



MEDIA RELEASE

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Gov. Jay Inslee Announces \$78K in New Funding for Olympia Senior Volunteers

United Way of Thurston County one of 175 organizations to receive funding nationwide.

OLYMPIA, Wash. – Gov. Jay Inslee today announced that United Way of Thurston County in Wash., received a \$78K dollar grant to support senior volunteer activities from the Corporation of National and Community Service (CNCS).

These funds were awarded as part of a competitive grant process for the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), one of three Senior Corps programs administered by CNCS. Established in 1971, RSVP engages older Americans in volunteer opportunities across the country. These volunteers have been a critical resource for nationwide response efforts—in everything from hunger prevention to natural disasters including Hurricane Sandy.

“Service and volunteering can be valuable resources for communities because they provide much-needed solutions for some of our most pressing challenges, especially in these tough economic times,” said Washington Gov. Jay Inslee. “This grant will provide opportunities for Washington State seniors to utilize the skills and wisdom earned from a lifetime of experience to benefit the Olympia, Wash., community.”

This funding builds on RSVP’s longstanding history of civic engagement. Established in 1971 and now one of the largest senior volunteer organizations in the nation, RSVP taps the skills, talents, and experience of thousands of American’s age 55 and older. Thurston County’s RSVP program serves 53

agency partners with 564 senior volunteers in Lewis, Mason and Thurston Counties who help advance the common good surrounding education, income and health – the building blocks for a good quality of life.

“By working with students, providing job training, and helping veterans transition into civilian life, volunteers age 55 and over are helping to transform the lives of the people they serve,” said Wendy Spencer, CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service. “Our communities need the talents and skills of all Americans as we continue moving this nation forward. The dedication of RSVP volunteers shows that service benefits not only organizations, but those who serve as well.”

This grant is one of 175 RSVP awards provided to volunteer organizations across the country to support senior volunteer activities in areas including education and veterans and military families.

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Senior Corps is a program of the Corporation of National and Community Service, a federal agency that engages more than four million American of all ages and backgrounds in service each year through its Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and Social Innovation Fund programs and leads President Obama’s call to service, United We Serve. For more information, visit nationalservice.gov.