



YVEDDI

YADKIN VALLEY ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.

VOLUME 1

YVEDDI

Senior Services

Mission Statement

To improve and maintain independent wellness for the senior community through advocacy, nutrition, volunteerism and vigorous programming to promote healthy minds, bodies and spirits.



R.S.V.P.

Phone (336) 415-4247

www.yveddi.com

the volunteer reporter

A YVEDDI R.S.V.P. Newsletter Publication for Volunteers

Wow! I want to start by saying thank you for being a part of YVEDDI RSVP. You may not realize what all you do for our surrounding community. This is exactly why it is important for us to put together the 1st annual YVEDDI RSVP newsletter highlighting the many activities volunteers are involved in, as well as additional needs that our volunteer sites may have.

YVEDDI RSVP serves both Surry and Yadkin counties. There are 22 total volunteer sites currently using RSVP volunteers in our area. This year there were **over 130** active RSVP volunteers serving in our local community, meaning volunteer hours were logged and recorded by RSVP. Over **8,000** total hours of volunteering were logged this past fiscal year.

As a branch of AmeriCorps Seniors, RSVP is a federal grant program and maintains its funding by your volunteer hours. This helps keep federal funds coming to our area and ensures continued service for our community. The main focus area for YVEDDI RSVP is Healthy Futures with hunger being a nationwide problem that affects every community. In America, 1 in 8 people face hunger every day. In northwest North Carolina, 1 in 5 children go without enough food to thrive. In conjunction with other community priorities, this is how RSVP is making an impact in our area.

This year YVEDDI RSVP will recognize 2 volunteers at the YVEDDI Board Meeting on April 28th. These volunteers have logged the most hours for their county. Surry County's volunteer is Sue Thomas with over 500 hours volunteering at Grace's Closet, and Yadkin County's volunteer is Linda Blevins, who served at the Yadkin County Senior Center as an Urban League worker and has continued her service on a volunteer basis, logging over 320 hours since October.

The specific site information in this newsletter was provided by station managers to show the impact RSVP has had on Surry and Yadkin counties.



YVEDDI Senior Centers and Nutrition Sites

YVEDDI administers 5 nutrition sites and senior centers in Surry and Yadkin counties: Mt. Airy, Pilot Mtn., East Bend, Jonesville (YVSC), and Yadkinville (YCSC). These sites have been serving clients throughout the pandemic with meal deliveries on a weekly basis. **There is a great need for more volunteer drivers for Meals on Wheels** in order for these sites to return to daily meal deliveries for homebound clients. These nutrition sites have served 46,245 meals to 330 homebound clients, as well as 27,184 meals to 156 congregate clients across our community with the help of RSVP volunteers.

The senior centers have continued providing services in Surry and Yadkin counties both in person and virtually. Volunteers have helped with bingo, bowling, dance, art, and yoga, etc.



YVEDDI Grace's Closet

Last year, **more than 28,000** items were distributed to **5,000 Individuals** in our community. Programs like this help clothe men, women, and children in the surrounding area.

Lyn's Medical Loan Closet

Since it's inception in 2018, Lyn's has served over **2,000** individuals with necessary medical supplies/equipment. This past year, nearly **500** individuals have been served with the help of 28 volunteers.

American Red Cross: 5,292 units of blood were collected throughout Surry and Yadkin counties with the help of RSVP volunteers. This will help save more than **15,000 lives**.

The American Red Cross is more than just blood donations. In our area, volunteers assisted with **25 emergency events** representing **68 individuals** assisted.

Piney Grove Baptist Church (Helping Hands Food Ministry): This ministry has had the opportunity to provide **30 individuals** with groceries having most referrals come through the Surry County School System.

Staples Food Pantry (Trinity Episcopal Church): Serving clients every Thursday morning, Staples Food Pantry has served **371 families** this year, representing **783 individuals** with **18,577 lbs** of food.

Surry Baptist Association: Over **13,500** newsletters were sent out over the past year with the help of RSVP volunteers. These volunteers get together once a month to help fold & prepare SBA newsletters.

Mount Airy Museum of Regional History: Volunteers contribute in many ways at the museum. They have served **12,657** recorded guests and visitors in the past year (continuing to keep the rich culture of our area alive).

Yokefellow Ministry (Food Pantry): **New Volunteer Station!!!** RSVP has recently partnered with Yokefellow to provide local families and individuals with food and other assistance. The volunteer base here has been nearly cut in half due in part to Covid. There is a great need for additional volunteers. Please call if you would like to be part of this amazing team and ministry.

Mountain Valley Hospice

There are many volunteer opportunities available at hospice. One **new opportunity** is birthday cake deliveries. If you would like to volunteer here, there is no experience needed and volunteer training is provided.

Yadkin Christian Ministries: The mission at YCM is helping people in times of need by providing food and limited assistance with medicine in obedience to the word of Jesus in Matthew 25:40, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine you did for me." In Yadkin County 14.3% of our residents live with food insecurity. Through YCM centers, about **5,000 clients** are served annually, this represents 12,000-15,000 total household members. All this work is accomplished by 150 volunteers at the Yadkinville and East Bend Ministry Centers.

There are many ways to volunteer at YCM including volunteers who work at the ministry centers to service clients and prepare grocery orders, some who shop locally, some who stock shelves, and some who drive a truck to pick up food at the Food Bank. Our volunteers choose the job that is right for them.

Foothills Food Pantry: Foothills Food Pantry would like to say a special thanks to Faye Abeyta and Kathleen Radatz who have served FFP approximately 10 years or more.

FFP's mission is to provide groceries for families in need throughout Surry County, as well as provide items used to improve the circumstances they encounter. This is done with respect and care for the clients served. In 2021, FFP helped 1,939 families, 3,669 individuals, and distributed 290,443 lbs. of food and personal items.

Due to Covid, we are still adapting to safer ways to serve. FFP has been blessed with very little sickness. Trusting and Believing that God has the whole world in His hands, FFP is thankful to be able to help families in our community believe this as well.

FFP also deeply mourns the passing of an amazing volunteer. John Natzle relocated to Surry County from California and became a great asset to FFP. He was a dedicated volunteer here for 3 years. We miss you, friend. Please remember this family in your prayers!

Mount Airy Public Library: The Friends of the Library held 6 book sales this past year. (This provided **\$5,703** in support of the library.)

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) has continued to be in full swing, serving both at the library and the Surry County Senior Center with **over 150** individuals served.

April is National Volunteer Month

Please Join us for a Volunteer Appreciation Celebration to honor and recognize YVEDDI RSVP Volunteers

Wednesday, April 20, 2022

Jones Family Resource Center 10 - 11 AM

Red Cross Chapter Building 11:30 - Noon

Foothills Food Pantry 12:30 - 1 PM

Thursday, April 21, 2022

Staples Food Pantry (Trinity) 9:30 - 10 AM

Armfield Civic Center 11:30—Noon

Friday, April 22, 2022

Jonesville Senior Center 10 - 10:30 AM

Yadkinville Senior Center 11 - 11:30 AM

Yadkin Christian Ministries 11:40 AM- 12:05 PM

East Bend Senior Center 12:30 - 1 PM



Volunteer Opportunities Available
Call YVEDDI R.S.V.P.
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