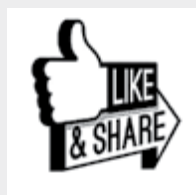


Don't Miss it!
10th Annual Run Wild
5K & 1 Mile
Animal Safari Walk
Sunday, October 4th
at 9:00 am



Sign up for even more
exciting news!
Visit our home page and
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The Excitement is G R O W I N G

Our popular virtual **My Free Tutor** program is expanding! This past year proved that tutors, from any location, can help high school students master the fundamentals of algebra. Our virtual volunteers recognize how crucial it is to prepare our next generation of college-bound students to understand the importance of math in our everyday lives.

We continue to partner with TRiO Veterans Upward Bound college preparatory program located on University of Pennsylvania's campus to offer the same sessions to veterans who are preparing to enter college.

With the help of two AmericaCorps VISTA volunteers, we are focusing on expanding the program to additional schools, after-school programs and to veterans in Delaware and Philadelphia counties. This is a perfect opportunity for corporate employees who can even share the weekly session with a coworker if they're not available due to work conflicts. *Bilingual Spanish speaking math tutors are especially needed.*

Through our partnerships with other organizations also providing high quality educational opportunities for students, we introduced students to career possibilities in **STEM** industries (science, technology, engineering and math) during a summer session. Students heard first-hand accounts from professionals about needed job skills and required education to pursue a career in a specific field. They were treated to interactive presentations creating sparks of hope and possibilities as students explore STEM professions. *We are seeking minority and women STEM exploration presenters to reach even more students.*



RSVP volunteer Bill Unrath presents safety engineering concepts to alert students

We were recently awarded a grant from the Lenfest Foundation to expand our **Family Literacy** program to preschoolers at Children's Village, a nonprofit located in Chinatown that provides early childhood education and school age academic enrichment to a diverse population of students.

Our award-winning program matches volunteer readers who make story time come to life, with classrooms full of wide-eyed preschoolers. The program is also designed to encourage and support parents to become engaged readers.

Through donations and partnerships, RSVP provides storybooks to the preschool students six times each year. These books become treasured additions to the child's sparse (but growing) home library.

If you would like to donate a book to a child, visit our website and click on Give a Kid a Book.



RSVP STAFF DIRECTORY

To contact a staff member call (610) 834-1040 and dial the extension or send us an email by using the entire first name and the first initial of the last name @rsvpmc.org (unless otherwise noted.) Visit us online at www.rsvpmc.org.

Jacqui Baxter
Director of Community Engagement ext. 24
jacquibaxter@rsvpmc.org

Jayce Borkay
MFT Assistant ext. 28
mftexpansion@rsvpmc.org

Margaret Brenner
Community Links Coordinator .. ext. 12

Ruth Cella
VEC Program Manager ext. 35

Marguerite Cuning
Volunteer Coordinator ext. 10

Barbara Fitzgerald
Development ext. 13

Tony Giunta
Director of Operations ext. 17

Janis Glusman
Family & Adult Literacy ext. 16

Harriet Klein
Community Links Assistant ext. 22

Judith Mantle
Bookkeeper ext. 36

Michael McCabe
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Peggy McGough
Special Events, Apprise Outreach .. ext. 30

Jane McGowan
Development Associate ext. 38

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william_myfreetutor@rsvpmc.org

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Literacy Program Coordinator .. ext. 37

Ruth Saks
Protégé Coordinator ext. 21

Margie Singer
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margiemyfreetutor@rsvpmc.org

Marion Silver
America Reads Coordinator ext. 27

Maria Strohl
HOC Coordinator ext. 29

Donna Uhler
Apprise Coordinator ext. 44

Tina Weaver
PR/Communications Manager .. ext. 23

Welcome New Staff



Jayce Borkay and Michael McCabe, *AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteers* will be working on My Free Tutor to recruit additional virtual algebra volunteers as well as locate students and schools who would benefit from tutoring sessions.

Margaret Brenner, *Community Links Coordinator*

Margaret joins RSVP to connect volunteers with our partner agencies in both Montgomery and Delaware counties. She brings 15 years of experience in marketing, sales and event coordination as well as participation with local service organizations.



Judith Mantle, *Bookkeeper*

Judith has more than 35 years of experience in bookkeeping, office management and sales. RSVP is Judith's first job working for a nonprofit organization and she is excited to be here and make a difference.



Peggy McGough, *Special Events & Apprise Outreach*

Peggy worked as an Administrative Assistant for 25 years. After retiring she needed a way to utilize her phenomenal organizational skills. She first joined RSVP as a volunteer helping with special events, the Help on Call program and general administrative support. Peggy always comments "this is the best work environment I've ever experienced."

Jane McGowan, *Development Associate*

Jane's background in business development, international sales and marketing services partner well with RSVP's need for funding and grants. Jane is also a volunteer in and around Philadelphia.

Sandra Rollins, *Literacy Program Coordinator*

Sandie brings more than 10 years' experience working with school and nonprofit communities. As a certified elementary school teacher and counselor, Sandie will develop working relationships between volunteers and schools to grow our literacy programs in Delaware County and expand the Family Literacy program to disadvantaged preschoolers in Philadelphia.



Joan Spangler and Lavonia Davis are outstanding assistants from Experience Works, a state-run program created to assist seniors in gaining work experience to re-enter the workforce.

Maria Strohl, *Help on Call Coordinator*

Maria has provided in-home care to seniors so she is very familiar with the needs of seniors who want to remain in their own homes. She is a caring and patient communicator and an invaluable addition to our staff.



Greetings from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

This has been a year of growth and expansion for RSVP. It's a very exciting time as we build relationships with our new Delaware County volunteers and partner agencies. We are learning where needs in our communities are greatest and how we can continue to make and multiply the profound impact that RSVP volunteers are famous for.

As our programs have expanded into adjoining counties, the groups of underserved populations have grown. Additional staff has been added to ensure High School students and Veterans in Philadelphia are learning important math concepts; students are being exposed to STEM career options and preschool students are being exposed to the wonderful world of books – but there are so many more students in so many more schools waiting for an intervention that will help them succeed and excel in our ever-changing society.

Of course, none of this growth would be possible without the incredible resource of talent and dedication our volunteers provide every day.

We continue to build partnerships with corporate and nonprofit allies so we can increase our impact and reach more populations needing support.

In the coming year, we will expand into Children's Village in Chinatown. We will offer additional opportunities to support our armed forces men and women. We will continue to expose deserving students to the vast career opportunities in STEM fields. And to accomplish these ambitious goals – we will need your help and support. Many of these volunteer opportunities require just one hour of your time each week and as you know, that hour can make such a significant difference in the life of someone waiting for your time, your enthusiasm and your effort. Consider inviting a friend or neighbor to join RSVP and volunteer along with you.

Thank you for a great year. I am honored to represent such an amazing group of volunteers.

Michele Moll



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2014 – 2015 OFFICERS

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Vice President..... Robert Leib
Secretary..... Noah Borenstein
TreasurerRichard Singer
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Past President..... Alan Kober

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Brooke Cheston
Walter Fisher, Jr.
Durante Footman
Linda Gedney
John Heiberger, Jr.
Deborah Hong, Esq.
Donna Middleton
Robert Perkinson
Bernard Roseman, Esq.
Barbara Rutberg
Martha Simelaro
Richard Sundheim
Jim Szakacs

ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Ron Gawel
Gordon Lawrence
Sandy Thomas

Welcome on Board

Durante Footman joined RSVP's Board in August 2014. Durante is a retired Naval Officer with a background in Civil and Systems Engineering. He served as Commanding Officer at Navy Recruiting District Philadelphia before joining the Chief of Naval Operations Staff at the Pentagon. He is currently an active mentor with our Protégé Program. Committees served on: Brand & Image; 5K; Sponsorship.



Martha Simelaro joined us in August 2014. Martha currently works as VP of Quality and Compliance for various Reed Tech business lines. She has held leadership positions with GE and Lockheed Martin in quality, compliance and engineering management. Martha also serves on the board of Victim Services Center of Montgomery County. Committees served on: Business Continuity.



Robert Perkinson joined the Board in August 2014. He is currently a research scientist with Janssen Pharma Companies of J & J, has worked with the University of Pennsylvania and Thomas Jefferson University. He has taught scientific techniques to students, interns and associates and he enjoys volunteering to teach science, math and applied engineering. Committees served on: Sponsorship & Social Media; Revenue Enhancement and Development.



Jim Szakacs joined the Board in August 2014. Jim currently serves as the CAO of TayganPoint Consulting Group with responsibility for finance, IT risk management and legal issues. Jim has also served as auditor and business advisor. Committees served on: Planning; Revenue Enhancement and Development; Sponsorship and Social Media.

YOUR IMPACT SHINES THROUGH.

Schools are reporting back with some great statistics

- Family Literacy: 74% of Head Start families are reading more together.
- My Free Tutor: 80% of students improved their math ability in one or more areas: class participation, homework or test scores.
- America Reads: 79% of students made progress toward or are reading on grade level and 82% improved their comprehension.
- Protégé: 83% of mentored youth improved their school attendance and grades, behavior and attitude.

Note from our Board President:

Believe it or not another year is passing by. And what a year it has been! Not only have we weathered difficult economic times but we have strengthened our partnerships with community organizations, associations and corporations. Securing more partners has enabled us to reach more of our underserved populations.

We have positioned RSVP as an organization that can respond to the ever-changing and growing needs in our communities with responsive and sustainable programs. We have been able to expand our cutting-edge programs to reach even more vulnerable groups in adjoining counties.

Not only have we expanded programs, we have expanded geographically. We now manage and deliver programs in Delaware and Montgomery counties as well as Philadelphia, and in Chester County we are providing nonprofit consulting help through our VEC program. And we're not done – we're identifying additional schools that would benefit from a partnership to utilize our My Free Tutor volunteers and we're expanding our Family Literacy program to deserving preschool students in Philadelphia.

None of this would have been possible without the dedication of our leadership team, Michele, Tony, Jacqui, the dedication of our RSVP staff, our outstanding board members and of course, YOU, our amazing volunteers, all working together to ensure our programs have the impact they need and that each person, who needs us, has access to the support they need to succeed.

We will continue to succeed in our mission, thanks to you.

Ron Gawel

Are you Ready to *Run Wild!*

WE THANK OUR
2015 SPONSORS

KICKSUSA

Corporate Partner

Sponsored in part by:



Sunday, October 4, 2015

8:00 am Registration

9:00 Race Time

Rain or Shine

Elmwood Park Zoo

1661 Harding Blvd., Norristown

Our 10th Annual *Run Wild* 5K and 1 Mile *Animal Safari Walk*

is a popular family-friendly event and important fundraiser benefiting RSVP's Children's Programs reaching 3700+ students with important services. Bring the family and enjoy the day!

NBC-10 Reporter Deanna Durante will start the race and present awards. Popular children's book author Chrysa Smith will read at storytime. Fun crafts and games for children make this a memorable day for all members of the family. Visit www.rsvpmc.org for information and to sign up.



NBC10 Reporter
Deanna Durante

We Can't Thank our 2014 *Run Wild* Sponsors, Runners and Volunteers Enough!

RSVP would like to thank and recognize: Merrill Lynch Wealth Management, a Bank of America Corporation; AXA/AXA ADVISORS; Berkshire Hathaway Home Services/The Gedney Group, Pennsylvania Trust, The Carney Group, TayganPoint Consulting Group, LLC, Impriano Roofing & Siding, Stradley Ronon, Walter Fisher, Jr., Durante Footman, John J. Heiberger, Jr., Bob & Judy Leib, Donna Middleton, Robert Perkinson, Barbara Rutberg, Allstate, PV AMBUCS; Stewart Greenleaf Jr., Montgomery County Controller, State Representative Kate Harper, Yorktowne Dental Group, Brandywine Realty Trust, Martha Simelaro, and for their in-kind donations: Borough of Norristown, Costco, Giant Food Stores, Norris Sales Company, Whole Foods, Philly Pretzel Factory, Sir Speedy, Trader Joe's, Tree Top Adventure Park at Elmwood Park Zoo, Wawa and Bret Webster of State Farm.

RSVP

Honoring your Extraordinary Achievements

On April 15th we celebrated your amazing accomplishments and the contributions you make to our communities daily with a ceremony at Meadowood in Worcester. Our volunteers dedicate their talents and energy to programs benefiting the community with countless hours of their time. Recognizing these remarkable volunteers is one small way to acknowledge their great and enduring impact in our communities.

Nineteen RSVP volunteers who have served more than 4000 hours in our communities were recognized with the prestigious **President's Lifetime Achievement Volunteer Service Award**, thanking them for their significant commitment to volunteering in our region.

Recipients of the President's Lifetime Achievement Award given to RSVP volunteers logging more than 4000 lifetime volunteer hours. Shown l to r: Barbara Makar, Bernie Wiener, Walter Fisher, Jr., Judi Rosen, Judith Fryer, Suzanne Whitman accepting on behalf of her mother Mary Barrett, Yvonne Kratz, Joan Robinson, Doris Latta and Audrey Schmidt. Volunteers Della Amoroso*, Lorraine Cannon*, Eleanor Eckman, Gerald Francis*, Neilson Gendelman*, Andrew Neblig, Ann Ullman, Susan Wortman and Shirley Zeper were not available for this photo.*



**These volunteers are recipients of both the President's Lifetime Achievement Award (4000+ hours) and the President's Gold Award (500+ hours of service in one year.)*

Fifteen **President's Gold Volunteer Service Awards** were presented to volunteers who contributed more than 500 hours in just one year of service.

President's Gold Volunteer Service Award, given to RSVP volunteers donating more than 500 hours in this past year. Shown l to r: Ron Gawel, Ann Cavanaugh, Robert DePorter, Arlene Dewalt, Richard Lewis, Peggy McGough and Richard Singer. Volunteers Margaret Heller, Barbara Rutberg and Robert Sykes were not available for this photo.



Additionally, RSVP presented certificates and pins to four winners of the **Senior Corps of PA Legacy Award**.

Senior Corps Legacy Award winners, shown l to r: Peggy McGough, Rosalie (Perky) Coben, Noah Borenstein and Alan Frankel

RSVP Board President Ron Gawel presented four additional Board of Director's President's Awards (shown l to r:) Barbara Fitzgerald, RSVP Development Coordinator; Anthony Giunta, RSVP Director of Operations; Noah Borenstein, RSVP Board Member and My Free Tutor volunteer and Alan Frankel, Former RSVP Board Member and VEC volunteer.



We thank Meadowood of Worcester for hosting the event, Literacy Council of Norristown, Community Thrift, ElderNet, Hayden Miller Nelson & Yoder, Tri-County YWCA, Trinity Reformed Church, United Church of Christ, Parkhouse Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, SEI and William T. Walsh for their donations in recognition of RSVP volunteers and Cabot Creamery Cheese for donating quality cheeses to celebrate our remarkable volunteers.



NOT REPORTING YOUR MONTHLY HOURS HAS A BIG IMPACT

Each month you will receive an email from Bill Paraskewik to collect your volunteer hours. Most of you already know how important this collection is to us. Many of our funders require us to account for your hours and it enables us to know how effective our efforts are. Also, many of you rely on our excess liability insurance. Did you know that not reporting your hours regularly may cause a lapse in your coverage? So, please remember to report your hours by either responding to Bill's email, calling in on extension 55 (message machine only) or sending them in via snail mail. **Thank you for understanding how crucial this is for us all.**

WHAT'S A VOLUNTEER LINK SITE?

Because we're now working to place volunteers in Montgomery and Delaware counties, each month we will staff various Volunteer Link Sites to make it as convenient as possible for the public to learn about volunteering.

RSVP staff will be available to discuss volunteer opportunities, answer questions and connect with returning or current volunteers. No appointment is needed and there is no obligation to enroll as a volunteer. To learn more, contact Margaret Brenner on ext. 12.

CURRENT SCHEDULE:

(please check website for last minute updates)

Pottstown Library

500 E. High Street
Sept. 24, Oct. 22, Nov. 19
and Dec. 17
10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Newtown Square Library

201 Bishop Hollow Road
Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12
and Dec. 10
10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Bala Cynwyd Library

131 Old Lancaster Rd.
Sept. 3, Oct. 1, Nov. 5
and Dec. 3
10:30 am to 1:00 pm

In the fall, another site will be added in Red Hill.

As Summer Draws to an End, How Will you Fill your Days? Learn Where Needs in our Communities are Greatest

Volunteer Orientation Sessions were created to provide the public with the broadest possible overview of our organization, introduce the many critical volunteer opportunities available and provide a chance to interact with RSVP staff and other volunteers. Sessions are free and are now being held throughout our communities to make learning about volunteering even simpler. Bring a friend!

Space is limited. You are encouraged to reserve a space by emailing volunteer123@rsvpmc.org.

CURRENT SCHEDULE:

(please check website for last minute updates)

Colmar	Community Partners Bldg. 2507 N. Broad St.	Sept. 15	1:00 – 3:00 pm
Newtown Square	Sunrise, S. Newtown St. Rd.	Sept. 28	1:00 – 3:00 pm
Blue Bell	925 Harvest Dr., Suite 100	Oct. 21	10:00 am to noon
Eddystone	COSA, 206 Eddystone Ave, 2nd floor	Nov. 10	1:00 – 3:00 pm
Souderton	Generations of Indian Valley 529 N. Second St	Dec. 2	1:00 - 3:00 pm
Media	Municipal Center 301 N. Jackson St.	Dec. 15	1:00 – 3:00 pm

Welcome Delaware County Volunteers

On June 23rd we welcomed Delaware County volunteers with an event at Springfield Country Club.

More than one-hundred-fifty active volunteers attended and mingled with staff and learned about additional volunteer opportunities in their communities. RSVP's all-volunteer Guys N' Gals Glee Club launched the event with a wonderful performance of the National Anthem.

On July 1st RSVP began management of the RSVP program in Delaware County. The organization, formerly known as RSVP of Montgomery County now serves Montgomery and Delaware Counties and educationally disadvantaged youth and veterans in Philadelphia.

RSVP would like to recognize the generous support of event sponsors: Citadel Bank for their support and gift movie basket and Silver Tone Med Plans. Donations of exciting gift baskets from; Brandywine Convention & Visitors Bureau, Tyler Arboretum and Tavoli Restaurant.



(Above) RSVP's Guys N' Gals Glee Club performs the National Anthem

(Below) RSVP volunteers enjoy an afternoon at Springfield Country Club



To Our Major Supporters... Thank you, Thank you!

We are deeply grateful to the following foundations, corporations, government agencies, community organizations, and individuals for their support for the period June 1, 2014 to July 31, 2015. We would not exist without you! *If we have inadvertently omitted anyone who donated at this level during the time period please let us know and we will acknowledge you in a future RIPPLE.*

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- Drive or accompany a senior to an appointment or help with shopping
- Use your business skills to help strengthen a nonprofit
- Help students read and comprehend lessons
- Prepare, pack or deliver meals to homebound seniors
- Low on time? Consider virtual tutoring to support students and veterans
- Support nonprofits with administrative or fundraising skills
- Inspire students to pursue STEM careers
- Help at local thrift shops as they support local programs
- Become a storybook reader for preschoolers
- Help an adult improve their literacy and employment possibilities
- Spend just one hour visiting with a lonely senior
- Give us a call and we'll find your match!

Where the “Giving is Easy”

There are many ways to give financial support to RSVP. For more information about how to carry out the following suggestions, contact Tony Giunta, Director of Operations, at 610-834-1040, ext. 17.

- Choose RSVP as your *United Way* Donor Option. We are #1993.
- Donate to our *Give a Kid a Book* campaign and help us provide storybooks to preschool students who have no books at home.
- *Make a donation to RSVP* via check and sent it to 925 Harvest Drive, Suite 100, Blue Bell, PA 19422. You may specify the Program(s) to which you wish us to apply your donation.
- *Make a donation* on our website at www.rsvpmc.org. Click on the *Donate Tab* at top right of the page and make a gift via your credit card using *Network for Good*.
- *Name RSVP as a beneficiary* in your will or in an unneeded life insurance policy.
- *Donate appreciated securities* to RSVP and use the gain in value to make a tax deductible donation.
- Direct your *Required Minimum IRA Distribution* to RSVP.
- Provide a *gasoline gift card* to help support our volunteer’s driving expenses.

Simple and Easy Ways to Donate

- *Shop* at www.smile.amazon.com and *choose RSVP* as the charity. RSVP will then receive a percentage of your purchase cost.
- Use www.goodsearch.com as your *internet search engine* and *select RSVP* as your chosen charity.