



Retired Senior and Volunteer Program of Burlington County College

Burlington County College - 601 Pemberton Browns Mills Rd. - Pemberton, NJ 08068
Extension 1583 or 1498 at 609-894-9311 or 856 222-9311 – Email dfascend@bcc.edu

April 2010 NEWSLETTER

Dorothy Cebula, Editor

Vincent Russo, Reporter

Director’s Corner

By Karen Bennett

Great News! Burlington County RSVP has been awarded the **Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers (MIPPA)** grant, funded by the NJ Dept of Health and Senior Services. Only three such \$65,000 grants were awarded state-wide!

You could be eligible for Medicare savings!



The Low Income Subsidy and Medicare Savings Programs could pay your Medicare Part B premium,

provide monthly credit on utility bills, provide heating assistance, provide reimbursement on the purchase of a hearing aid, and other benefits! Contact the RSVP office at 609 894-9311 x1494 to see if you qualify!

This one-year program is to increase outreach and recruitment to disadvantaged individuals (low income, minority, disabled and rural populations) with communication on the availability of Medicare programs. One full-time, bi-lingual (Spanish) coordinator, one part-time support staff, and two volunteer bi-lingual SHIP counselors will fulfill program requirements.

The RSVP is currently seeking bi-lingual staff and volunteers. Should you be interested in details, please contact the RSVP office.

RSVP has been awarded a second grant to increase volunteer outreach and support from **The Ellis Family Charitable Foundation (EFCF)**. EFCF has been created to give back to Burlington County through serving its residents. Through this funding, RSVP is proud to welcome the part-time help of **Diane Dzwil**.

Diane comes to us as an experienced volunteer herself. She’s a volunteer at her children’s’ school (she has four, ages 7 to 11) where she is currently PTA president. She is an assistant religion class teacher at her church



and has been a volunteer for Marlton Community Vacation Bible School since 2004. Her commitment to and passion for volunteering is a great fit for RSVP! Be sure

to introduce yourself to Diane when you get the chance.

All are welcome to attend the **RSVP Volunteer Recognition Brunch and Information Fair: Tuesday May 25, 9:30- 11:30 AM at the BCC Mount Holly Center.** Please make your reservation by calling Donna Fascenda at 609-894-9311 Extension 1583 or email dfascend@bcc.edu by **April 30.**

Electronic Newsletter

In the future, all newsletters will be delivered electronically. If you wish to receive paper copy please notify the RSVP Office at 609 894-9311 x1583

Spotlight on Stations Vincent Russo and Julie Bishop

CONTACT of Burlington County

CONTACT of Burlington County responded to its first call for help in 1972. Since then, CONTACT has provided free, confidential and continuous 24/7 crisis response to the Burlington County community, assisting thousands of people during difficult periods in their lives.

CONTACT serves a diverse group of callers, whose needs run the gamut of emotional support or basic life needs, to crisis situations such as suicide, abuse, or homelessness. CONTACT provides free and confidential assistance in

several program areas including 24/7 crisis help lines, information and referral, rape care/sexual assault, grief support, reassurance care-calls and outreach.

CONTACT volunteers genuinely care about their fellow human beings. No experience is necessary. In-depth training is provided in all areas and covers topics such as therapeutic communication skills, depression, suicide and community resources. CONTACT needs caring adults to answer Crisis Help lines and serve as on-call victim advocates in the Rape Care program. There is a need for adults willing to make "care-calls" from their homes for the Reassurance program.



Joan Willett has been an RSVP volunteer with CONTACT since 1982. She credits the listening skills and rule of never being judgmental that she recalls from the CONTACT training classes for her ability to help callers. Joan looks forward to going back after each shift although she has had some serious calls at times. She believes that making a difference in people's lives gives a volunteer a sense of satisfaction and fulfillment. Joan says that volunteering for CONTACT over the years has made a difference in her own life and has helped her grow in numerous ways.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can work with CONTACT, call Karen Bennett who will refer you to the appropriate CONTACT staff member.

Impact in Action

Why are RSVP stations and volunteers asked to complete impact surveys?

The Corporation for National and Community Service, the grant funder for RSVP, is required to report detailed accomplishments to Congress under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA). Foundations and other funders are demanding results for their financial investments. Federally-supported programs are expected to demonstrate that they are a wise investment of public funds. As a result, it is critical to have ongoing data to support community impact.

“Programming for Impact” focuses on community needs, accomplishments, and impact in the planning and development of volunteer placements. It measures responsiveness to community needs and thereby raises the importance and visibility of RSVP volunteers as valuable resources that justify investment from the public and private sectors. These results can be captured through surveys or evaluations that must be submitted to indicate impact. While no one likes paperwork, the positive result for gathering impact data is that it can be used in fund-seeking endeavors, press

releases, websites, and development of potential stake-holders.

This information on Impact will help generate documentation to support the efforts that you and your fellow volunteers have made to positively improve the lives of people in Burlington County.

PHOTO SPOT

Pat at Interfaith Hospitality Network, Mt. Laurel shows some of the donations collected from **RSVP Volunteers** during the **National Day of Service on January**



18th. Donations from residents at **Ashley Crossing, Delran** include more than 100 complete Survival Bags; rolls of toilet paper and paper towels, blankets, and a variety of juice boxes, crackers, and coffee coupons to assist those in the county who are homeless.

***“NAME THIS NEWSLETTER” CONTEST:**



*Send your suggestions to **Karen Bennett** at the RSVP Office by June 20. Results will be announced in the next edition.*

Dorothy M. Cebula, Editor

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT RSVP?

Mail this form to Donna Fascenda, RSVP Coordinator
Burlington County College
601 Pemberton Browns Mills Road
Pemberton, NJ 08068
Email dfascend@bcc.edu or call 609-894-9311 x1583

You could win a framed 12 x 16 color print of Batsto Mansion! Remember to complete the enclosed Volunteer Survey today. We will draw names for all who respond and send their survey in to the RSVP office by May 24.

Yes, I am interested in

_____ Becoming an RSVP volunteer

_____ Obtaining further information RSVP

_____ Involving my organization I the RSVP program

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

**Burlington County College
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