

FLINT HILLS VOLUNTEER CENTER

2601 Anderson Avenue Ste 200
 Manhattan, KS 66502
 Phone: 785-776-7787
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Corporation for National and Community Service . Riley County Council on Aging,
 Greater Manhattan Community Foundation, Konza United Way, Kansas State Pi Beta Phi, Diehl Foundation

Please help us raise \$30,000 to support over 600 volunteers. Your support is appreciated!

- **Gift in Honor/Memory** of a loved-one (to support on-going projects)
- General contribution (recruiting/placing individuals in positions that impact the community)
- Schools of Hope (recruiting/placing volunteer tutors)
- Youth Volunteer Corps (recruiting youth 11-18 years old)

My gift to the Flint Hills Volunteer Center is enclosed:

___\$50 ___\$100 ___\$200 ___\$500 Other amount \$_____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, & Zip _____

Phone _____ Email (if applicable) _____

****In Honor/Memory of:** _____

*Make check payable to Flint Hills Volunteer Center and return to:
 2601 Anderson Avenue Suite 200. Manhattan, KS 66502*



Highlights

Letter from the Executive Director

Volunteer Opportunities

Father Daughter Dance Tea Party

Youth Volunteer Corps

Father Daughter Dance Tea Party

This February featured one of our biggest events of the year, the Father Daughter Dance Tea Party! On Sunday, February, 18th, Dads brought their daughters to the Bluemont Hotel to enjoy games, crafts, desserts, princesses, and of course, dancing!



Girls dancing with Princess Aurora and Cinderella.

A dad asking his daughter for a dance.

Dads and their daughters doing the 'YMCA.'

Let's Connect!

"Like" us on [Facebook](#)

Follow us on [Twitter](#)

@flinhillsvc
[Instagram at FlintHills VolunteerCenter](#)



Left: FHVC staff, Aillene Aquino, Lori Bishop, and Paula Dover pose for a picture in front of the photo booth.

Right: FHVC Board Members, Sydni Baker, Jill Sherman, and Jenn Alley show off their beautiful princess crowns.

From the Executive Director:

Lori Bishop

Greetings Volunteers,

It has been a great couple of months with lots of activity in our office. We are so excited to now set up volunteer opportunities for groups. This has included many businesses who would like their employees to volunteer. Welcome aboard!

We are fortunate to have several K-State students wanting to do an internship with us. Watch out for some amazing things to come!

I had the great pleasure to meet with our Senior Corps Director, Deborah Cox-Roush, while I was in Washington, D.C. in February. She fondly remembers her visit here in November and said it was one of her best visits so far!

It is that time of year where we need to present statistics for our federal grant. Please send your hours (call, email, or fax are options too!) to Aillene no later than April 15th. Our grant year is April 1, 2017—March 31, 2018. Be sure you have given us your hours during this time frame!

The Flint Hills Veterans Coalition is looking for more members. If you are a veteran, veteran family member, or just someone wanting to volunteer to help with the Veterans Day Parade planning let me know. I serve on this committee and it is one of my favorite groups of people!

April is going to be a great month as we joining the community with the “Polish the Apple” and “Change the World—Manhattan” event.

Watch for emails from Aillene and join us in helping our neighbors and our community.

April is also the 33rd Anniversary of my career as RSVP Director. I’ve loved every minute and met so many wonderful people along the way. Thank you to all of you who have made this journey so rewarding!

Welcome! The Flint Hills Volunteer Center would like to extend a warm welcome to our new volunteers!

Jen Betty, Ben Broxteman, Levi Caffrey, Rebecca Costello, Elaine De Smedt, Michiyo Doll, Liana Eagan, Erica Graen, Paula Hardin, Lorie Hatcliff, Lucille Hoover, Jessica Hukka, Deandra Jefferson, Danielle Kastner, Erin Kelley, Kayla McCullough, Charlotte Morehouse, Seung-Hye Ngo, James O’Dea, Adedolapo Okanlawon, Jamie Pfeiffer, Maxine Ross, Charles Stovall, Joel Taggart, Paul Thomas, Rachel Werling, Elaine Williams, Kathryn Wilson

Volunteer Opportunities

Upcoming Events

Caregiver Newsletter, Tuesday, March 6, 9-12 noon. Need 10 – 12 volunteers, folding and labeling the mailing. 401 Houston St.

Cookie Brigade: Please bring your homemade cookies to the office by noon on the following dates. March 1st & 15th, April 5th & 19th.

Ongoing opportunities

Transportation Driver Volunteers needed: We are in need of more transportation volunteers to take seniors to their medical appointments.

The Riley County Senior Center needs Meal Delivery volunteers. There are 12 routes a day, 60 drivers a week. The routes cover 7-10 meals. You can start at 10:30 AM and the routes usually last 30-45 minutes. You get a free meal on your delivery days.

Youth Volunteer Corps is seeking more volunteers to be Team Leaders. Team Leaders are assigned a group of kids (ages 11-18) to work on special projects. Please contact the office for more information.

****Please send us your final volunteer hours by April 15th.****



Free Tax Preparation

Appointments are now being scheduled for taxpayers who need help preparing their federal and Kansas income tax returns. (No age or income restrictions.)

This free service, located at the Riley Senior Service Center on 4th and Leavenworth Streets in Manhattan, is sponsored by the AARP Tax-Aide Program, and staffed by IRS-certified volunteers.

Tax returns will be electronically filed the same day, allowing for faster refunds.

For more information, or to schedule an appointment, call:

Riley County Senior Service Center at (785)-537-4040



Senior Corps—RSVP

The RSVP program (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) was launched in 1974 in Riley County for adults 60 years and older. Later that was dropped to 55 and older. There have been a lot of changes in the last 44 years. Those of you that have been with us for a long time will always remember it as RSVP. Many community members remember us as the RSVP program. We still are RSVP but now we are under a new branding guidance.

RSVP volunteers are now under “Senior Corps” and we need to start identifying ourselves as Senior Corps—RSVP.

You’ll hear us referring a lot to you as a Senior Corps Volunteer.

We have new lapel pins (really nice!) that we will order, and we’d love for you to start wearing those while you are out and about on assignment. You might find a staff person out ready to take a picture of you doing your volunteer work!

Thank you! Thanks to all of our volunteers who made desserts for the Father Daughter Dance Tea Party, we could not have done it without you!

Judy Anderson, Carol Adolph, Rachel Santo, Pam Schreier, Joyce Henry, Donise Peterson, Marilyn Walter and her daughter Devin, Cathy Smith, Pat Olson, & Pat Petty.



How delicious do these look!?

From the Volunteer Coordinator, Aillene Aquino

Hi Team!

It has been a crazy few weeks around the office lately! As we are gearing for the new year we have been busy with group volunteers and fulfilling requests around the community. Of course, we cannot do what we do without the help of our amazing volunteers! THANK YOU!

We will be celebrating National Service Recognition day on April 3rd. On **National Service Recognition Day**, Senior Corps (formerly known as RSVP) volunteers participate in recognition events, issuing official proclamations, and taking to social media in a nationwide show of appreciation. Mayors and city leaders, county officials, and tribal leaders across the country are using national service more and more to solve their community’s toughest challenges. Through partnership with schools, faith-based groups, non-profits, and local agencies, national service members are embedded within the communities they serve, using their ingenuity and training to make a tangible, lasting impact. Senior Corps volunteers help local leaders make their communities stronger.

This year, we will be partnering up with the USO. As many of you know, the 2nd BDE is scheduled to be back this summer and we thought it would be a great time for our volunteers and our Fort Riley community! There are 2 ways you can help:

1. Collect basic toiletry necessities and some snacks (toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, shampoo, soap, body wash, sports drinks, juice, trail mix, chips, popcorn etc.) and help put together homecoming kits for single soldiers. The single service member homecoming kit program is designed to provide a welcome home bag for single service members who are returning from deployment. The purpose of designating these homecoming kits to the single and geographically single service members is to hopefully bring a smile to those who may not have family in the area to greet them or go home to and to also ensure that those returning have some basic necessities they need to get them through the first 24-48 hours they are home (as they may be weary from their travels and/or unable to obtain basic necessity items immediately). **We will be collecting these items at the office until the 31st of March.**
2. Putting the homecoming kits together on April 3rd at the USO.

Please let me know if this is something you’d like to help us with!

Thank you so much for all your support!





Meet our new Youth Services Program Coordinator!

Paula Dover is the Youth Services Program Coordinator. She has served on the Advisory Council with the Reno County Volunteer Center during her time of employment with the Reno County Museum. Paula has coordinated and created fundraising events for several non-profit organizations and looks forward to getting involved in the community here in Manhattan while working with the YVC youth.

She is a graduate of Friends University with a Bachelor's in Business Administrations/Management.

Paula moved to the Manhattan area in 2016 with her two children and enjoys taking hikes by the water, visiting local coffee shops, and spending time with her children.



Schools of Hope

Thank you to the new mentors who have enrolled to be a Schools of Hope tutor. There were excited students who had been on a waiting list who now have a match! There is still a need for mentors for a few more students. We would love to find them a match before the school year ends in May. Do you have an extra thirty minutes two times a week?



The YVC youth are already at it on projects for the New Year. January through March's projects will focus on construction, renovation, and restoration. We are impressed with the skills the YVC youth have shown with using tools. The Youth Coordinator even learned how to change out drill bits! Check out the

YVC Facebook page to see the many projects they are working on.

In January we had a representative from K-State Credit Union visit and share some information about their Financial Literacy Program. The youth are excited to learn more about the \$ave @ School Program and how they can help their friends out by setting up an on-site branch at their schools.

March projects are in the making and there is even talk of learning some Beekeeping skills!



Meet our new intern!

Rachel Werling is our intern for this semester and is a Senior at Kansas State University.

About Rachel:

Hi I'm Rachel! I study Nutritional Science and Dietetics at K-State. I have had a passion for nutrition for 8 years now and when I found out that K-State offered a degree in Human Nutrition, I knew it was the perfect place for me! In the almost four years that I have been in Manhattan, I have enjoyed every second of it and I love the community that this town has.

When did you first start volunteering?

I started volunteering at a very young age. Since I was very active in my church's youth program, I did a lot of my volunteering through them. We would collect cans to recycle, wash the trucks for the American Red Cross, help out at the Food Bank, and clean parks and cemeteries, as well as many other opportunities. Once I graduated high school, I moved to more of a leadership position in my church, and worked with the youth and planned activities for them. I have also volunteered at my church's state and national youth gatherings as a young adult volunteer. Just last summer I went on a mission trip to Alaska where we taught VBS to the kids in the town we were at.

This year I have wanted to expand my volunteering to the Manhattan area. I volunteered at Via Christi Hospital this past semester and really enjoyed it, but I wanted to see what else was out there. That's when I found out about the Flint Hills Volunteer Center. I was blown away by all the opportunities they had to volunteer throughout Manhattan. They all looked amazing, I wanted to do them all! Then I sat down with our Executive Director, Lori Bishop, and we decided together that the perfect place for me was right here at FHVC! That way I could really use my passion for volunteering and learn the ins and outs of what goes into a place like the Volunteer Center. As of now I have been here for a month, and I can already tell this is going to be a fun semester! What an amazing place that does such amazing things for our community!