



“Volunteerism is the background of Americanism.”

city of Miles City RSVP Volunteer

### Quick Facts for 2014

248 Active Volunteers  
51 Community Partners  
27,979 hours served  
\$619,447 worth of  
volunteer hours to  
area non-profits

RSVP volunteers choose how, where, and how often they want to serve, with commitments ranging from a few hours to 40 hours per week.

The program is open to all U.S. citizens, nationals, or lawful permanent resident aliens, 55 years of age and over. Volunteers receive pre-service orientation, training from the organization where they will serve, and supplemental insurance while on duty. RSVP volunteers do not receive monetary incentives.

**RSVP is sponsored by the City of Miles City and serves Carter, Fallon, Custer & Rosebud Counties, including the Northern Cheyenne Reservation**

*Mission Statement: To provide meaningful volunteer opportunities for individuals 55 and older to meet community needs.*

## RSVP IN ACTION



Miles City Community Table/Soup Kitchen prepares and delivers 8-12 lunches for homeless students at the local high school.

Each Wednesday First United Methodist Church “Lunch On Us” prepares and serves a hot lunch to students and community members. 2,003 meals were served between 9/11/2013 and 5/21/2014.

Both organizations are funded by donations and small grants.

Since 2003 Miles Community College Auto Technology students have provided RSVP Volunteers a free 41-point vehicle inspection. Volunteers know if they want to get their vehicle checked they must make their appointments as soon as they receive the postcard announcing the date. Each year there are findings such as a car with no oil, a mouse nest, broken tie rods, and bad tires.



### 9/11 Day of Service 2014



City of Miles RSVP had 2 Service Projects: Harvest for Seniors and Paper Shredding Truck 4000 pounds of paper was brought in by 43 individuals to be shredded. This was a first time event in Miles City and coordinated with Keep Miles City Beautiful. We also collected canned food which was donated to the Custer County Food Bank.

Harvest for Seniors provided 438 pounds of fresh produce to 57 needy seniors.

**The Fire Dept. proudly flies the flag.**



## Quotes from our Partners

*"There would not be a free Tax Assistance Program without RSVP Volunteers."*  
Dorothy Willems, Tax Assistance Program Coordinator

*"Even though it is only one day a week at this time it is so nice to have friendly face be the first thing that our patients see as they come off the elevator. Coming to a medical provider is not always top on people's "to do" list but if they know there is someone friendly there that they can ask questions of and get directions it is more than helpful."* Carla Bichler, Director of Program and Business Development one-Health

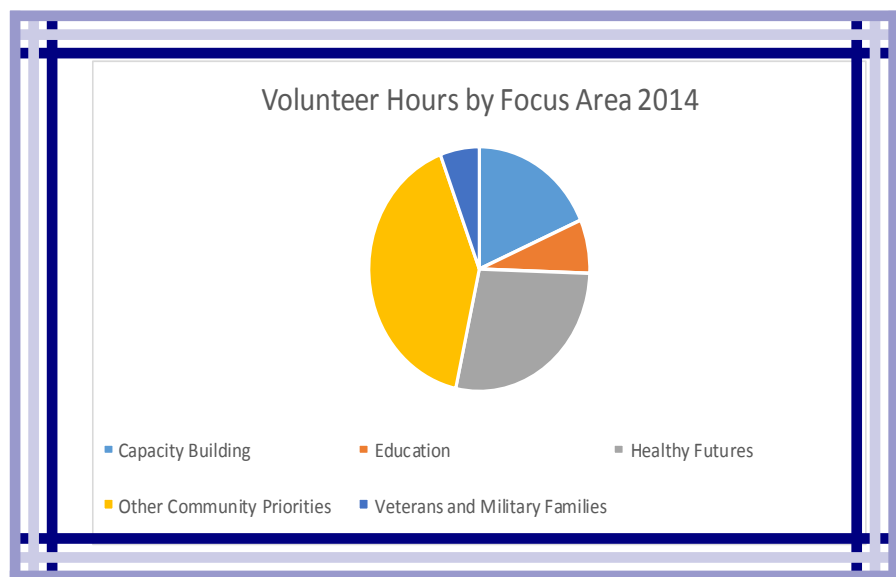
*"The RSVP Volunteers are worth their weight in gold to the Council on Aging. We are so fortunate to have volunteers who work cheerfully and efficiently. We especially appreciate volunteers who can help with reporting and bookkeeping for our programs. As American ages, the only way elders will be served in their own homes is with the help of a lot of volunteer hours."* Jan Pratt, Custer County Council on Aging Coordinator

RSVP concentrates volunteer placement on focus areas required by the Corporation for National and Community Service. A few examples of RSVP volunteer impacts (January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014) were :

**Healthy Futures:** Three days a week volunteers serving at the Custer County Food Bank distributed food to a total of 9,785 individuals in 2014. Of those 9,785 individuals 11,523 were in the 56+ age bracket. 50 veterans were served. The recent economic recession has had a severe impact on those who were already struggling to make a living, as well as many who have never needed help before. 3,022 more clients were served at the Food Bank in 2014. Food Bank Director, Robert Parker says, "First and foremost, I need to say the Food Bank would not be possible without RSVP volunteers who do the hard work of stocking and distributing this food to the needy folks and shut-ins in Miles City. They are here every week, good weather or bad to do this work."

**Veterans & Military Families:** 363 Montana veterans were transported 54,172 miles (twice around the earth at the equator is 59,804 miles) to medical appointments in 2014 by 6 RSVP volunteers. Average miles driver per RSVP Volunteer was 9,029. Veterans were transported from Miles City to Billings (300 miles/RT), Bozeman (580 miles/RT), Sturgis, SD (400 miles/RT), and Sheridan, WY (410 miles/RT).

**The cost savings to veterans was \$30,607** using the federal mileage reimbursement rate. Value of volunteer time for the 1425 hours served was \$31,550. The City of Miles City RSVP federal grant for FY14/15 is \$60,728 proving that this one project alone is providing financial assistance and positively impacting the lives of veterans, RSVP Volunteers, and involved communities. 100% of the RSVP volunteers involved in this project are veterans or spouses of veterans. In addition, a RSVP Volunteer coordinates the van drivers for the trips.



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