

THE FHVC VOLUNTEER BULLETIN

WE HAVE MOVED!

We are excited to be downtown and in an office space that meets our needs. We now have a conference room to be used for meetings or special projects, and a breakroom to have a cup of coffee with you. There is plenty of parking with handicapped parking as well.

Come and see us for a tour!



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@flinthillsvolunteercenter



@flinthillsvc



**322 Houston St
Suite 104**



**Lori Bishop,
Executive Director**

“Volunteerism is the voice of the people put into action. These actions shape and mold the present into a future of which we can all be proud.” – Helen Dyer

Greetings Volunteers,

Happy Spring!

I’m so ready to get outside to enjoy the sunshine and go for a walk. The year started out with a bang. We heard from several that had contacted COVID, and I hope you are all recovering well. I think we are all ready for sunshine and good health!

We presented our 2021 Annual Report to the board of directors. We had 1,274 volunteers enrolled in our program! With a return investment of \$1,044,421 to our communities, you have made a big impact and should be proud.

We will be celebrating the 48th year of our AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP program during a banquet at 5:30 pm on Friday, April 22nd, at Pottorf Hall. Invitations will be sent to all active RSVP volunteers. Be watching for yours and make your reservation!

National Volunteer Week is April 1—23. On behalf of our board of directors and staff, I would like to extend my deep appreciation for everything you do. You make a difference in our communities. You might not know the impact you make in the life of someone, but we do!

April is a special month for me. This year I am celebrating 37 years with the RSVP/Flint Hills Volunteer Center. It’s hard to believe it’s been so many years and the memories are very much imbedded in my life. I’ve met some great volunteers, shared the good times and the bad, laughed and cried with you, and I feel very blessed to be a part of a great organization.

We are excited to be downtown again! I know it will be taking some getting used to, but we are excited. Our office space is a little smaller, but we have a big conference room and break room to use! There will be plenty of parking space with many handicapped parking areas. Stop by anytime to say hello!

Thank you volunteers!

Lori

Coordinator Update

"Change" seems to be the word of 2022 as we progress through the winter. Our office is moving, changes are coming for me with our AmeriCorps Seniors grant, and our office is always seeking new, meaningful ways to help connect our volunteers to community needs. As a Virginian who has explored both coasts and Hawaii before settling down in Kansas- I embrace the change. As a former military spouse who has been through a few moves- I embrace the chaos in packing and the chance to clean out the clutter.

I am also looking forward to some personal changes in my near future. (No, not a change in employment!) My daughter will start kindergarten in the fall and my husband should be finishing his graduate work by the end of the year. Both of them will be entering into classrooms and with that comes a change at home. I know we're all looking forward to it!

Are there changes in your future? If so, I encourage you to look past the chaos and embrace the possibilities that come with it.

-Karen



**Karen Paulus,
Program Services
Coordinator**

Spring cleaning time came just a little bit early for us at FHVC, with this exciting office move! Part of my excitement over our new office space is the building's conference room, which will allow us a dedicated space to host special projects from time to time.

Speaking of Spring cleaning—CSC volunteers will be at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore soon to learn about the mission of Habitat for Humanity as well as to help clean and organize the ReStore. We wanted to get another service project in before Spring Break!

Here's to all our new beginnings. Happy Spring, everyone!

-Emily



**Emily Vieyra,
Volunteer
Coordinator**



Elder Justice: Frauds and Scams

hosted by our AmeriCorps Seniors Program

March 10th

1:00 pm

Riley County Senior Services' Center
301 N. 4th Street

Special Guest:

Steven A. Karrer, Deputy Attorney General, in charge of the Fraud and Abuse Litigation Division of the Office of the Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt.

Learn More:

Karen Paulus

Program Services Coordinator

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(785) 776-7787



**AmeriCorps
Seniors**



Our Blessing Boxes Drive for the National MLK Day of Service at Hyvee was a success. CSC volunteers were able to restock every Blessings Box in Manhattan with all of the donations we collected from local community members!

Connecting Students to Communities (CSC) tested out the conference room space at our new office location last month for a Valentines Workshop—where we gathered our art supplies and went to work on handmade greetings of love and friendship! We had fun sharing our supplies, humor, and our creativity (food, plant, and animal puns included), handcrafting over 60 cards that afternoon. CSC volunteers chose to give almost all of their cards to the elderly and homebound, and so the greetings were delivered to Via Christi Village on Valentines Day.

I want to thank the AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers as well as the local Salvation Army for the yarn and the t-shirts they donated for CSC crafting supplies. We have been experimenting with looms of various sizes—from 5 inches to hula hoop-sized! With your donations, we are exploring the intersection of art and service, in time to celebrate Earth Day. Along with our new office space comes new opportunities for potential display spaces and venues for our recycled art.

In the meantime, students and groups have been staying busy with Harvesters opportunities. It is wonderful to see individuals bringing their friends, spouses, or children along with them to volunteer in the community!



Learn More:

Emily Vieyra

Volunteer Coordinator

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(785) 776-7787

<https://www.flinthillsvolunteercenter.com/csc/>

-Emily



Save the Date

AmeriCorps Week is March 13-19

During AmeriCorps Week we recognize our AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP volunteers, and encourage more Americans to follow in their footsteps in service. This year's theme is 'Together, we are AmeriCorps.' Service brings people together and bridges divides, and that's what our members, volunteers, and programs do every day. During this week we will partner with Project Sunshine to assemble Activity Kits for pediatric patients at children's hospitals.

RSVP Volunteer Recognition Banquet

AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Recognition Banquet will be held on Friday, April 22nd, 5:30 pm at Pottorf Hall. All active RSVP volunteers will receive an invitation to attend. You must reply that you are attending and you will receive a ticket to attend.

National Volunteer Week is April 17-23

National Volunteer Week is an opportunity to recognize the impact of volunteer service and the power of volunteers to tackle society's greatest challenges, to build stronger communities and be a force that transforms the world. Thank you to all our volunteers for making a difference in our communities!

Volunteer Opportunites

March:

- 1st: Caregivers Newsletter; 9am, 401 Houston St
- 10th: Elder Justice Speaker Event; 1pm, Senior Services' Center
- 11th: Harvesters; 3:30pm, Blue Valley Memorial UMC
- 13th: Daylight Savings Begins (Spring Forward!)
- 15th: Harvesters; 9:30am, Cico Park
- 22nd: Harvesters; 9:30am, Ogden Community Center
- 22nd: Harvesters; 12:15pm, Downtown Manhattan (by Dillard's)

April:

- 5th: Caregivers Newsletter; 9am, 401 Houston St
- 8th: Harvesters; 3:30pm, Blue Valley Memorial UMC
- 19th: Harvesters; 9:30am, Cico Park
- 22: AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Volunteer Banquet
- 26th: Harvesters; 9:30am, Ogden Community Center
- 26th: Harvesters; 12:15pm, Downtown Manhattan (by Dillard's)
- May 1st: Father Daughter Dance

Ongoing Opportunities:

Habitat for Humanity ReStore is in need of volunteers Thursday through Saturday between the hours of 10-4pm to assist with store operations.

CASA: Child Exchange & Visitation Center is seeking volunteer observers for supervised visits which allow children to have contact with a non-residential parent within a safe and neutral environment. Training is provided for all volunteers.

Cookie Brigade:

- March 10 & 24
- April 7 & 21

Cookies should be freshly baked within 24 hours of delivery to the office (Thursday by 1pm or the Wednesday before). Volunteers will package the cookies within the office before delivery.



*Welcome to
our 60 new
volunteers &
groups who
have enrolled in
January &
February!*

Flint Hills Volunteer Center

322 Houston St Suite 104

Manhattan, KS 66502

(785) 776-7787

fhvcmhk@gmail.com



AmeriCorps Seniors, Kansas Volunteer Commission, YES! Fund, Riley County Council on Aging, Greater Manhattan Community Foundation

Please help us raise \$30,000 to support our programs. Your support is appreciated!

- Gift in Honor / Memory of a loved one (to support on-going projects)

Name: _____

- General Contribution (recruiting/ placing individuals to impact the community)

- Contribution towards new initiatives: Suicide Prevention, Elder Justice, Opioid Abuse

My gift to the Flint Hills Volunteer Center is enclosed:

__ \$50 __ \$100 __ \$200 __ \$500 Other Amount \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, & Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Make check payable to Flint Hills Volunteer Center and return to:

322 Houston St Suite 104 Manhattan, KS 66502