

JCLC April 2023 Newsletter



Johnson County Livable Community Information for Successful Aging

> *the primary information resource for Seniors* <

www.livablecommunity.org



National Volunteer Week

By Michelle McGraw, 55+ RSVP Director

The Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is the largest older adult volunteer program in the nation through AmeriCorp Seniors. RSVP recruits, trains, and places adults aged 55 or better in a host of community-based human service agencies. Service opportunities are as diverse as the communities in which volunteers serve and include areas such as health promotion and wellness; fraud education, transportation, and home-delivered meals as well

as cross-generational efforts in tutoring and mentoring children through the Reading Buddies and Pen Pal programs. RSVP volunteers choose how, where, and when they want to serve, with commitments ranging from a few hours to 40 hours per week.

The Medical Transportation is one of our busiest programs. Oftentimes, a client might need a ride to their medical appointments. This is due to no longer having the ability to drive themselves, or no financial means to pay for transportation services. For whatever their reason is, the message is clear to us that there is a strong need for more volunteer drivers to continue this great service to the community! Last year, volunteers drove over 20,000 miles taking people to their appointments. The volunteers receive supplemental insurance and mileage reimbursement stipends for their services. The best benefit is the many friendships the volunteers have made throughout their trips. One driver shared, "I feel so good after returning a client home from their appointments because I know they are being cared for."



"Just to say thanks for all you've done in getting many rides I've needed. I imagine it's challenging finding drivers on some days and I truly appreciate all they provide." ~From a client

There truly is something for everyone! Let us find something meaningful for you to share your talents and time while making a difference in your community! For more information, give us a call at 319-338-7823.

You may also visit our website at **[55+ RSVP Initiative | United Way of Johnson & Washington](http://55+RSVPInitiative.org)**

unitedwayjwc.org

The Iowa Elderly and Disabled Property Tax Credit

by: Scott Finlayson, Johnson County Treasurer

The State of Iowa has established a property tax credit for elderly and disabled, under Iowa Code Chapter 425. This property tax credit is

administered by the Iowa Department of Revenue. The amount of credit per household is variable based upon income. To determine a household's credit amount, it is suggested to work through the annual credit application. The credit must be applied for annually, and forms are produced by the Iowa Department of Revenue and available at <https://tax.iowa.gov/forms>. The form is called the "Iowa Property Tax Credit Claim form 54-001"; make certain you filter for the year for which you are applying. Paper copies of the Iowa Property Tax Credit Claim form are available at the Johnson County Treasurer's Office, which may be mailed or emailed to you upon request. The Johnson County Treasurer's phone number is 319.356.6087.



Annual applications for oncoming tax years are due before June, 1, 2023, and should be returned to the Treasurer's Office before that date. If in the judgment of the County Treasurer good cause exists, then the County Treasurer may extend the time for filing a claim for the credit through September 30 of the same calendar year. In the case of sickness, absence or other disability of the claimant or if, in the judgment of the Director of Revenue or the Director of Human Services, as applicable, good cause exists and the claimant requests an extension, the Director of Human Services may extend the time for filing a claim for reimbursement and the Director of Revenue may extend the time for filling a claim for credit. However, any further time granted shall not extend beyond December 31 of the year following the year in which the claim was required to be filed.

Johnson County Housing Rehab or Emergency Home Repair

The Johnson County Board of Supervisors is happy to announce that they have allocated funds from the American Rescue Plan Act! The Johnson County Housing Rehab or Emergency Home Repair Grant will assist in home rehabilitation and repair projects to improve residents living conditions. See the flyer below for additional information.

Applications must either be mailed to ECICOG at 700 16th St NE # 301 Cedar Rapids, IA 52402, or submitted through email.

For more information or to apply to the program, please contact Deanna Robinson at deanna.robinson@ecicog.org or by calling 319-289-0060.

Click [here](#) to view the program flyer and information in Spanish.

JOHNSON COUNTY HOUSING REHAB OR EMERGENCY HOME REPAIR GRANT

The Johnson County Board of Supervisors has allocated American Rescue Plan Act funding for home rehabilitation and repair projects and is accepting applications from homeowners / mobile homeowners who are interested in participating. Participating homeowners may qualify for up to \$6,000 or \$12,000 to make improvements to their homes.

Qualifying Criteria:

- Property must be located in Johnson County, outside the city limits of Iowa City.
- Applicants must own, or be purchasing, the property or mobile home.
- Applicant must be current on property taxes.
- Applicant must meet income requirement for household size.
- Applicant must be willing and able to occupy the home as their primary residence for 3 years.
- Property cannot be in foreclosure.
- Property value cannot exceed \$250,000.

Income Limits

Income limits vary by household size and range from \$38,150 for one person to \$54,500 for a household of four.

Eligible Repairs

The program objective is to help keep people in their homes by providing low-income homeowners, including mobile homeowners, assistance with home repairs and modifications that allow residents to age in place, improve living conditions, or make the home more energy efficient, particularly in households with older adults, those with chronic health conditions, and young children. Examples include:

- Roofing and gutter repairs.
- Replacement of doors and windows.
- Replacement of essential appliances (stove, refrigerator, water heater).
- Home modifications for aging in place such as grab bars or walk-in showers.
- Porch, stair, and deck repairs to address deterioration.
- Other repairs that are necessary to address health and safety as determined by program inspector.

Applications must be complete to be accepted and will be processed on a first-come, first-qualified basis. Applications must be mailed to ECICOG or submitted through email.

For more information or to apply to the program, contact Deanna Robinson at ECICOG at deanna.robinson@ecicog.org or 319-289-0060.



Lawn Care Assistance

UnityPoint AbbeHealth-Aging Services has openings for low-income older adults in need of lawn mowing assistance. Contact Cara Stolba at 319-398-3647 or by email at cara.stolba@unitypoint.org for more information about the program.



Caregiver 101 Medicaid Elderly Waiver

Heritage Area Agency on Aging is excited to share that they will be hosting Caregiver 101 Medicaid Elderly Waiver this Spring! This program will take place on Monday, June 5th from 10-11:30AM. See the flyer below for additional information.



Area Agency on Aging presents:

Caregiver 101

MEDICAID ELDERLY WAIVER

Get the services and support your loved one deserves in the comfort of home. Attend via Zoom or at a viewing site to learn about the Medicaid Elderly Waiver application process, program requirements and types of care provided.



IOWA CITY

Iowa City Senior Center
Room 302
28 S. Linn St

MONTICELLO

Wayne Zion Lutheran Church
15531 Co. Rd E17

VINTON

Virginia Gay Hospital
Clinic Conference Room
502 N. 9th Ave

WASHINGTON

Immanuel Lutheran Church
1226 E. Washington St

ZOOM INFO

Call: 312-626-6799
Meeting ID: 963 1748 5666
Link at www.HeritageAAA.org

Join us at a viewing site for 1-on-1 consultations
with Heritage staff after a virtual program by the
Iowa Dept. of Health and Human Services

Monday, June 5
10 – 11:30 a.m.

New Policy Board Member

The Johnson County Livable Community Policy Board is happy to welcome new member John Kalohn.

John recently retired from the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) after completing over 14 years of service. In his last position he served as Senior Advisor and /FINRA Fellow to the Credentialing, Registration, Education, and Disclosure department. Prior to this he was the Vice President of the Testing and Continuing Education department and was responsible for leading FINRA's programs for licensing/registration and continuing education of stock brokers, traders,