

FY 2010 CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET REQUEST
 Prepared by
The National Senior Corps Association
 (Based on FY 2009 Congressional Budget Justification)



Senior Corps Program	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Enacted	FY 2009 Enacted	Increase (Decrease) From FY 2008	FY 2010 NSCA Request
Foster Grandparent Program (FGP)	\$110,937,000	\$108,999,000	\$108,999,000	\$0	\$132,030,127
RSVP	\$59,685,000	\$58,642,000	\$58,642,000	\$0	\$72,243,648
Senior Companion Program (SCP)	\$46,964,000	\$46,144,000	\$46,144,000	\$0	\$57,117,909

Senior Corps Program	Administrative Adjustment (5.8%)	New Programs	Stipend Increase	New Initiatives	PNS
FGP	\$6,321,942	--	\$10,951,403	--	\$5,757,782
RSVP	\$3,401,236	\$1,800,000	--	\$5,000,000	\$3,400,412
SCP	\$2,676,352	--	\$5,554,080	--	\$2,743,477

SENIOR CORPS is a federally authorized and funded network of national service programs that provide older Americans with the opportunity to apply their life experiences to meeting community needs. Senior Corps is comprised of the Foster Grandparent Program, RSVP, and the Senior Companion Program, through which about 500,000 Americans age 55 and older use their skills and experience to cost-effectively address vital community needs. It has been stated that baby boomer and senior volunteers represent our Nation's single and fastest growing resource. During this unprecedented economic crisis facing our Nation, the number of baby boomer and senior volunteers should be greatly expanded and mobilized as solutions to the problems facing our local communities. NSCA's 2010 budget request will provide the opportunity for thousands more older adults to serve in their communities and enhance the lives of those most in need, including children with special needs, the frail and isolated elderly striving to maintain independence, and expanding the services of local non-profit agencies.

Foster Grandparent Program provides one-on-one attention to children and teens most at risk in schools, shelters, correctional facilities, early childhood centers and after-school programs. Through a caring, nurturing, mentoring role, Foster Grandparents provide assistance and encouragement to help improve reading skills, school attendance, behavior and the well-being of children in their care. Partnering with over 10,000 community organizations, 29,971 Foster Grandparents in 331 projects provide a cost-effective means to reach and support more than 280,000 at-risk children with special or exceptional needs annually who otherwise may not have the opportunity to receive individual assistance and attention from a caring adult. Foster Grandparents are 60 years of age and older with limited incomes, and serve weekly schedules ranging from 15-40 hours. They are provided with hourly stipends, mileage and meal reimbursements, so that they may volunteer at little or no personal cost to themselves.

RSVP connects volunteers 55 and older with service opportunities that impact positive change, improve quality of life and meet critical needs in their communities. RSVP volunteers help build capacity and improve sustainability in agencies and organizations where they serve. RSVP engages seniors in a wide array of community services including health, nutrition, human services, education, community and economic development, and public safety to nonprofit and community based organizations. In 2007, 428,500 RSVP volunteers contributed 79 million hours of service through 741 RSVP projects nationwide, and worked with more than 65,000 community organizations. RSVP offers flexible volunteer opportunities with commitments from a few hours a week to 40 hours a week. Volunteers do not receive monetary incentives or stipends.

Senior Companion Program provides assistance and friendship to frail individuals who are homebound and, generally, living alone. By taking care of simple chores, providing transportation to medical appointments, and offering contact with the outside world, Senior Companions often provide the essential services that enable frail citizens to remain in their homes. The program meets the growing need for cost effective long-term care for the aging by helping with activities of daily living, friendly visits and providing respite for primary caregivers. In 2007, 15,200 Senior Companions serving in 223 projects provided 12.2 million hours of service helping 62,000 frail, homebound clients. Senior Companions are 60 years of age and older with limited incomes, and serve weekly schedules ranging from 15-40 hours. They are provided with hourly stipends, mileage and meal reimbursements, so that they may volunteer at little or no personal cost to themselves.

The Senior Corps - Foster Grandparent Program, RSVP, and Senior Companion Program - has over 35 years of successful, performance measurement and has provided cost-effective services to Americans who need attention or a helping hand - saving Americans millions of dollars. For decades, the Senior Corps programs and older volunteers have been the cornerstone of national service and civic engagement. During difficult Federal budget times, senior volunteers are a stabilizing force in communities across our nation by providing the most cost-effective service to those in need. Now, as our communities are faced with increasing needs and shrinking resources, Senior Corps volunteers are a vital natural resource to help our communities meet the critical health and social challenges facing our Nation.

Through SENIOR CORPS, Foster Grandparent Program, RSVP, and Senior Companion Program volunteers provided 121 million hours of service during 2008. The 2008 dollar value of volunteer time was \$19.51 per hour. The total Senior Corps volunteer service value = \$2.4 billion.