



Retired and Senior Volunteer Program

of the Central Coast
RSVP Advisory Council

660 Pismo Street

San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Phone: (805) 544-8740 Fax (805) 544-9146

May 31, 2011

URGENT MESSAGE REGARDING POSSIBLE ELIMINATION OF RSVP

Dear RSVP Volunteer:

The federally funded Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (**RSVP**) is in serious jeopardy of elimination. On April 15, 2011, the US House of Representatives passed a non-binding resolution which eliminates **all** funding for programs of the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). RSVP is a program of CNCS.

In our community we have more than 1500 RSVP volunteers impacting various social service and government agencies by providing almost 200,000 hours of service annually. This service is valued at more than \$4.2 million dollars in our communities alone! The RSVP programs and activities are not only important to our communities and the recipients of our many programs, but also of great value to our volunteers themselves!

Please be a part of our attempts to save the program that means so much to so many individuals in so many ways! The following information gives you suggestions on how **you** can help:

- Contact your state and local politicians,
- Write letters to our local newspapers,
- Inform family and community members and ask them to help.

As senior citizens, we must not allow a society that values youth, beauty, and speed to take away our opportunities to be valued contributors to the greater good in this world. Pick up your pen, paper or telephone and get started!

Our RSVP program has served San Luis Obispo and Northern Santa Barbara Counties for almost 40 years. Please help us as we work to save RSVP for our community!

Respectfully,
Central Coast RSVP Advisory Council

Ross Kongable

Patricia Justice, PhD

Dorothy Yelda

Robert McGill

Diane Maiorano

William Ward

Many of you have asked, "What can I do to help?"

1. Contact your state and local politicians immediately (addresses below). This is a time sensitive issue! Personalized, short and informative letters are best. Share your personal story about how RSVP benefits you, those you serve and our community.
2. Share your story/opinion with our local newspapers.
3. Mobilize your fellow volunteers and agency personnel to take action.
4. Ask your family and friends in other states to contact their legislative representatives.
5. Who are your contacts? Contact them!

The Message is ...

- Save funding for the Corporation for National & Community Service and the Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP).
- Volunteer service is vital to our community. Losing RSVP will be devastating to local communities and the loss will not impact the overall federal budget in any significant way.
- RSVP benefits our local agencies, the citizens served and the volunteers.

Where to write, call or FAX ...

Senator Sam Blakeslee

(805) 549-3784

(805) 549-3779 (FAX)

1104 Palm Street

San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

1430 W. McCoy Lane

Santa Maria, CA 93455

Assemblyman Katcho Achadjian

(805) 549-3381

(805) 549-3400 (FAX)

1150 Osos Street

Suite 207

San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Congresswoman Lois Capps, U.S. House of Representatives

1411 Marsh Street, Suite 205, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-2957 805-546-8348

2231 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington DC 20515-0523 202-225-3601

Congressman Kevin McCarthy, U.S. House of Representatives

5805 Capistrano Avenue, Atascadero, CA 93422 805-461-1034

326 Cannon House Office Building, Washington DC 20512 202-225-2915
