

VOLUNTEER BULLETIN



INSPIRING VOLUNTEERS AND EFFECTIVELY CONNECTING THEM WITH THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY

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@flinthillsvolunteercenter



@flinthillsvc

NATIONAL SERVICE RECOGNITION DAY

The Flint Hills Volunteer Center's Senior Corps RSVP volunteers were recognized on April 2nd for National Service Recognition Day. Three of our RSVP volunteers and AmeriCorps VISTA member were recognized on the House Floor by Rep. Kelly and joined by our very own Representative Tom Phillips. Five additional Senior Corps volunteers also joined us in the Gallery. We joined other Senior Corps RSVP and Foster Grandparent volunteers from Marysville, Augusta, and Independence in this celebration. We all went to the Topeka VA Hospital where our volunteers delivered care packages and visited with the veterans.





Lori Bishop
Executive Director

Greetings Volunteers,
Spring is finally here! I love the month of April. I'm celebrating 34 years with the RSVP program (30 of those here in Manhattan) and loving it! Time sure has flown by but the memories haven't. There

are so many people that I've met along this journey and meeting those that have the same passion as I do in helping others has been so rewarding.

We had a great time celebrating National Service Recognition Day at the State Capitol and visiting with our very own Rep. Tom Phillips. We then went to the Topeka VA Hospital where our volunteers handed out care packages to veterans. A truly remarkable day!

I want to give a big shout out to my staff. Amanda, Karen, and Stephanie have done a great job in working with me to make our Flint Hills Volunteer Center one of the best agencies around. They have a strong passion for all the programs under our umbrella and for that I thank you!

Our Youth Volunteer Corps Program Coordinator, Stephanie McGivern, is graduating from K-State. And the best news is that she's going to continue to work for us! Congratulations Stephanie!!

As our school year ends, I'd like to thank all volunteers in our Schools of Hope program. Thanks for mentoring the students and for being a role model. See you in the fall!

This year we will focus on our three new initiatives: Suicide Prevention, Opioid Epidemic, and Elder Justice. If you would like to help with any of these please let Amanda know. We participated in the National Drug Take Back Day April 27 th with our friends at the Riley County Police Department. We also did a trial run at the Senior Center on April 17 th . Special thanks to the volunteers who helped disseminate medication disposal bags at both locations!

On a personal note, I would like to thank those of you who sent cards and messages to me on the passing of my father. You really touched me!

Happy Mother's Day and Father's Day!
Lori

NOTES FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



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

Merida Acosta, Jasmine Adame, AIB International, Patrick Allen, Arnold Air Society's 1Lt Loyd B Vorhies, Benjamin Bolt, Brittany Blattner, Border States Electric, Haden Botkin, Rebecca Bradford, Madison Burkhart, Catholic Household of Chi Rho, Savannah Cook, Tyler Cordova, David Dinsmore, Taylor Doner, Sophia Donnici, Kristine Edgren, Andrew Fliehler, Beth Fox, Frontier Property Management, Kim Hanke, Tyler Harvey, Debbie Hedrick, Vanessa Hernandez, Lily Hoover, Hubert Jackson, Lorraine Jensby, Morgan Jilek, Lyndsay Jones, Melissa Jones, Linda Jordan, Kappa Epsilon Psi Military Sorority, Alexia King, Alison Knoedler, Debbie Massey, John McKee, Cristi Menard, Wolfgang Mey, Anita Pritchett, James Pritchett, Maurice Roberts, Claire Rogers, Julia Romo, Rooted/Faith E Free Church, Pamela Staatz, Marsha Tannehill, Kelly Theodore, Matthew Wallace

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

We had a great week celebrating National Volunteer Week. Special thanks to our Senior Corps RSVP volunteers for donating and packaging over 850 cookies for the USO Fort Riley on April 11. Special thanks to USO Fort Riley Director, Mark Claussen and staff for recognizing our volunteers!

Senior Corps RSVP Volunteers arrive at the USO to start packaging cookies for the Cookie Brigade

Front Row: Virginia Joyce, Pat Petty, Carol Horting

Back Row: Marilee Whelan, Jim Whelan, Donise Peterson



NOTES FROM JUNCTION CITY

Spring has sprung in Junction City and things are warming up in our new office! We welcome our new partnerships with four volunteer stations including the Dorothy Bramlage Public Library, Geary County Hospital, Kansas Guardianship Program, and Geary Community Hospital. Karen Paulus, Senior Corps RSVP Program Coordinator, has been busy in the community getting to know the local agencies and recruiting volunteers. This April, she joined the volunteers with Wheels of H.O.P.E. to learn about their monthly food distribution to identified high need residential areas. Volunteers assist with all aspects of the program- acquiring and sorting donated food, preparing the bags and boxes, transporting to two locations in Junction City, and distributing the items to all the families that come through the line. Everyone was full of smiles and laughter as they checked labels, sorted like items, and filled their carts with items for this month's distribution. Karen looks forward to continuing to work with Wheels of H.O.P.E. each month as she continues to connect with the community. Volunteers are needed in Junction City, so contact Karen to get involved today!

YOUTH VOLUNTEER CORPS

This Spring has been busy for YVC youth volunteers. Youth completed a massive project where they designed and created an educational exhibit for the Wonder Workshop's Classroom on Wheels. The exhibit will teach visiting students about frogs and their environmental impact and will allow each student to craft their own paper frog. The youth volunteers researched, planned, designed, and constructed this exhibit just in time for the Wonder Workshop's Spring programs.



WORKING ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FROG FOR THE CLASSROOM ON WHEELS FOR THE WONDER WORKSHOP

The youth have also helped to form this year's Summer Program, which begins June 1st, by reviewing previous projects and brainstorming new volunteer opportunities. The Summer Program will last eight weeks and will provide fun and interesting opportunities each day for teens to learn about and serve the community.



COLLECTION DRIVE FOR MANHATTAN RESIDENTS STILL DISPLACED FOR THE SEPTEMBER 2018 FLOOD

YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAMS

SCHOOLS OF HOPE

Schools of Hope has come to an end for this school year. That went fast! At the conclusion of the year, the mentors presented the students they were working alongside with a couple of books for them to keep. We are hopeful that many of the volunteers will be coming back next school year to mentor a student again. The purpose of the SOH program is to increase literacy achievement where the student no longer needs the program. Thank you volunteers for your dedication!



GETTING TO KNOW... OUR VOLUNTEERS

When asked about his volunteer work in the community, Senior Corps RSVP volunteer Jim Koeliker excitedly spoke on the phone, "There's no better place to meet people; caring, happy people who lift me up." Jim retired early at 66 in order to stay home and take care of his wife. He started volunteering because he was looking for flexible options away from home to keep moving. He loves to meet people and help fill a need.

If you have ever been in the Harvesters line or at an event in the Konza Prairie, chances are Jim has told you where to put your car, "I like to tell people where to go." For the past 5 years, Jim has been organizing and running the parking lot and line of cars at Harvesters CiCo Park location each month. His skills and success from the CiCo location has extended to helping at other locations including the mall, Blue Valley United Methodist Church, and working with the K-State students to help design a better plan for their location.

Jim first started working with and in the Konza Prairie in 1978 as a researcher, but now he enjoys assisting with events, environmental programs with kids, and sat on the Friends of the Konza Prairie board for six years.

That's not all Jim does, he has also spent the past 9 years working with the VITA tax program in Junction City, he assists the Ogden Friendship House with their "fix it" list twice a month, and he has been actively involved with the Crisis Center for several years. He first started volunteering with the Crisis Cen-



ter with his wife where they helped strengthen the center and fundraised for the initial shelter. Jim is now back on the board to assist with growth and developing a new facility. He is also involved with his church, Riley County Senior Services, and with state and national organizations related to his work in agriculture and engineering.

In conversation, Jim let it slip that he greatly admires his neighbor and fellow Senior Corps RSVP volunteer Jim Tubach. He noted that Jim is a role model that he noticed at church, a man who is heavily involved and "quietly went about his work". Jim looks to his role model for his quiet humility whom he sees and thinks, "I want to be like that gentleman." Based on his enthusiasm for his volunteer work, energy, and desire to keep moving- Jim is well on his way to fulfilling that dream.

Dated Volunteer Opportunities for May—June

Thursday, May 2 -Cookie Brigade. You can drop off cookies anytime Wednesday through Thursday at 1 PM and we will package them to take to the Fort Riley USO on Thursday at 2 PM. We would love for you to join us!

Tuesday, May 7 –Caregivers. Volunteers needed, to insert, fold, seal and address the newsletters. 9 AM to 11:30 AM at 401 Houston Street

Thursday, May 16 -Cookie Brigade. You can drop off cookies anytime Wednesday through Thursday at 1 PM and we will package them to take to the Fort Riley USO on Thursday at 2 PM. We would love for you to join us!

Saturday, May 25—Bill Snyder Highway Half and 5K. Volunteers are needed to direct runners, hand out water, and cheer runners along the route.

Tuesday, June 4 –Caregivers. Volunteers needed, to insert, fold, seal and address the newsletters. 9 AM to 11:30 AM at 401 Houston Street

Thursday, June 6 -Cookie Brigade. You can drop off cookies anytime Wednesday through Thursday at 1 PM and we will package them to take to the Fort Riley USO on Thursday at 2 PM. We would love for you to join us!

Thursday, June 20 -Cookie Brigade. You can drop off cookies anytime Wednesday through Thursday at 1 PM and we will package them to take to the Fort Riley USO on Thursday at 2 PM. We would love for you to join us!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

On - Going Volunteer Opportunities

Schools of Hope — Volunteers are needed to provide one-on-one mentoring to increase literacy. Volunteers work with a student one-on-one, becoming a part of their improvement, and helping to celebrate their success. Requirements include: one school year commitment to your student (Sept.-May), attend required orientation/training, tutor twice a week for 30 minute sessions, and the completion of a successful background check.

Cookie Brigade — Typically the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month— 1 PM at the Flint Hills Volunteer Center. 2601 Anderson Ave. Suite 200

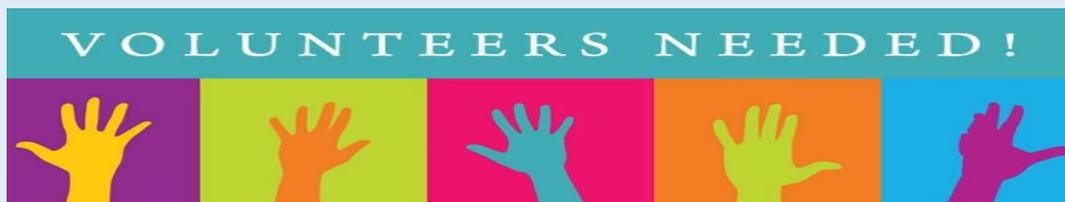
Caregiver Mailings— Every 1st Tuesday of each month (except on a Holiday) — 9 Am-12 PM; 401 Houston St., Manhattan

Youth Volunteer Corps — 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.

Transportation Driver Volunteers needed — We are in need of more transportation volunteers to take seniors to their medical appointments. Volunteers are able to work around their own schedules.

Outreach Volunteer—The Flint Hills Volunteer Center is seeking volunteers to help implement our new community initiatives: Suicide Prevention and Elder Justice. We are looking for volunteers to help at suicide prevention training classes and learn the curriculum for Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention and Money Smart for Older Adults to teach trainings within the community.

Friendship Meal Delivery— Drivers are needed. Please contact us if you're available to help.



Please remember to ALWAYS wear your nametag or volunteer shirt when you're out on a volunteer assignment! If you do not have a name tag, please contact me and I can have one ready for you! Also, when volunteering for an organization especially ones that are on the weekly volunteer opportunities, please ALWAYS make a reference and say you are part of the Flint Hills Volunteer Center. We don't have much marketing around the area and that would help us promote the Volunteer Center tremendously!

Contact Amanda @ 776-7787 or info@flinthillsvolunteercenter.com if you're interested in any of these opportunities!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Cookie Brigade	3	4	
5	6	7 Caregivers	8	9	10	11
12 	13	14	15	16 Cookie Brigade	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 
26	27  Office Closed	28	29	30	31	

JUNE 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	
2	3	4 Caregivers	5	6 Cookie Brigade	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 	17	18	19	20 Cookie Brigade	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

FLINT HILLS VOLUNTEER CENTER

2601 Anderson Avenue Ste 200
Manhattan, KS 66502
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Fax: 785-776-8653



Corporation for National and Community Service, Kansas Volunteer Commission, YES! Fund , Konza United Way,
Riley County Council on Aging, Greater Manhattan Community Foundation, Kansas State Pi Beta Phi, Caroline Peine 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