

MOW IMPACT

WHAT IS MEALS ON WHEELS

Meals on Wheels is a nutritional meal that seniors 60 & over can receive five days a week, in their home. In the majority of situations, this is a...

Wellness check

- i. Volunteers are able to check on clients to make sure they are doing okay.
- ii. Clients get a chance to visit with someone on an almost daily basis. Sometimes the only person they will see.
- iii. Family members are more at ease knowing their loved one has communication with the outside world and that they will be contacted if something is needed.

MOW IMPACT

Meals On Wheels of Barton County is a stand-alone non-profit group that works with RSVP of Central Kansas, ElderCare, Inc & United Way of Central Kansas. Because of the relationship...

- iv. 1255 meals were delivered in just the month of May this year.
- v. 78 individuals received a hot nutritional meal. For some that is the only meal they had for the day. And for many it is the difference between living at home or moving to a long-term care facility. The majority of the clients would be utilizing Medicare to pay for this care.
- vi. The cost for those 1255 meals is \$4,392.50. The cost for 78 individuals to live in a long-term care facility for 31 days is approximately \$390,000. That is a potential savings of \$385,607.50.
- vii. The personal impact it has on the meal recipient is really the story here. Imagine being alone, homebound and no outside contact with the world. The RSVP volunteers that deliver these meals sometimes are the world to them. They represent the outside, a friendly face, a kind word, someone who cares. Many of the meal recipients wait each day for that knock on the door and the words "Meals On Wheels."

MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION

WHAT IS RSVP MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION

Our volunteers transport Barton and Pawnee County residents to non-emergency medical appointments.

Volunteers are

- i. Volunteers go through a Motor & Vehicle Record check and must be a registered RSVP or Volunteers In Action member.
- ii. Volunteers are given a gas voucher stipend that equals .27 cents per mile.
- iii. Volunteers are covered by our Volunteer Supplemental Insurance
- iv. Volunteers are able to choose or pass on any volunteer transportation drive.

MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM IMPACT

The Barton County Commissioners recognize the importance of funding a program that gives its citizens that opportunity to maintain and follow through with medical needs and appointments. Emergency Aid forwards the money they would have normally utilized for gas cards to our program and the Great Bend Commission on Aging provides funds to the program. The continued support from these agencies is based on the impact

- v. Over 200 people utilized the medical transportation program to the tune of 769 times.
- vi. Volunteers drove clients 55,498 miles
- vii. The cost for those patients would have totaled at a conservative figure of 30 mpg to be \$4,051.35. Some of the 769 trips were to local doctors and the RSVP program picks up the \$3.00 round trip ticket. There were 225 rides given by the General Transportation Bus out of the Great Bend Senior Center.
- viii. The personal impact it has on the patient is told by not only the client but their physicians and care providers. Doctors are so happy to know that their patients can get the follow-up care they need which in turns keeps them well and living in their home. Family members feel assured and sometimes less burdened. For some it is a bit of respite for others that live out of town it is a great feeling to know mom, dad or sibling will be able to get the medical care they need. Our clients are just plain relieved to have this part of their medical journey taken care of and they relate back about how nice it is to visit with someone on the way up. Many of our volunteers have made lasting relationships with these patients.

MEDICARE COUNSELING: SHICK

WHAT IS SHICK

SHICK stands for Senior Healthcare Insurance Counselors of Kansas. This program is funded by pass through grants to the Area on Agencies in the state. We are sponsored and trained by SWKAAA. The purpose of the counseling is to help seniors wade through the maze of Medicare and to help them better understand their choices so they can make informed decisions. This is a totally free service offered to anyone in the area.

Volunteer Counselors must

- i. Be a registered RSVP or Volunteers In Action member.
- ii. Volunteers must go through a SWKAAA training for Medicare Counseling (two day training and several on-line computer hours of homework.
- iii. Volunteers are covered by our Volunteer Supplemental Insurance
- iv. Volunteers donate their time to help clients mainly during the Open Enrollment period for the Part "D" prescription plan.

MEDICARE COUNSELING PROGRAM IMPACT

Turning 65 and retiring is scary enough, however add to that the maze that must we navigated to get the best healthcare coverage is overwhelming. Many of the time, clients are just scared to hit the button on the computer for the final enrollment. RSVP SCHICK counselors provide:

- v. Face to face conversations and individualized planning.
- vi. Clients receive up-to-date information on new plans, changes in Federal guidelines, help in apply for extra assistance and computer assistance to apply.
- vii. Since October of last year our SCHICK counselors have counseled 173 seniors. Our counselors have save \$12,321 by comparing Part "D" prescriptions plans and helping seniors enroll in the most affordable one.
- viii. I personally have been thanked profusely for helping clients to better understand their Medicare and their choices. The look of relief when they walk out the door is almost measurable. Of course the real happiness will be their pocketbook in the upcoming year. Many of these seniors have very little extra money to spare.

AARP TAX PREPERATION

WHAT DO THEY DO?

Our AARP tax counselors prepare taxes for those in our community who cannot afford it. This includes many of our seniors and those with low income or disability.

Volunteer Counselors must

- Be a registered RSVP or Volunteers In Action member.
- Volunteers must go through an AARP Tax Counselor training that includes six, eight hour days, 12 hours of homework time, sometimes more and then 10 to 14 days of preparing tax forms for individuals and couples.
- The lead coordinator for the site also puts in training time for her specific position and for updated training to bring back to the classroom.
- The only compensation is mileage and some hotel fees paid by AARP.
- Volunteers are covered by our Volunteer Supplemental Insurance
- Volunteers donate their time from January through April 15. The coordinator continues to take calls and inquiries throughout the year.

AARP TAX PREPARATION PROGRAM IMPACT

The goal of AARP tax program is to help those seniors who just want to file for the Homestead Relief Act or to take advantage of some of the other tax breaks. They also target low income and disability individuals to help them.

What this means...

- 320 people received help filing their income tax for free
- This was a savings of \$17,660 for seniors and people with low income or disabilities
- Helps to identify those who may need more assistance
- Helps people avoid penalties for not filing due to low resources

DISASTER RELIEF & RECOVERY

WHAT DO THEY DO?

This NEW program will connect our valuable volunteers to the community. Registered volunteers will be able to assist the city or county in three different ways through RSVP and Volunteers In Action

- Volunteer Reception Center (VRC)
 - The reception center is the collection point for ALL volunteers who come to community to help with disaster relief & recover.
 - The VRC will gather and interview each volunteer and match their skills and knowledge to volunteer jobs in the impacted area.
 - First responders will be calling in the volunteer jobs to the VRC so it is kept up to date.
 - Health dept will be on site to administer any tetanus shots needed.
 - Phone banks will be manned to help the public information officer
 - And other jobs as needed.
- Evacuation Site
 - Volunteers will be activated as soon as there is notification of a possible threat.
 - Volunteers will be called in at pre-determined times to man an evacuation site in tandem with the American Red Cross
 - Volunteers will be on site to not only help disaster victims settle in, but to comfort and console as well as other needs.
- Misc. Volunteers
 - Volunteers will be activated as needed to help with transportation, meal prep, supplies collection, packing boxes etc.

DISASTER RELIEF & RECOVER PROGRAM IMPACT

The goal of this program is to not have a trained volunteer group ready to step in when needed, but to be able to stay updated on the needs in this community. RSVP and Volunteers In Action is the perfect group to manage this type of program. Our volunteers have the skills, knowledge and connections that benefit a VRC. Our young volunteers have the energy and drive to step in and do some of the heavy lifting.

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