

LETTER OF INTENT TO APPLY FOR PROJECT GRANT
Under Title III of the Older Americans Act
Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027

Summary Sheet

Applicant Agency: HRDC, District IX
Mailing/Street Address: 32 South Tracy
City, State, Zip: Bozeman, MT 59715
Phone: 406-587-4486

Compliance Director: Hannah Altman
Transportation Director: Talia Seltzer
E-Mail: compliance@thehrdc.org;
tseltzer@thehrdc.org

Type of Organization: City County Private Non-Profit Other (specify):

Geographic area to be served: Gallatin and Park Counties

List services to be provided:	Estimated # of unduplicated persons to be served during project period for each services type:	Estimated # of unduplicated units of service during project period for each listed service type:
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Homemaker Program	Gallatin County	Units of service
Homemaker – Personal Care	20	1168 hours
Respite Services	9	255 hours
Homemaker Program	Park County	
Homemaker – Personal Care	25	926 hours
Respite Services	8	459 hours
Galavan	Gallatin County	
Senior Transit Services	122	4981 rides
RSVP	Gallatin and Park Counties	
Volunteer Opportunities	150	22,000 hours
SHIP/I&A	Gallatin and Park Counties	
	347	628 units of service
Senior Reach	Gallatin and Park Counties	
	105	385 units of service

Applicant agrees that the project described in this Letter of Intent will be operational July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 and certifies that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information in this application is true and correct and the attached conditions will be complied with if the grant is awarded.

Heather Grenier

Type or print person authorized to sign



Signature

President/CEO

Title

3-26-26

Date

Linda Young

Type or print person authorized to sign



Signature

Board Chair

Title

3-26-26

Date

**LETTER OF INTENT TO APPLY FOR PROJECT GRANT
Under Title III of the Older Americans Act
Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027**

Project Description Sheet

1. Service or Project Name: RSVP of Southwest Montana

2. Provide a description of how your program will spend the Title III funding.

Title III funding supports 150 senior volunteers contributing 22,000 hours at 30 local organizations.

RSVP transforms the time, skills and lived experience of older adults into meaningful, measurable community impact. Through intentional volunteer coordination, including recruitment, placement, training and ongoing support, RSVP ensures that volunteers age 55+ are matched with roles where they can reliably and effectively serve, from supporting food security to strengthening community connections for vulnerable populations. This structure not only expands service capacity across programs and partners but also ensures quality, consistency and dignity in service delivery. At the same time, RSVP fosters purpose, social connection and well being for older adults creating a dual impact for both volunteers and the broader community.

3. Statement of how your project will coordinate services with other community programs. (Include a description of referral systems.)

Community partnerships have been built since the RSVP program began in 1972. Workstations including non-profit, educational, veteran, community and faith-based organizations are selected on the basis of their need and their ability to support conditions outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding. RSVP supports senior volunteers contributing to local non-profit, healthcare and government organizations.

In meeting those needs, RSVP concentrates volunteer placement in four focus areas. 1) Capacity Building assists organizations in increasing their operational effectiveness; 2) Economic Opportunity addresses unmet needs of economically disadvantaged individuals, including financial literacy, affordable housing, and employment related assistance; 3) Healthy Futures addresses unmet health needs, including access to health care, increasing physical activity and improving nutrition, and increasing seniors' ability to remain in their own homes; and 4) Other Community Priorities are determined by those qualified organizations.

Last year RSVP volunteers served in the following focus areas:

1. Capacity Building – 57 volunteers served 10,107 hours at 6 organizations
2. Economic Opportunity – 1 volunteer served 302 hours at 1 organization
3. Healthy Futures -
 - i. Access to Care – 3 volunteers served 222 hours at 2 organizations
 - ii. Aging in Place – 46 volunteers served 4817 hours at 7 organizations
 - iii. Nutrition and Food – 44 volunteers served 3310 hours at 5 organizations
4. Other Community Priorities – 30 volunteers served 2679 hours at 14 organizations

In addition to the workstations, RSVP collaborates with business partners, donors, city and county governments, other Senior Corps programs, and groups that promote senior issues and the spirit of volunteerism. RSVP offices are located in the Bozeman Senior Center, Market Place (Bozeman) and HRDC Office (Livingston) which allows for ongoing communication with seniors and different programs.

4. Statement of how your project will fulfill the mission of the Older Americans Act. (Include a description of criteria for selection of clients, outreach and targeting activities and how the project fulfills the objectives of the Older Americans Act.)

RSVP focuses on meeting the needs of both the volunteers and community organizations. The only eligibility requirement for volunteers is being 55 or older. A community organization needs to be a public agency, private non-profit or a proprietary health care agency and must accept responsibility for volunteer assignment and supervision of RSVP volunteers as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding. The community needs are determined by the needs of the workstations seeking volunteers as well as through a Community Needs Assessment conducted by HRDC.

RSVP focuses outreach and builds public awareness through its volunteers, workstations, various media (Social media, website: thehrdc.org), participation in local health fairs, and team member involvement in community committees.

RSVP supports the goals of the Older Americans Act by empowering seniors to live meaningful, independent, and dignified lives in their own homes and communities for as long as possible. Studies have shown that volunteering benefits the health and well-being of volunteers. However, older adults with low incomes and limited education—who are already at risk for poor health outcomes—often face barriers that prevent them from participating. As a result, these individuals may miss out on the positive effects of volunteering, while communities lose the valuable contributions they could make. Programs like RSVP play a vital role in promoting civic engagement by providing access, structure, and financial support. This enables at-risk individuals aged 55 and older to lead happier, healthier lives while making a meaningful impact in their communities.

Social connection is a critical and often overlooked health support. Social isolation is linked to higher risk of: dementia, depression, heart disease, and premature death. Volunteer programs provide: wellness checks and support, social connection and purpose, and stronger community ties. Social connection results in improved mental and physical health and stronger community stability.

Key Metrics – RSVP (24-25)

- 1. How many clients are you serving?** 157 volunteers and 32 organizations;
- 2. Who are they?** Volunteers are individuals 55 and older; organizations must be non-profit, government, or healthcare;
- 3. What services do you give them?** 157 volunteers contributed 21,437 hours to 29 organizations
- 4. What does it cost?** \$127,895
- 5. What does it cost per service delivered?** \$127,895 divided by 21,437 volunteer hours = \$5.97 per volunteer hour of service
- 6. What happens to the clients as a result of the service?** *Volunteers* report that being a volunteer: adds purpose to my life; helps me feel like I make a difference; keeps me engaged socially and helps me stay active. *Organizations* report using RSVP volunteers: allows more time for team members to accomplish other tasks; better service for clients; and capability to accomplish the organization's goals
- 7. What does it cost per outcome?** \$127,895/157 volunteers = \$815/per volunteer/per year

Volunteer Story:

Although Peggy describes herself as quiet and reserved, her passion shines when she talks about HRDC's Handcrafters, a volunteer group within our RSVP program. Handcrafters brings seniors together to knit, sew, quilt, and create handcrafted items sold throughout the community—while building

something just as meaningful: friendship. Members share skills, stories, and life experiences, forming a close-knit (pun intended), supportive community.

Peggy discovered Handcrafters in 2009 after meeting Dorothy, the group's then-leader, while shopping for fabric at the Gallatin Valley Mall. Invited to stop by, Peggy joined the following week and instantly knew she'd found her people. Since then, she has contributed 5,704 volunteer hours, completed 17 queen-size quilts, and countless other items. Her eye for detail and organization naturally led her into a leadership role.

5. **If extra funding was available, what would you do to increase services and how would you plan to spend the money?**
Additional funds would be used to increase hours for part-time coordinators.
6. **Please provide letters of support from other local community-based and/or institutional programs, agencies or organizations involved with older adults.**
See attached letters of support
7. **List wage range of all employees funded in full or in part by this contract: \$25.00- \$69.00**
8. **Project unit cost: *Unit of Service Cost***
\$127,895/157 volunteers = \$815/per volunteer/year
\$127,895 divided by 21,437 volunteer hours = \$5.97 per volunteer hour of service
9. **Is this project covered by liability insurance? Yes**
How much? \$5,000,000 (General) \$3,000,000 (Professional Liability)
10. **How many years has this project received Title III funding: 19 years**

Please provide a detailed estimated budget for this Title III service for the fiscal year 2026-2027 as follows (list appropriate estimated resources):

RSVP

Expenses	4/1/26-3/31/27	Resources	4/1/26-3/31/27
Personnel and fringe	\$96,954.00	Area IV Funds	\$5000.00
Admin	\$25,925.00	Other: CNCS	\$86,161.00
Office Supplies	\$1732.00	In Kind (City of Bozeman)	\$11,985.00
In Kind (Space)	\$11,985.00	Other: Local Donations	\$35,500.00
Communications	\$2000.00	Other: Gallatin County	\$11,000.00
Travel/Training	\$2750.00		
Office Space	\$2500.00		
Other:	\$550.00		
Volunteer Insurance	\$1400.00		
Volunteer Travel	\$50.00		
Volunteer Meals	\$50.00		
Volunteer Recognition	\$3750.00		
TOTAL	\$149,646.00	TOTAL	\$149,646.00



92 E Cameron Ave
Belgrade, MT 59714
406-388-4711
belgradeseniorcenter@gmail.com

February 3, 2026

John Gorton
Area IV Agency on Aging
PO Box 721
Helena, MT 59624

Dear John,

I am pleased to write this letter in strong support of RSVP, a program of HRDC, and its request for continued funding through Area IV.

RSVP plays a vital role in helping older adults remain active, engaged, and connected by matching seniors with meaningful volunteer opportunities in their communities. Through RSVP, older adults are able to share their skills, experience, and time in ways that benefit both the individuals they serve and the volunteers themselves. This program not only strengthens our community organizations, but also supports healthy aging by promoting purpose, social connection, and continued civic involvement.

From our perspective, RSVP is an invaluable partner in serving older adults. Volunteers connected through RSVP make a real and measurable difference, helping to meet critical community needs while also enhancing the well-being of the seniors who volunteer. The sense of purpose and connection that RSVP fosters is essential in reducing isolation and supporting the overall physical, emotional, and mental health of older adults.

Continued Area IV funding is crucial to ensure that RSVP can maintain and expand these important services. Ongoing support will allow RSVP to continue recruiting, training, and supporting volunteers, while strengthening partnerships that benefit seniors and the broader community.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued commitment to supporting programs that promote healthy, engaged aging.

Lisa Beedy
Center Manager
Belgrade Senior Center

Bozeman Senior Social Center

"Focusing on the opportunities of positive aging"

January 28, 2026

John Gorton

Area IV Agency on Aging

PO Box 1717

Helena, MT 59624

Dear John,

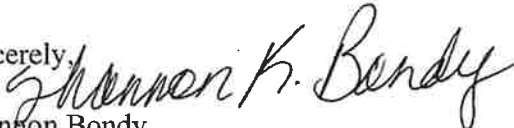
I am writing to express my strong support for the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) and the vital role it plays in strengthening our communities. RSVP provides meaningful opportunities for older adults to contribute their time, skills, and experience in service to others, while also promoting purpose, connection, and lifelong engagement.

Through RSVP, senior volunteers make an extraordinary impact by supporting schools, nonprofits, healthcare providers, and community organizations. Their contributions help address critical local needs, from mentoring and tutoring to food security, public safety, and assistance for other older adults. At the same time, the program enhances the well-being of volunteers themselves by fostering social connection, improving health outcomes, and encouraging active aging.

The Retired Senior Volunteer Program is a powerful example of how investing in older adults benefits everyone. By recognizing seniors as valuable community assets, RSVP strengthens civic engagement and builds more resilient, compassionate communities.

I strongly encourage continued support for the Retired Senior Volunteer Program and commend its ongoing commitment to service, inclusion, and community impact. Thank you for considering this letter of support and for recognizing the importance of programs that empower older adults to make a difference.

Sincerely,


Shannon Bondy
Executive Director, Bozeman Senior Center

(406)586-2421



206 S Main St
Livingston, Mt 59047
(406) 333-2490

February 16th, 2026

John Gorton, Program Director
RMDC Area IV Agency on Aging
PO Box 1717
Helena, Mt 59624-1717

Mr. Gorton,

I am writing in support of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program of Livingston.

Continued funding for this vital program is essential to the senior community here in Livingston. The services that seniors provide through this program are a significant factor in the ongoing success of our Meals on Wheels initiative. Without RSVP volunteers, we would struggle to deliver our meals effectively.

I have received feedback from many of our clients about how much they appreciate the RSVP volunteers who not only deliver their meals but also take the time to socialize with them.

Similarly, many RSVP volunteers have shared their enjoyment in delivering meals and interacting with our clients. I urge you to continue your support and funding for this essential service to the senior community in Livingston.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter

Sincerely,

Tabatha Streuly

Executive Director
Livingston Meals on Wheels



West Yellowstone Senior Center
Po box 1592
West Yellowstone, Mt 59758

February 19, 2026

John Gorton
Area IV Agency on Aging
PO Box 1717
Helena, Montana 59624

RE: Letter of Support for Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

Dear Mr. Gorton,

We are pleased to offer our strong support for the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), a vital initiative that connects adults age 55 and older with meaningful volunteer opportunities throughout our community.

RSVP provides a flexible and welcoming pathway for older adults to remain active, social, and engaged. Whether participants can contribute a few hours each month or dedicate time each week, the program ensures that every individual can serve in a way that fits their schedule and lifestyle. This flexibility is essential in empowering seniors to continue making valuable contributions while maintaining balance in their personal lives.

One of RSVP's greatest strengths is its personalized approach. Volunteers are thoughtfully matched with a wide range of local organizations—not limited to HRDC programs—based on their interests, skills, and availability. This individualized matching process ensures that volunteers feel purposeful and appreciated, while community partners benefit from experienced, reliable support.

Beyond meeting tangible community needs, RSVP fosters connection, reduces social isolation, and promotes lifelong civic engagement. By tapping into the wisdom, talents, and dedication of adults 55 and older, the program strengthens both the volunteers and the organizations they serve.

I wholeheartedly endorse RSVP and encourage continued support and investment in this impactful program. It is a powerful example of how communities thrive when every generation is given the opportunity to contribute.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lindsey Charlton".

Lindsey Charlton
Board Chair, West Yellowstone Senior Center