

Celebrate Older Americans Month

Introduction

Each year, the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) celebrates Older Americans Month. Older Americans Month (OAM) is a terrific opportunity for SCSEP grantees to recognize the contributions of their participants and all older adults in their community. In program year 2017, almost 35,000 SCSEP participants provided over thirty million community service hours to communities across the nation. During that time period, SCSEP also transitioned over 4,000 participants into employment.

Last year, to celebrate OAM and SCSEP's support for older adults in the United States, we highlighted our SCSEP participant's success stories on our Community of Practice Website. Below are some of the success stories featured during OAM in 2018.

SCSEP Success Stories

Betty in Waco, Texas

Betty of Waco, Texas is well on her way to a new "second-act career" as a Certified Nurse's Assistant (CNA)—thanks to the support she's receiving from the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP). Through work experience at our local community partner Friends for Life, she's gaining valuable skills providing services and support to people with disabilities. She's also taking classes at McLennan Community College to earn her CNA license—with a job waiting for her when she graduates.



Jackie in Mountain Home, Idaho

Keeping History Alive in Idaho!



Here's SCSEP participant Jackie waiting to feed the "souls" of those attending the Mountain Home Historical Museum's Annual Cemetery Tour. Every year, with the help of local high school drama students, the town's history comes alive, reenacting stories of some of its more famous citizens buried at the cemetery.



Ms. Ethel in Brewton, Alabama

Ms. Ethel originally enrolled in SCSEP in 2016 and trained at the Escambia County Alabama Health Department as a receptionist. After recovering from an illness that left her partially disabled, Ms. Gary returned to SCSEP for help with finding employment. After returning, she completed SCSEP assignments at agencies to improve and update her office skills. The SCSEP staff, in partnership with the Alabama Career Center (AJC), helped her prepare for interviews, updated her resume and provided job readiness training and finally, Ms. Gary was hired by a home care service agency for seniors.



Wayne in Montana

A proud veteran and enrolled member of the Crow Tribe, Wayne is seen here waiting to participate in a flag ceremony at the Crow Summer Fair. While engaging in many similar activities in his community of Crow Agency, Montana, he is also receiving training through community service in building maintenance at a local apartment complex for Crow veterans through the Senior Community Service Employment Training Program (SCSEP).



Ben in Waco, Texas

Talk about engaging in his community—Ben Rushin has a new job as a custodian at McLennan Community College in Waco, Texas. The 62-year-old is thrilled with his work and proud to be keeping the premises safe and clean for the students and faculty. A short time ago, he was desperate to find a job—with no place to live and absolutely no confidence! The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) connected him with janitorial training right on campus, while he also earned certification. When the position opened up—he was the perfect choice!

“I’ve got my life back on track!” Ben Rushin SCSEP Participant

Thank you to all our grantees
who shared your stories and successes with us!

