

## SeniorCorps-RSVP Larimer's Vision & Mission:

With *Core Beliefs* and *Goals*

### The Program:

*SeniorCorps* is a federal, national-service program (similar to *PeaceCorps* and *AmeriCorps*), aimed at mobilizing citizens for community service. *SeniorCorps* does this service on the local level, county by county, with those 55+ years of age. Its programs were instituted in 1973 through the *Domestic Service Volunteer Act*, and it became an official entity in 1993 through the *National and Community Service Trust Act*. *SeniorCorps* operates within the *Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)*, and CNCS is under the direct authority of the White House.

The *RSVP* (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program) is the largest program within *SeniorCorps*, and dates back to 1969 and the *Older Americans Act, Title VI*. *RSVP* acts as a network of nonprofits and hospitals within a given county, and as a volunteer matching and placement service for them. Prospective volunteers come to *RSVP* staff, are assessed, and then are placed in best-fitting roles with one or more of those nonprofit partner-agencies.

*SeniorCorps* has 330,000 volunteer-members nationwide, *RSVP* has 270,000, and *RSVP* in Larimer County has 750 active volunteers (2017).

### The Vision:

The vision of *SeniorCorps-RSVP* Larimer County is to further realize a community where seniors actively participate in the life of their nonprofits, benefiting themselves as they benefit others. As more and more seniors volunteer, every human-service organization receives the volunteers they need, and the health of the community is maximized as volunteers, organizations, and program-participants reach their full potential.

### The Mission:

1. To *mobilize* all seniors who come through our doors/network, into meaningful and fulfilling volunteer opportunities, through our existing network of nonprofits, and by means of our personal and efficient matching service.
2. To *build* and *expand* the network of Larimer-based and Larimer-serving human-service nonprofits, to provide more opportunities for right-fit volunteer placements therein.
3. Through its right-fit volunteer matching service, to *provide* the Larimer nonprofit community with the *best volunteers* for their positions. This means volunteers who work harder, with greater efficiency, and longer than volunteers who come through other avenues.
4. To *mobilize more* and more retired and senior volunteers through outreach and marketing efforts, working to meet the needs of the human-service based nonprofits.
5. Act as a resource for Larimer County nonprofits in *helping to train* their volunteer coordinators.
6. To *advocate* for the older adults of Larimer County, serving as a partner of organizations and networks which seek the betterment of that population.
7. To *measure the impact* of *RSVP* volunteers within Larimer County, passing on that information to the national/federal entities, so that they can continue to make *informed decisions* and pass strategic legislation for volunteering and national health.

### Core Beliefs:

1. Every senior has gifts, talents, skills, and experience to offer through volunteer service.
2. Every senior will personally benefit from volunteering – physically, socially, emotionally, cognitively, and with overall life-satisfaction.

3. Larimer County needs a fully-mobilized senior adult population for the health of its citizens and its nonprofits.
4. All of RSVP-Larimer's nonprofit partners provide valuable and necessary services to the community.
5. Volunteer placement-services are necessary for the health of a community. Volunteers placed in right-fit opportunities serve better, harder, and longer than others. Placement services are cost-effective and have fiscal value-add to communities because of these efficiencies.
6. National-service placement programs are necessary for the health of a nation. They shape the values of the citizens towards volunteering and beneficence; and they help in maintaining a big-picture view of the country, its needs, and the strategies necessary to promote national and individual health.

Goals:

- To continue to be the first place retirees think of when considering volunteer service (non-religious, and non-political service) in their community, so as to increase participation.
- To have every retired and senior person in Larimer County hear of the RSVP program and the opportunities for volunteer placement thereby.
- To have the best placement process for senior volunteers, in order to increase longevity, retention, and satisfaction of partners and volunteers.

