



SENIORS in SERVICE
GEARED UP TO SERVE

Geared Up News

Seniors in Service of Tampa Bay presents the News You Need To Know About Volunteer Service in Tampa Bay!

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday, October 17, 2017
United Food Bank of Plant City

United Food Bank of Plant City
702 E Alsobrook St #H, Plant City
7:30am - 10:30am

Thursday, October 19, 2017
Feeding Tampa Bay

4702 Transport Dr., Building 6
Tampa, FL 33605
9:00am - Noon

Combat hunger for needy families. Volunteers assist in set up and tear down; packing & distributing food; organizing produce, bakery and nonperishable donations; sweeping, mopping, stocking shelves; or preparing grocery bags for families. Register at seniorsinservice.org

Friday, December 8, 2017
"Dancing With the Stars"
Volunteer Recognition Event

TPepin's Hospitality Centre
4121 N 50th St, Tampa, FL 33610
11:30am to 2:00pm

There's only 1 way into this exclusive, invitation-only luncheon - be a Seniors in Service Volunteer. There will be a sumptuous meal, prizes, gift bags, raffles!

And thanks to our Title Sponsor



It's 100% FREE ... But only to our Seniors in Service Volunteers. You can serve as little as 1 HOUR to earn your exclusive invite!

The Results Are In! Our Volunteers Did It Again! MASSIVE RESULTS for Students!

Foster Grandparent Volunteers mentor and tutor students for an entire school year. For the 2016/2017 school year, 602 students received mentoring and tutoring. The teacher identifies 3-5 students who need assistance. So knowing that these students are very far behind or very challenged in their reading, what kind of success rate would you expect?

Check out the results for our Foster Grandparent Program for the 2016/2017 School Year. Percentage of students who improved in a challenge area (as evaluated by their classroom teacher):

- 97% Literacy Skills**
- 99% Cognitive Skills**
- 98% Language Skills**
- 97% Social Skills**
- 96% Emotional Skills**
- 98% Fine/Gross Motor Skills**



Foster Grandparent Volunteer Gladys Everett tutors students at Oak Grove Elementary

Seniors in Service of Tampa Bay - Geared Up To Serve



On August 25th, CEO Tammy Criollo shared on ABC Action News's Positively Tampa Bay what it was like to win the 2017 WEDU Be More Knowledgeable Award for Readers in Motion!

Looking good, Tammy!

Check out the video here:

<http://bit.ly/PTB170825>



Thank you to our sponsors...

The 33rd Annual Bridging Generations Breakfast on Wednesday, September 27th at the Centre Club was a rousing, heart-felt success! Thank you to all the attendees and our deepest gratitude to our sponsors!

Thank You to Our Sponsors



Bob Tomczak



Daniel Ruiz



Marina A. Choundas, Esq.

Susan Boyd



Seniors in Service Munchkins!

Please join us in welcoming our newest little Seniors in Service supporters!

(left) CEO Tammy Criollo's Granddaughter
Penelope Jones Jelesky
Born Monday, August 21st
7 lbs 7 ozs, 19 ½ inches long

(right) Director of Marketing and Development
Robin Ingles' Son
Christopher Thomas Ingles
Born Wednesday, May 24th
9 lbs 6 ozs, 21 inches long



Expansion of Readers in Motion

Kindergarteners and NOW 1st Graders! ... will experience live animal encounters this year

Thanks to the Children's Board of Hillsborough County, 1st graders from Oak Grove Elementary, as well as Kindergarteners will experience the joy of Readers in Motion.

This wildly successful 5-year old program was formerly called Lowry Park Neighborhood Initiative. As the program has solidified its effective best practices, we saw that it has the opportunity to grow beyond just the Lowry Park neighborhood so we launched our new program name...

Readers in Motion

The new name better describes the success our kids have in our program. They go from learning their letters to passionate, engaged reading lovers!

So what's the magic formula?

Readers in Motion combines ALL these elements:

- In-class Foster Grandparent Volunteer Mentor/Tutor who commits to serve at least 15 hours per WEEK with the kids IN THE CLASSROOM. The teacher identifies the most challenged students and supervises the dosage of assistance each child receives.
- Zoo-To-School visits from Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo. The Zoo's animal education experts bring LIVE ANIMALS to the school to engage the children in the natural sciences.



- Family Fun Ed-Zoo-Cation Nights bring the students' whole family including parents and siblings to Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo to share in activities that bring the natural sciences to life.
- Reading Challenges provide incentives and route to continue the learning at home with the family. Kids are able to utilize the myON digital reading environment that's available to all Hillsborough County School children for free.

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We Offer a Volunteer Experience for Everyone

Use the skills and talents you've learned over the years, or develop new ones while serving in a variety of volunteer activities within Tampa Bay. Service opportunities are as diverse as Tampa Bay itself!

Here's a taste of what's available with opportunities being updated on our website seniorsinservice.org all the time!

Help the Kids



Where? **New Life Village**, 4926 Venice Lake Ave, Tampa, FL 33619

When? After school

Volunteer Roles: Mentor, tutor at an intergenerational community designed for families raising foster and adopted children

Where? **Parents and Children Achieve Together (PCAT)** – Ruskin, Wimauma or Sulphur Springs

When? After school

Volunteer Roles: Mentor & Tutor

Where? **Community Foundation of Tampa Bay LEAP**

When? 2 evenings for 3 hours

Volunteer Roles: Mentor & tutor to provide guidance, info & support for high schoolers to attain college funding

Where? **Computer Mentors** - Multiple locations

When? From helping at a one-time 3-hour event, to a 6-month mentoring position

Volunteer Roles: Technology mentors & speakers.

Where? **Hillsborough Education Foundation**, 2306 N. Howard Avenue, Tampa 33607

When? Flexible

Volunteer Roles: Teaching Tools Store: sort/organize school supplies, check teachers in/out. Mentor 6th -12th grade students; Special events

Where? **Kings Kids Christian Academy**, 3000 N 34th Street, Tampa FL 33605

When? Flexible

Volunteer Roles: Assist teachers with classroom activities, comfort children who may need reassurance, re-shelf books, copy and cut out classroom materials

Help the Teens

Where? **Woman-to-Woman**

When? 12 -month commitment, 10 hours/month, contact teen at least once per month, 2 face-to-face visits,

monthly workshops, bi-monthly meetings

Volunteer Roles: Mentor to a teen mom

Where? **AMI Kids**

When? 1-2 hours per month minimum, 3pm-5 pm

Volunteer Roles: Mentor to 11-17 year-old teen boys

Help the Veterans & Military Families

Where? **James A. Haley VA Hospital**, Primary Care Clinic and Haley's Cove Community Living Center

When? Flexible

Volunteer Roles: Escort, feeders, greeters, surgery waiting room, companions



Where? **Veteran Group Foster Homes**
When? Flexible

Volunteer Roles: Companionship services with activities such as: music, crafts, playing games, reading, writing letters, tidying living areas, light laundry, assisting with errands & grocery shopping

Help Non-Profit Organizations

Where? We mobilize volunteers to help hundreds of **non-profit partners** accomplish their missions like Lowry Park Zoo, MacDonald Training Center, Pearlina Activity Center, so many more!

When? Flexible

Volunteer Roles: Public speaking, advisory councils, board of directors, fundraising and community events, recruitment and more!

We Offer a Volunteer Experience for Everyone

Help the Hungry



Where? **Trinity Café**

- 2801 Nebraska Avenue, Tampa, FL 33602
 - 2202 E. Busch Blvd., Tampa FL 33612
- When? Mon-Fri 11am-1:45pm, Once per week, Once per month

Volunteer Roles: Greet guests, Serve guests, Table host companions, Prepare silverware, Clean tables

Where? **Senior Centers:**

- Brandon Senior Center: 612 N. Parsons Ave, Brandon, FL 33510
 - Town & Country: 7606 Paula Drive, Tampa FL 33615
 - Ruskin: 612 N. Parsons Ave, Brandon, FL 33510
 - Wimauma: 5714 North Street, Wimauma 33598
 - Progress Village: 8701 Progress Blvd 33619
 - Lutz: 112 NW 1st Ave Lutz, FL 33549
- When? Flexible

Volunteer Roles: Food servers, prepare dining area, clean tables

Where? **Large Distribution Food Events**

When? Posted on Seniors in Service website
www.seniorsinservice.org

Volunteer Roles: measure, package, box food

Where? **Meals on Wheels**, 550 W. Hillsborough Ave,
Tampa, FL 33603

Description: Meal delivery to homebound community residents. Regular weekday meal delivery routes begin between 9:20am-Noon. Once per month volunteers are needed for Saturday morning deliveries of either a bag of fresh produce (Produce On Wheels!), Hurricane Preparedness Packs (May) or Holiday Bags (December). Also, we have a special delivery of Thanksgiving treats on Thanksgiving morning.

Where? **Metropolitan Ministries**, 2002 N Florida Ave,
Tampa, FL 33602
When? Flexible

Volunteer Roles: Team Leaders, serving & greeting guests, host table companions, preparing silverware, cleaning tables, sorting canned goods in our Food Warehouse, sorting through clothing and hygiene donations in our Clothing Warehouse and serving customers in Thrift Store

Where? **Our Lady of Guadalupe Pantry**, 16650 N
US 301, Wimauma, FL 33598
When? Flexible

Volunteer Roles: Sort and stock food, pack bags, distribute and organize the food pantry

Where? **United Food Bank in Plant City**, 702 E
Alsobrook St, Plant City, FL 33563

When? Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri Noon-3:30pm and
Tuesday Noon-6:45pm
Volunteer Roles: Sort and stock food, pack bags,
distribute and organize the food pantry

Help the Elderly, Disabled Adults or Overwhelmed Caregivers



Where? **Senior Centers:**

- Brandon: 612 N. Parsons Ave,
Brandon, FL 33510
 - Town & Country: 7606 Paula Drive,
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 - Ruskin: 612 N. Parsons Ave,
Brandon, FL 33510
 - Wimauma: 5714 North Street, Wimauma 33598
 - Progress Village: 8701 Progress Blvd 33619
 - Lutz: 112 NW 1st Ave Lutz, FL 33549
- When? Flexible

Volunteer Roles: provide care and friendship, Team Leaders, perform group or individual activities: music, craft work, playing games, reading, etc.

Where? **Individual homes** of elders, disabled
adults, caregivers
When? Flexible

Volunteer Roles: Telephone Reassurance,
Companionship, Bill Payer (help with timely paying/
management of monthly bills)

Where? **Self-Reliance**, 8901 N Armenia Ave, Tampa
When? Flexible

Volunteer Roles: Assist with: disabled persons group support, recreational activities, sorting/organizing items and equipment, independent lab, receptionist, training



Calling All Veterans! Ready to Serve (Again)?

Operation: Veteran Connect is an exciting new opportunity for Veterans and Military Family Members to leverage their passion for serving our nation again by serving as AmeriCorps Members for one year through Seniors in Service, in partnership with James Haley Veterans Hospital.



Most (16) of the Members will be placed in service supporting the Whole Health System at the Primary Care Annex. Service Roles: Outreach Educator Specialist, My HealthVet Specialist

Four (4) Members will assist recruitment efforts for Voluntary Services at the Main Hospital. Service Role: Volunteer Engagement Specialist

Members must serve a minimum of 20 service hours each week, Flexible schedules (4 to 7-hour shifts) between 8:30AM-5:00PM, Monday through Friday, or Saturday from 8:30AM-Noon. Members will receive a monthly living allowance of \$360.16 (\$390 – FICA). Members will be eligible for the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award of \$2,907.50 (Award is transferable).

For more information, please call or e-mail Paige Erwin, Operation Veteran Connect Coordinator (813-932-5228 x292, perwin@seniorsinservice.org)

Seniors in Service of Tampa Bay, 1306 W. Sligh Ave., Tampa FL 33604, www.seniorsinservice.org

From Board Chair Herma White...

It's a relief to report that the staff and volunteers came through Hurricane Irma with relatively little damage or inconvenience. As a silver lining in this potentially devastating storm, I've been inspired and impressed with our community's ability to come together to help one another no matter their age, gender, race, income level or anything else. We live in a beautiful place and that includes our generous neighbors.



We are here to continue this spirit of generosity. A time like this is a perfect example of why our seniors need inclusion and participation from the community. Our mission is more important than ever: to engage people in volunteerism, particularly those ages 55+, to help children succeed and elders remain independent. This is our call to the community to come out and give. Here are some of the ways:

- VOLUNTEER** – give your time for our community. You are the most valuable resource in Tampa Bay. Our website seniorsinservice.org has volunteer opportunities available right now, all over. Help with kids, seniors, food pantries, senior centers, veterans. **We have an opportunity that will feed your soul.**
- DONATE** – every little bit helps when you give. Our organization uses the leverage of hundreds of volunteers to make the biggest impact possible with 93% of each dollar donated going directly to services. Your donation will have a big impact.
- SPREAD THE WORD** – be an advocate for Seniors in Service. Share with your friends, family, and co-workers the ways Seniors in Service tutors and mentors children in need IN the classroom, and how we provide companionship and respite in the homes of frail low-income seniors. Our precious young and vulnerable elders need Seniors in Service to help them succeed in school and in life, and to have quality of life and the ability to live independently.



Children's Board
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY
www.ChildrensBoard.org

Special Thanks to our Funders!



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United Way Suncoast



CEO Corner



Dear Friends – I am very happy and excited to announce our launch of Operation: Veteran Connect! Thanks to your support, Seniors in Service is successfully engaging volunteers 55 years old and older to meet many needs in our Tampa Bay community. As you may know, we have been helping veterans at the James A Haley V.A. Hospital and throughout our Hillsborough County for decades. Through your support and the support of Volunteer Florida, as of August 1st, Seniors in Service has extended our impact to those who have dedicated themselves through military service – our veterans.

Seniors in Service has partnered with the James Haley VA Hospital & its community-based clinics as part of a new national Pilot - one of only 18 - promoting Whole Health to our veterans. Through this innovative program Seniors in Service will recruit & train AmeriCorps members to support the Whole Health System by serving as Outreach Educators, My HealthVet Specialists, & as Volunteer Engagement Specialists. AmeriCorps members will connect veterans to available resources for wellness to live life to the fullest!

Many thanks to you for making this program possible! For more information, please call or email Paige Erwin at 813-932-5228, x292, or perwin@seniorsinservice.org. - Tammy

Hurricane Irma Brought Out the Best

While our mission is not disaster-oriented, our vibrant seniors served in special ways. Most of our volunteers serve in long-term capacities that support our community day-in and day-out. During Hurricane Irma, our volunteers called their service sites, clients, schools, teachers, families, etc. Even while their own power was out, they were reaching out to help and comfort the people they serve.

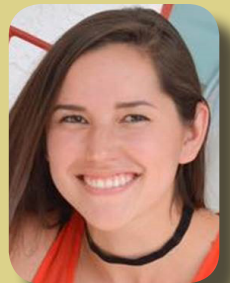
Our newest staffers have some kind words for Seniors in Service...



Erin Hamilton - Erin heard about Seniors in Service from our accountant who was relocating. Just from the stories from her colleague, Erin KNEW she wanted to work here. After hearing passionate volunteers Ray Petren and Ruby Shannon speak at our Pinellas Bridging Generations Luncheon in April, she was totally hooked! And Erin will be bringing us another Seniors in Service munchkin in February!

Lorena Mielke -

Leaving her 1-year old son to return to work meant that the job HAD to be meaningful. Lorena loves that her program also involves the young parents of her volunteers' students. She's also excited to use her Spanish professionally, in addition to the conversational Spanish she's already comfortable using.



Ivelisse Zambrano - being strongly driven by her faith, "E-vie" says she was drawn here by Glarisol's passion for how the volunteers help the community. She enjoys work that is so focused on people. Her previous jobs in the military and law enforcement were more black-and-white. She is an adventurer who believes it's important to look for the good, even in tragedy.



Almeka Parks - having only lived in Florida for a year now, Almeka had no idea her love of people, inability to sit still and propensity for community involvement would guide her here. When the topic of seniors kept popping up in various areas of her life she knew this was a good fit. And she says running her own program with RSVP is a treat! She wants her volunteers to know she has a huge sense of humor, so feel free to make her laugh!





SENIORS in SERVICE 1306 W Sligh Ave
 GEARED UP TO SERVE Tampa, FL 33604
 (813) 932-5228

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Our Harvard Ladies!

Board Member Dr. Valerie Brimm of Pinellas County Schools and State Farm Agent & Board Chair Herma White share Harvard experiences. Herma attended the Governing for Non-Profit Excellence Training Program in 2016 and Valerie just attended the Family Engagement Institute at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Valerie completed the 3-day program - Family Engagement in Education: Creating Effective Home and School Partnerships for Student Success. They're building our knowledge every day!