

# RSVP Voluntimes

August 2022

## Message from your RSVP Team

With the new fiscal year comes a few new changes for the RSVP office. Over the past few months we have welcomed two new employees to the RSVP team.

Isaiah Valenzuela joined the team in May as the new RSVP Office Assistant. Isaiah previously worked at the United States Specialty Sports Association as a Site Director. Isaiah comes to us with a wide range of experience and will be a tremendous help to the RSVP Volunteers when it comes to entering volunteer hours and questions on volunteer opportunities.

Cristina Romero-Baca joined the RSVP team in July as the new RSVP Supervisor. Cristina previously worked in the Department of Senior Affairs Nutrition & Transportation Division where she held the position of Meal Site Supervisor. Per Cristina, "I am excited to join such a special team and work with the amazing volunteers who truly make a difference in our community. We cannot do what we do without the selfless acts of these wonderful seniors. I look forward to meeting with and getting to know the incredible RSVP volunteers in the coming months!"

As we move forward in the new fiscal year, our team aims to better communicate with you, the RSVP volunteers. Please visit page 3 for a few program notices. Should you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact the RSVP office at 505-767-5225.

We truly couldn't do what we do without you. Thank you to each and every one of you for the great work you do around our community! Until we see you again, be well and stay safe.

-- Cristina, Isaiah, and Josie

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### RSVP Staff

Cristina Romero-Baca  
RSVP Supervisor

Isaiah Valenzuela  
Office Assistant

Josie Orduna  
Intake & Screening Specialist

### RSVP Office

131 Monroe NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87108  
505-767-5225

### Office Hours

M-F: 8a-5p

## Note From the Director

Dear Members,

As we continue to be responsive to the needs and interests of our community, we are returning to full-length activities catalog this month. As we have seen an increase in member participation in recent months, it serves as a reminder of how critical our programs are. One of our priorities is creating opportunities to gain new skills, engage and socialize as way of adding joy and fun to our lives. It is our goal that as you read the recent activities catalog, you'll find events and programs that motivate you and match your interests.

We are excited to pave the path for happy and healthier aging in our community. Members can pick up a copy of the updated catalog in all senior, multigenerational and fitness centers. You also can find them in your local library, and other various business and community partner locations throughout Albuquerque or find it in the Sunday Journal on August 7, 2022. We welcome you to join any of our upcoming activities!

As always, the department of Senior Affairs is here for you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly. I also invite you to join us at Coffee with Constituents at Los Volcanes Senior Center on August 10, 2022 beginning at 9:30 where we offer an opportunity to visit about concerns, welcome your feedback or we are always happy to hear your compliments! I hope you will join us, as we always look forward to visiting with you.

Sincerely,

Anna Sanchez, Director  
Department of Senior Affairs



## Upcoming Events

- 08/08: New volunteer orientation & web training - Highland Senior Center
- 08/22: New volunteer orientation & web training - Highland Senior Center
- 08/25: RSVP Advisory Council - Highland Senior Center
- 09/05: RSVP Office Closed - Labor Day.
- 09/07-09/08: 44th Annual Conference on Aging
- 09/12: Seniors' Celebration Day & Healthy Living Day at the State Fair

## Meet your RSVP Team



Cristina Romero-Baca, RSVP Supervisor

- Favorite Color: Purple
- Favorite Food: Italian
- Favorite Movie: Casablanca, The Sandlot
- Favorite Music: Motown, 90's Music

Isaiah Valenzuela, RSVP Office Assistant

- Favorite Color: Blue
- Favorite Food: New Mexican
- Favorite Movie: Lord of the Rings
- Favorite Music: Calvin Harris, The Beatles

Josie Orduna, RSVP Intake & Screening Specialist

- Favorite Color: Purple & Blue
- Favorite Food: Tacos
- Favorite TV Show: Queen of the South
- Favorite Music: Phil Collins, Eagles

### Kudos Corner

A special shout out to Rita Romero for all of her help at the Barelmas Senior Center, North Valley Senior Center and Senior Affairs Information & Assistance. We appreciate you!



### Volunteer Hours

Due to RSVP reporting requirements, the volunteer hours submission deadline has changed. You will now have to report your hours within a 14 day period. For example, if you volunteer on August 1st you have until August 15th to submit your hours via the RSVP Web Assistant. If you need assistance with entering your hours contact the RSVP office at 505-767-5225.

### RSVP Web Assistant

We have received several calls regarding issues concerning accessing the Web Assistant site. Please note that the correct web address for this site is [www.cabq.gov/rsvp](http://www.cabq.gov/rsvp). If you run into an issue with logging into the system call the RSVP office.

## Volunteer Spotlight - Stuart Garber



Stuart Garber is extraordinary example of what it means to put others first.

Mr. Garber has been with the RSVP program for nine months and he has already made a lasting impact and impression on the Albuquerque Senior Community. Stuart has been a big help in the RSVP office and primarily volunteers as a driver for Los Volcanes Senior Center, Highland Senior Center and Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center. He is also a safe driver instructor for the AARP Defensive Driver Course.

Stuart always has a smile on his face and brings a positive attitude wherever he may be. We want to recognize his efforts and say big THANK YOU!

This is what Stuart has to say about volunteering: " Volunteering gives you the opportunity to give back. It allows you the chance to utilize all of the energy, knowledge and talent that you've accumulated and lets you bring it out and share it with the community. We really want to emphasize the positives of aging & RSVP gives me an outlet to do that. Take a leap and go for it"

\*\*If you have a nomination for the Volunteer Spotlight please contact Isaiah at 505-767-5225.



### August Birthdays

Rosemary Davidson - 8/2  
Charles Garner - 8/4  
Mary Garcia - 8/5  
Ann Shields - 8/6  
Joe Vigil - 8/7  
Robert Martinez - 8/9  
Allen Spalt - 8/13  
Michael Chavez - 8/15  
Michael Hadaway - 8/15  
Victor Simpson - 8/15

Yvonne Spicer-Mangrum - 8/15  
William Hammetter - 8/17  
Carol Ann Iversen - 8/20  
Gloria Borton - 8/21  
Gloria Collins - 8/22  
Erna Rothe - 8/22  
Bernard Urbassik - 8/24  
Robert Walling - 8/24  
David Wimsatt - 8/25  
Lupe Reynoso - 8/26

Edward Sullivan - 8/26  
Arlando Keith - 8/27  
Jean Spalt - 8/27  
Marilyn Stock - 8/27  
Louisa Martinez - 8/28  
Sunita Moonka - 8/28  
Geri Saunders - 8/28  
Guy Dahms - 8/29  
Viola Hurtado - 8/29  
Michael Gillotti - 8/30





## Volunteer Opportunities

### **08/09: I&A Bag Stuffing**

The Department of Senior Affairs Information & Assistance Division needs assistance with stuffing 300 bags. Please contact Ian at 505-767-5241 for more information.

### **Bear Canyon Field Trip**

#### **Drivers**

Bear Canyon is looking for drivers for their field trips. If you are interested please contact Isaiah at 505-767-5225.

### **Catholic Charities**

Assist in transporting seniors to limited destinations. Please note, all driver must drive their own vehicle.

### **Meals on Wheels**

Meals on Wheels is looking for meal delivery drivers Monday-Friday 10:00 am to 1:30 pm. Each Driver is assigned their own route. Please note all drivers must use their own vehicle.

### **Presbyterian Hospital**

Presbyterian Hospital is looking for volunteers to perform various tasks. If you are interested in volunteering for Presbyterian contact the RSVP office at 505-767-5225.

### **Roadrunner Food Bank**

Mobile Food Distributions: Assist in distributing food boxes. Prepare Food Boxes: Assist in sorting, repacking and relabeling food inside warehouse. Volunteers must be able to stand for a full 2-hour shift and lift at least 25+ pounds.

### **Ronald McDonald House**

#### **Charities**

Sew/Crochet for Donations: Volunteers may sew/crochet or donate old clothing items for volunteer time.

### **Senior Affairs Satellite Meal Sites**

Volunteers are wanted to assist with activities and meal service at various of the Senior Affairs satellite meal sites. For more information contact Cristina at 505-767-5228.

### **Senior Affairs Sports & Fitness**

Assist with fitness classes at Los Volcanes Fitness Center or North Domingo Baca Sports & Fitness.

### **Special Projects**

SCP and RSVP have special projects throughout the year. If you would like to be added to the special projects volunteer list, please contact Isaiah at 505-767-5225.

### **Senior Affairs Senior & Multigenerational Centers**

The Department of Senior Affairs is in need of volunteers to assist with various duties at their Senior and Multigenerational Centers. The Senior Affairs locations are:

- Barelas Senior Center
- Bear Canyon Senior Center
- Highland Senior Center
- Los Volcanes Senior Center
- Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center
- North Domingo Baca Multigenerational Center
- North Valley Senior Center
- Palo Duro Senior Center

### **University Hospital**

The University Hospital needs a greeter at the door to greet patients and escort them to their appointments.

### **VA Medical Center**

Greet guests, provide informational brochures and maps to individuals; provide directions to specific hospital locations/areas, answer phones.

**\*\*To find out about all RSVP volunteer opportunities call the RSVP office at 505-767-5225 or visit [cabq.gov/rsvp](http://cabq.gov/rsvp).**

## The RSVP Advisory Council Needs You!

Council members are needed to promote and recruit for senior volunteer opportunities, evaluate program effectiveness, and assist with volunteer recognition event planning. Council members serve two-year terms. The council meets once a month at the Highland Senior Center. Call 505-767-5225 for more information.



**AmeriCorps  
Seniors**

### RSVP Advisory Council Members Needed

**RSVP  
(Retired & Senior Volunteer Program)**

RSVP volunteers are assigned to senior centers, city programs, or other partnering nonprofit organizations.

**RSVP Advisory Council**

Council members are needed to promote and recruit for senior volunteer opportunities, evaluate program effectiveness, and assist with volunteer recognition event planning. Council members serve two-year terms. The council meets once a month at the Highland Senior Center.

**RSVP  
Advisory Council Member  
Responsibilities**

- 1** Gain clear understanding of RSVP volunteer program and assist in short and long term council and RSVP program planning.
- 2** Participate in annual review of Advisory Council and RSVP work.
- 3** Visit at least one volunteer site annually.
- 4** Become knowledgeable of RSVP project's service impact within the community.
- 5** Create positive relationships with council members and other community stakeholders.

Interested in being a part of this fulfilling and meaningful opportunity?

**Call 505-767-5225  
for more information.**





## Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico Care Van Events

Senior Affairs and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Mexico are partnering to bring a no-cost mobile van health event featuring health screenings from 9am-12pm and Medicare 101 education from 10-11am at senior and multigenerational centers. Transportation will be provided. Visit with front desk staff for more information or to sign up and reserve your space today.

Event Dates:

North Domingo Baca Multigenerational Center | Sept 28

Highland Senior Center | Oct 7

Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center | Oct 20

Los Volcanes Senior Center | Oct 28

