

RSVP Advisory Council

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| Penny Cedel <i>President</i> Concordia University | Will Brown RSVP Volunteer | Susan Merrick AT&T |
| Ronald Greening <i>Vice President</i> The Greening Law Firm, P.C. | Tony Budet University Federal Credit Union | Diane McIntyre Community Volunteer |
| Gretchen Blackburn <i>Treasurer</i> Texas Medical Association | Lisa David Accenture | Glenda Rogers Area Agency On Aging |
| Jim Comer <i>Secretary</i> Comer Communications | Graham Duncan RSVP Volunteer | Mary Pat Smith Accountable Aging, Inc. |
| Jane Basey, Ph.D. RSVP Volunteer | Jason Earle Harden Healthcare | Ann Stafford UT Performing Arts Center |
| Gene Binder RSVP Volunteer | Adrian Fowler Community Volunteer | Dora Tanton Southwest Airlines |
| | Richard Kinsey Community Volunteer | John Thomas Community Volunteer |
| | Alice Latino Emeritus Corporation | |
| | John McKetta, Ph.D. University of Texas | |

How To Contact RSVP

Street Address:
100 N. IH-35, Suite 3800
Austin, TX 78701

Phone: 512-854-7787
Fax: 512-854-4131
Website: www.RSVPaustin.org

WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR STORY!

Tell us about your motivations for answering the invitation to serve. Or share with us your philosophy and experiences regarding sharing your time and talents. We find volunteer stories are uplifting and inspiring and truly warm our hearts. We also enjoy hearing feedback about how our program is working for YOU.

Please take a moment to write us a letter, send an email, or give us a call today.

Our email address is RSVP@co.travis.tx.us and our mailing address is PO Box 1748, Austin TX 78767. Or you can phone us at (512) 854-5872.

We'd love to hear your story. We're always listening!



RSVP News



RSVP PUTS EXPERIENCE TO WORK BY CONNECTING VOLUNTEERS WITH REWARDING OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE IN TRAVIS COUNTY • AUGUST 2009

Momentum Grows Nationally for Volunteering

This year has brought about unprecedented attention to volunteering. There has been a growing desire by people of all ages and backgrounds to serve and an emerging consensus that service and civic engagement must be part of the solution to solve our toughest challenges. It's a new era of service that has been highlighted by numerous historic national events.



April. President Obama delivered an early victory for a central cause of his Administration by signing the Serve America Act into law. This bill provides for a sweeping expansion of volunteer service that will engage millions of Americans in addressing local needs.

May. Grants from the Reinvestment and Recovery Act enabled placement of 13,000 AmeriCorps volunteers in distressed communities to meet critical social needs resulting from the economic crisis.

June. National and local nonprofits received grants to engage 23,000 new AmeriCorps volunteers in improving lives and strengthening communities. Volunteers will tutor and mentor at-risk youth, build homes, prevent high school dropouts and expand college access, conserve parks and public lands, support food banks and shelters, help communities recover from disasters, and recruit and mobilize volunteers.

June. President Obama announced "United We Serve," a call to service

challenging all Americans to lay a new foundation for growth by engaging in sustained, meaningful community service. The initiative runs through September 11, the new National Day of Service and Remembrance.

June. Over 5,000 volunteer and service leaders from across the country, including Katie Reeves, RSVP Program Development Coordinator, and Fred Lugo, RSVP Director, met at the National Conference on Volunteerism and Community Service in San Francisco. Participants shared innovative ways of creating change in our communities and mapped out strategies that increase the impact of service in solving community problems. First Lady Michelle Obama called on all Americans to participate in our nation's renewal and recovery in the keynote address.

The opening session featured a star-studded lineup of elected officials and popular culture figures including House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, California First Lady Maria Shriver, Matthew McConaughey and an inspirational performance from

Jon Bon Jovi, who played a musical set to celebrate the year-round work of volunteers.



RSVP News

P.O. Box 1748
Austin, Texas 78767

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Texas is the oldest, largest and most effective youth mentoring organization in the United States. They need volunteers to mentor children and they also need volunteers to assist with administrative work to support the children and their mentors. Administrative assistance mainly consists of answering the telephone, assisting with large mailings and greeting visitors. Their most pressing need is for someone to answer the phone between 10:30AM and 1PM Monday through Friday at their office in East Austin. All volunteers must pass a background check. For more information please contact RSVP.

Created from the merger of Reading Is Fundamental of Austin and Capital Area Reach Out and Read, **BookSpring** instills in children a love of reading and promotes books as a means to success. By offering a range of programs that support early childhood literacy, BookSpring champions the value of reading and encourages parents to read to their children from birth forward, resulting in stronger families and increased lifelong opportunities for every child. Volunteers are needed to help with administrative duties and special projects, such as filing, sorting, and labeling; developing forms, processes, and procedures; developing a BookSpring photo archive; stuffing envelopes for special event invitations and fundraising campaigns. Learn about next generation techniques to build reading skills in groups that include our youngest and most disadvantaged families. Help open the world to children through reading! Volunteers should be able to communicate well in oral and written format, be able to work well with others or to work independ-

ently, and have excellent organizational and analytical skills.

Family Eldercare is reaching out to creative volunteers who can enhance mental fitness and reduce loneliness among their clients. As a Telephone Group Facilitator, you will be trained to prepare and lead one or several 15-minute group activities by telephone from home or office. Looking for a unique volunteer experience? Look no further if you have ideas and can take the initiative to lead a small group in sharing life stories or some individual expression of life experience. Curious? Call 854-5874 today to learn more.

Dell Children's Medical Center needs more "At Your Request" Service Volunteers. Occupying one of the Center's most important positions, these volunteers are the Center's first contact with family and visitors. Volunteers need to be kind, smiling, patient, and willing to give directions. Working along with a paid staff person, volunteers escort patients and families to areas within the hospital, assist families with errand running, and provide companionship for lonely or scared patients. This position is best for those who are good listeners and communicate well with others. The time commitment is flexible.

Join the volunteers at the **LBJ Library & Museum** who greet and assist visitors from all over the world. You may be asked to tour school children through the exhibits which tell the life and times of President Lyndon Johnson, the 36th President of the United States. Renew your familiarity and interest in that time

period by helping to educate others about the exhibits. Orientation and training starts in September.

Teach children about the Colorado River in Texas and water conservation! Be a representative of the **Colorado River Foundation**. Educational Docents help lead student field trips (groups of 15 students at a time) through their beautiful outdoor Redbud Park facilities. With hands-on activities and educational games, you will teach children about the water cycle, water conservation, water sources and watersheds, and the history and geography of the Colorado River in Texas. Don't worry, training is provided for all docents so you will know what to teach and how to teach it effectively! Volunteers are asked to commit to a minimum of two 4-hour shifts per month. Get ready to meet some amazing docents who already volunteer with them! Learn more by attending their upcoming volunteer orientation on August 11th from 6PM to 7PM.

Marbridge Foundation provides a unique spectrum of residential care, education, and training for adults with various cognitive challenges. The gift of your time will help Marbridge residents achieve their full potential. There are many ways you can volunteer; from companionship to horticulture therapy, they have a place for you. Volunteer shift times and days can be flexible and can even be incorporated into what you already do during your free time (for example, going to church or a movie with a resident). Marbridge can put your time, talents and services to great use to benefit residents — and you will have fun at the same time! Contact RSVP today to learn more about this wonderful opportunity!



Small Change Makes A Big Difference

Due to a recent policy change, the Travis County Auditor's office has asked RSVP to hold a volunteer's mileage reimbursement until the total exceeds \$5.00.

For example, if you request reimbursement totaling \$3.40, your reimbursement will be held until further reimbursement requests are received and the total is greater than \$5.00. As soon as the five dollar minimum is exceeded, the Auditor's office will process and mail your check. Thank you.

Have You Tried It Yet?

RSVP Online Reporting

Call 854-RSVP To Register!

Momentum, cont'd from Page 1

June. The Entertainment Industry Foundation announced that it will carry the service message to millions of Americans. During the week of October 19, plots and themes of dozens of popular network television programs will center on volunteering to inspire Americans to serve.

June. Three Senior Corps and four AmeriCorps volunteers were honored with our nation's Spirit of Service Award for exemplary service in their communities.

July. Major League Baseball embraced the President's "United We Serve" initiative and announced that community service will be front and center in a variety of special events

and at the 2009 All-Star Game. These events show that we are at a pivotal moment in history when the momentum for engaging volunteers is reaching new heights! RSVP volunteers have always responded to new community challenges and continue to be at the forefront, taking volunteering to higher levels of impact.

The work that you do everyday serves as an example of how everyone can become involved. Thank you for making a difference in our community, inspiring others to serve, and for being part of our nation's growing momentum for volunteer service.

Please Welcome Our Newest Travis County RSVP Volunteers

Keith Braithwaite

Phyllis Bryant

Noble Campbell

Irma Esparza

Oscar Fresch

Humberto Gonzalez

Shirley Gordon

Sonja Hemmes

Roy Hill

Savanah Hill

JoAnne Hudson

Bob Liston

Tahira Malik

Virlee Nesby

Irene Pfirman

Stephen Pyrczak

R.A. Reusser

Lynn Sampsell

Gail Smith

Farenia Sneed

Cleo Therrien

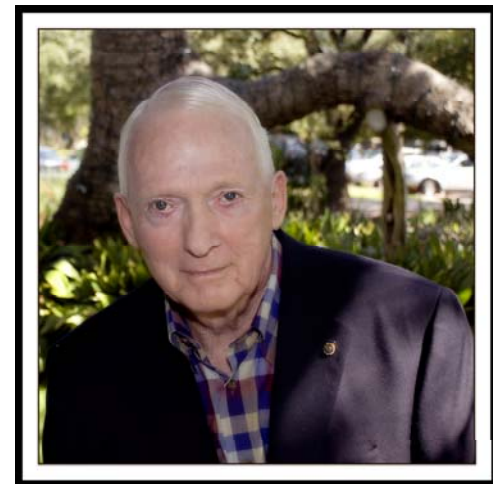
Gertrude Truitt-Green

Madelle Grussendorf

Susan Wall

Xi-Quan Wang

Joe Zepeda



William King Brown

RSVP Advisory Council member William King Brown passed away June 28, 2009. Will served our program in several capacities for many years, and in October 2008 he joined the Travis County RSVP Advisory Council. Will was presented the RSVP Spirit of Service Award in 2006 for his contributions in many public safety and human needs areas. Our sincere condolences go out to Will's family and friends. He will be dearly missed by many.

RSVP can help your agency recruit volunteers. Please contact RSVP to learn how. For more details on these and other volunteer jobs, please call Travis County RSVP at 512-854-7787.