

Foster Grandparent (FGP) and Senior Companion (SCP) Grant Programs

1. Purpose of Grants

The purpose of our Senior Corps grants is to provide volunteer opportunities for individuals with limited income ages 55 and over. The programs also provide the seniors with a sense of contribution, purpose, and a small stipend to supplement their poverty-level income, enabling them to participate without cost to themselves. This supports the mission of CNCS - improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering.

- Funding is provided through Senior Corps grants by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)
- Sponsored locally by Senior Resources
- Supported by other funding from local sources (City of Columbia, Richland County, United Way, In-Kind Contributions, etc.)

FGP Grant:

- 70 volunteers minimum
- 73,080 hours of service
- \$306,056 FY 2017-18 plus 10% grantee match (\$373,578)

SCP Grant:

- 40 volunteers minimum
- 41,760 hours of service
- \$188,428 FY 2017-18 plus 10% grantee match (\$231,770)

Funding Covers:

- Staff salaries, fringe, travel and training
- Volunteer background checks
- Volunteer stipends and travel
- Volunteer meals (includes FGP in-kind)
- Volunteer insurance
- Volunteer physicals
- Volunteer recognition event(s)

2. Eligibility Requirements for Both Programs

Volunteers must:

- Have an income no greater than 200% above poverty level (\$24,210 for 1 person)
- Undergo Sex Offender, SLED and FBI fingerprint checks
- Be willing to volunteer 15-40 hours/week
- Pass a physical exam (and yearly thereafter)
- Possess current automobile insurance and driver's license (if they drive)
- Attend 20 hours of orientation
- Attend required monthly in-service meetings
- Submit income information each year

3. Benefits of Volunteering

- Making a difference in the lives of others
- Stipend of \$2.65/hour; mileage reimbursement (\$0.25/mile or bus fare)
- 10 paid holidays
- Leave
- Recognition event

- Yearly physical provided
- Secondary volunteer insurance provided

4. Senior Companions

Senior Companions have made a difference by providing assistance and friendship to adults who have difficulty with daily living tasks. Their assistance helps these adults retain their dignity and remain independent in their homes rather than having to move to more costly institutional care. The goal of the Senior Companion Program is companionship and supportive person-to-person services to adults having exceptional needs, developmental disabilities or other special needs. The volunteers go to the homes of the seniors to provide companionship. We also have several that volunteer at Senior Centers throughout Richland County (Palmetto Senior Care).

Performance Measure: Companionship

Objective: Aging in Place

Anticipated Output: Number of individuals receiving independent living services

Anticipated Outcome: Number of individuals with increased social support

Last fiscal year, we had 64 Senior Companions in our program that provide companionship to clients in their homes and/or in conjunction with 6 volunteer stations. Last year, 81 clients received services from the Senior Companion program. Volunteers performed more than 37,000 hours of service to clients.

5. Foster Grandparents

Foster Grandparents serve children and youth with special and exceptional needs, or in circumstances that limit their academic, social, or emotional development, who are less than 21 years of age. The goals are to engage seniors who have income limitations with opportunities to provide one-to-one love and attention to children in institutional group settings.

Performance Measure: Assisting in Classroom

Objective: School Readiness

Anticipated Output: Number of children who completed early childhood education programs

Anticipated Outcome: Number of children demonstrating gains in literacy skills

Last fiscal year, we had 89 Foster Grandparents in our program that work at 30 stations throughout Richland/Lexington County (primarily Richland One elementary schools). Last year, Foster Grandparents served more than 70,000 hours of volunteer service by providing mentoring, tutoring, love and guidance to approximately 400 children.

Stations:

Richland One: Annie Burnside; Arden; Bradley; Brockman; Burton; Carver Lyon; EE Taylor; Forest Heights; Gadsden; Greenview; Heyward Career; Hopkins; Hyatt Park; John P. Thomas; Logan; Millcreek; Pendergrass-Fairwold; Pinegrove; WS Sandel; Webber

Richland Two: Killian; Lonnie B. Nelson

Lexington 4: Sandhills (Swansea)

Other: CCFT Afterschool (Latimer Manor); Arthurtown Early Head Start; St. Andrews Head Start; Tender Years Academy

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