

Winter 2020-2021 Newsletter  
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[www.rsvpmc.org](http://www.rsvpmc.org)

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*Greetings,*

The challenges of 2020 have seemed relentless at times, yet RSVP volunteers have persisted in being lifesavers. The needs of the students, seniors, veterans, and families we serve continues to grow. RSVP's services continue to provide life sustaining support to those in need in our community because of our incredible RSVP family of volunteers and partners. I feel so much **GRATITUDE** for the caring community members who continue to pivot with us as we all provide **SERVICE TO OTHERS!** A sense of community has been built and has provided so many with hope, because of you.

RSVP volunteers and partners truly are lifesavers.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you.

**Michele Moll**

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**Join Our Team** of 1,200 Dedicated Volunteers

*PLUS 800+ New Volunteers who signed up during the  
COVID-19 pandemic*

And Help Us Improve Our Communities

610-834-1040 x.123 [www.rsvpmc.org](http://www.rsvpmc.org)

## Introducing our Newest Program:

# Senior Technology Training

Our newest innovative pilot program is looking for volunteers who can provide online training for older adults to learn to use email, the internet, Zoom, and social media so they can connect with friends and family and ease the feeling of isolation.

Volunteers should be comfortable using computers, apps, the internet and mobile devices. Approximately 3 hours per week and a computer with a camera and microphone will be needed.

A library of online technology training courses are provided.

### Apply to be a volunteer trainer

To learn more about becoming a volunteer, contact Kathy Stocker 610-834-1040 x.129

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## Delaware County Volunteers are Unstoppable!

*Senior Centers may be closed but that hasn't stopped volunteers from helping others.*

Kathy Condiff became a volunteer at Schoolhouse in September 2018 after a 35-year career with Verizon. She wanted to do something and said "this is the best thing I have ever done." Kathy started helping in the kitchen with meals. She wasn't sure about the kitchen assignment but it's turned out "to be her favorite place." Now that the center is no longer serving meals to it's members, Kathy helps pack and organize meals to be delivered to roughly 80 homebound seniors. Kathy said "It's fun. It gets me out of the house three days a week and gives me something to look forward to, especially now with the pandemic. I like that I can help somebody."

If you would like to help, reach out to [Kathy Stocker](#).

Now offering online exercise, yoga and mindfulness classes and Lunch & Learn

SCS You Tube Channel - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXYToy88-3t-ehukzsJmzPg/featured>

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## Do you have an interesting career?

We are in the process of creating a library of career presentations that teachers can access to provide their students with inspiration and hope. If you have a career in any of the STEM fields, the arts or trades, we would love to create a zoom recording of your journey. Please contact [Janet Murphy](#) to learn more.

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## Meet our Awesome Volunteer Miss Midge

Like most of our programs, Family Literacy is now virtual. To make the sessions more engaging for preschoolers, volunteer Miss Midge (upper left) includes props of items included in the story. She has been a dedicated volunteer since 2016 and loves working with the students. Midge partners with the classroom teacher, Tina Walters, and adds an extra element of fun to everything she does.

Ms. Walters shared this with us: "Miss Midge is an awesome part of our class. The kids love MISS MIDGE MONDAY!! She loves her famous day. Thank you for sharing her with us and blessing us with such an awesome lady."

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## Our Volunteers are Changing Lives

Since mid-March we have recruited 814+ new volunteers.

*We are astounded by the spirit of generosity and caring felt by people from every corner of the country who contacted us to help in any way they could.*

Many volunteered for our virtual programs to help children read, or to help veterans with math or to record their STEM careers to inspire students. Others volunteered to help local seniors secure groceries or medications or by delivering warm meals. Many volunteered at food distribution events and at food pantries. And others sewed the most perfect face masks to help keep us all safe.

You are making this world a better place because you care and we thank you!

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## Is it July yet?

We hope to see you at our upcoming Golf Classic  
on July 20, 2021 [Stay tuned for details](#)

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There's still time to register for two important virtual workshops.  
Created for nonprofits and presented by our Volunteer Executive Consultants team.

The final workshop in the Adapting to a COVID World:

Building Resiliency series is Contingency Planning: Preparing for the Unexpected.

December 15 at 10:00 a.m.

[To Register](#)

And

Engaging Volunteers and Keeping them Engaged

Presented through the Regional Foundation Center at the Free Library of Philadelphia.

December 10 at 10:00 a.m.

[To Register](#)

## Meet Lydia Messinger Development Manager

Lydia has 18 years of experience in connecting donors with philanthropic opportunities to support health and human service programs.

Lydia enjoys helping people, families, foundations and businesses in our community discover how their time, treasure, and generosity can make a positive difference!

In addition to helping build philanthropy in our community, Lydia is a wife, mother, and living kidney donor who enjoys her family, gardening, campfires, and spending time on or near the water.

"I wake up every day wanting to have a positive impact in the lives of others. Getting to connect volunteers and donors with RSVP's powerful mission and impact is a role I am very excited to be in!"

To reach Lydia, email [lydiam@rsvpmc.org](mailto:lydiam@rsvpmc.org)

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## What's on your horizon?

*Whether you are new to volunteering, already a seasoned volunteer or looking for a fun activity, we ALWAYS need dedicated volunteers*

Information Sessions have been suspended until it safe to meet as a group again.

[Learn more about the greatest needs in your community.](#)

[Or you can view a virtual volunteer information session](#)

## *Where Volunteers are Needed Most*

*Interested? Please [contact us](#).*

The majority of our programs are now virtual so that volunteers can help from the comfort and safety of their own homes.

Grocery shopping and delivery\*

Drivers for seniors\*

Virtual math tutors\*

Meals-on-Wheels drivers\*

Food pantry support\*

Technology Training for Older Adults\*

Zoom video editor

Meal prep/pack/distribution/driving

Sorting and packing food

Drivers - pick up & deliver produce

Medical Reserve Corps

Gardening: tending and picking fruit & veggies to be donated to food pantries  
Sewing face masks  
STEM and other career exploration presenters  
Meals-on-Wheels drivers and food packers  
Medicare Counselors  
Friendly phone calls to seniors  
Write notes to seniors & healthcare workers  
Blood donors & site greeters  
Translators (Spanish & Arabic)  
Produce pick up & delivery  
Database input

\* *High Need Opportunities*

*Call Kathy Stocker, Volunteer Coordinator 610-834-1040 ext. 123  
or email [volunteer123@rsvpmc.org](mailto:volunteer123@rsvpmc.org)*

*Safety protocols are in place for volunteer roles requiring contact*

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## Way to go SAP!

The employees at SAP America in Newtown Square didn't let the pandemic slow them down. Employees made 25 baby blankets from their homes which were distributed to Chester Eastside Ministries during a mass food distribution on November 22nd, providing a little warmth to families with small children.

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*This is one of many team-building opportunities RSVP creates for corporate employees to engage with their local community members*

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**Medicare Questions? We are here to help!**  
**Call us 610-834-1040 x.120**

Did you know that if you're unhappy with your [Medicare Advantage Plan](#) (Medicare Part C), you have options? Each year, there's a [Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period](#) from January 1 - March 31. During this time, if you're in a Medicare Advantage Plan and want to change your health plan, you can do one of these:

Switch to a different Medicare Advantage Plan with or without drug coverage

Go back to [Original Medicare](#) and, if needed, also join a [Medicare Prescription Drug Plan](#)

If you switch Medicare Advantage Plans or go back to Original Medicare with or without a Medicare drug plan, your new coverage will start the first day of the month after your new plan gets your request for coverage. Keep in mind, if you go back to Original Medicare now, [you may not be able to buy a Medicare Supplement Insurance \(Medigap\) policy](#).

*(from the Medicare.gov website)*

**We thank your dedicated APPRISE volunteers for their tireless dedication to informing the public about Medicare health insurance options.**

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## Tax Information

The IRS is allowing a \$300 charitable deduction for individuals or couples for 2020, even if you do not itemize [deductions](#).

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## In Delaware County?

Contact the [Department of Intercommunity Health](#) Coordinator for information on flu vaccinations.

Stay ahead of storm or other alerts by receiving an alert on your phone or email.

Sign up for the [Delaware County Emergency Notification System](#) alerts

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## Blood and platelet donations are always in demand

It's never more critical than when someone you love needs blood or platelets that are not available.

<https://www.giveapint.org/>

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/giveplatelets.html>

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## In Memory of:

Monna Schwartz from Alan and Joan Kober

*A simple way to honor the memory of a close relative, friend or someone special or help celebrate a birthday, anniversary, wedding or any special occasion in a novel way.*

*Consider making a donation in that person's name. We will notify the individual or their family member (if you wish) of the donation you have made in their name.*

To learn more, contact [Tony Giunta](#)

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## ***Celebrating a birthday or special occasion this year?***

*Have you considered a Facebook Fundraiser to support our important community-based programs?*

*You can ask your Facebook friends to honor your birthday or any special occasion by asking them to donate to your special cause.*

*It's easy!*

*On YOUR Facebook page, select "Fundraiser" from the left side menu*

*Then select "raise money for a nonprofit organization"*

*Select "RSVP, Inc." in King of Prussia, PA from the list*

*Complete the rest of the questions, and you are ready to go!*

[Start a Fundraiser Now](#)

We would like to express our gratitude to board members:  
Gene Davidov and Wesley Moy  
for creating their own Facebook fundraisers

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We are always happy to receive gift cards you may no longer need or want. These could be re-gifted to clients in need or leveraged to raise funding for our programming. Please mail gift cards to RSVP, 901 E. 8th Avenue, Suite 200, King of Prussia, PA 19406, Attn: Tony Giunta

Your generosity is so appreciated!

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Do you shop on Amazon?

If you do, here's a simple way to show your support for RSVP programs.

By shopping through [www.Smile.Amazon.com](http://www.Smile.Amazon.com) and designating RSVP of Montgomery County as your charity of choice, a portion of your sales are donated to us.

Thank you!

### **To Visit our Sponsor's websites, please click here**

Responding to Community Needs Through Volunteerism!  
Serving Montgomery, Delaware and Chester counties and educationally disadvantaged children, youth and veterans in Philadelphia.

***Make a donation to support RSVP's critical programs  
and services!***

**Your gift, big or small, will have an incredible impact in our community TODAY!**

*Does your company participate in a United Way Campaign? Please consider designating RSVP for your gift. **United Way Donor #1993***

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