jack Guzman Office Support Administrator

> Krishna Sijapati Accountant

Robin Heilprin Madison/Monona Ride Coordinator

Lorrie Hylkema Vets Helping Vets Coordinator **Steve Jaeschke** Driver Services Manager

Jan Karst Community Connections and Bus Buddies Coordinator

Camela King Driver Services Coordinator

Jen Roth Intergenerational and Foster Grandparent Coordinator

Dick Russell Foster Grandparent Program Coordinator Kate Seal Group Projects/Homeworkers Program Coordinator and Driver Services Program Assistant

> Mike Thomsen TRIAD Coordinator

Employment ended in 2021 Laura Mikkelson Kari Riley

Employment ended in 2022 Mary Schmelzer



In 2022, RSVP of Dane County will celebrate its 50th Anniversary. Events are planned throughout the year, culminating in a special anniversary Volunteer Appreciation Event on October 6, 2022.



...looking ahead...







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