



Your RSVP Connection e-newsletter

Retired & Senior Volunteer Program



Vol 1, No 3 – November 2011

Community Conversations

United Way of Lane County is conducting conversations in our community to collect important input on what's important to you, your family and your neighbors. This information will be used to develop plans that address issues such as finding and accessing affordable healthcare, helping children be more successful in school and supporting programs that help with jobs, housing, and financial stability. If your station is interested in hosting a conversation please contact Amber at aandrews@unitedwaylane.org

Station Spotlight

Long-Term Care Ombudsman State Director Honored

Mary Jaeger, Director of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program received the Governor's Volunteer Award this month at the Civic Engagement Conference in Salem. The program is dedicated to protecting the rights, safety and dignity of residents of nursing homes, residential care facilities, assisted living facilities and adult foster homes. Volunteers are a vital part of the program and provide a presence to protect the rights and dignity of elders in long-term care. Certified Ombudsman volunteers undergo an extensive training and are assigned to visit facilities on a regular basis. They advocate for residents rights and work with staff and administration to improve resident's quality of care. They educate families, staff and residents about those rights and investigate issues of concern. The services are free and confidential. Local Recruitment and Screening Committees interview potential Ombudsman candidates as well as promote the program in the community. RSVP of Lane County is pleased to partner with our local Long-Term Care Ombudsman program directing interested volunteers to serve.

National Service Priorities

The Corporation for National and Community Service 2011-2015 Strategic Plan leverages the strength of grantees, participants, and programs, to build a network that offers effective solutions in the areas of: Disaster Services, Economic Opportunity, Education, Environmental Stewardship, Healthy Futures and Veterans and Military Families. CNCS will invest in programs and projects that achieve outcomes in these areas and tackle challenges such as helping youth succeed in school, secure safe affordable housing or help communities respond to disasters.

Wishing you the best during this season of



Volunteer Spotlight Mary Hull

Welcoming Springfield neighbors seeking assistance from Catholic Community Services of Lane County for more than 16 years is the familiar face of Mary Hull. Mary assists people requesting services, distributes information, answers phones, makes appointments and keeps track of everything. Volunteering over 180 hours a month, Mary's service to her neighbors stems from her memory as a single mother with three children; she did not have the resources she needed to care for her family. By taking her seat at the CCSLC reception desk, she does what she can to help others face the same difficulties she did. We say, "Thanks, Mary, for all you do to help others".

Volunteer Opportunities

'Tis the season when people look for ways to help....here are a few:

***WHITEAKER THANKSGIVING DINNER** volunteer shifts available, drivers are needed. Visit website: wcdinner.org to register.

*** FESTIVAL OF TREES** volunteers needed for Cascade Health Foundation event Nov. 22-27, call Kathryn at 541-228-3007

***OMBUDSMEN** needed to serve as resident advocates. Training, contact Diane at 541-345-2846

***TAX-AIDE** preparers sought to assist clients at various sites beginning Feb 1 December training required, contact Linda at 541-554-1082

Project Honors Older Americans

The Age Knows No Limits Project is an alliance of Lane County programs which serve people age 60 and older. The project celebrates older Americans in Lane County for the many ways they contribute to society, the workplace, our communities and our families. During May, Older Americans Month, individuals are recognized whose active engagement inspires others and captures the true essence of this year's theme: "*Living Inspirations*". Six to eight Honorees will be selected, featured on a poster and introduced at a reception in May. Nominations from the community are being solicited NOW through December 15, 2011. Nomination information and form can be found at: www.ageknowsnolimits.org

Questions, comments, concerns contact Amy Bresler, RSVP Manager at abresler@unitedwaylane.org or 541-741-6000 ext 159.