DAAS Administrative Letter No. DAAS-11-10

To: Area Agencies on Aging, DAAS
From: Dennis Streets
Subject: Elimination of HCCBG Volunteer Program Development Funds
Date: June 22, 2011

The NC Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) has been notified that the legislature has eliminated Volunteer Program Development as a service category under the NC Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG). Effective July 1, 2011, the HCCBG will include 17 rather than 18 allowable services.

Although Volunteer Program Development was eliminated as a fundable service, the 11 counties currently funded for this service will not receive less HCCBG funding for FY 2011-2012 and the total amount of HCCBG funds available will not be reduced in the new fiscal year. Nevertheless, at a time when volunteer services are more important than ever, local providers that currently receive Volunteer Program Development funding will likely feel the effects of losing this service. Although these providers are no doubt already involved in collaborations with other local, state or national volunteer initiatives, we have attached a listing of some local, state and national volunteer programs that may serve as possible resources to the 11 affected counties and their service providers. This information should also be useful to all within the aging and adult services network.

Please feel free to contact Gary Cyrus at 919-733-3983 if you have questions about these funds. You may also contact Judy Smith or Leslee Breen about senior center certification requirements for volunteer programs at 919-733-0440; or Donna White at 919-733-8395 for general information about volunteerism in North Carolina.

Attachment

cc: Faye Stone, NC Commission on Volunteerism and Community Services
Volunteer Program Resources

National Volunteer Programs

The following national volunteer programs and resources may be helpful to service providers that have been receiving HCCBG Volunteer Program Development funds:

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), http://www.seniorcorps.gov/about/programs/rsvp.asp is America’s largest volunteer network where people age 55 and over are connected to service opportunities in their communities. Sponsoring agencies provide supplemental insurance and may provide reimbursement for costs such as meals and transportation.

United We Serve, a program of the Corporation for National and Community Service, http://www.serve.gov/about.asp is a nationwide service initiative that helps meet growing social needs resulting from the economic downturn. This initiative aims to both expand the impact of existing organizations by engaging new volunteers in their work and encourage volunteers to develop their own "do-it-yourself" projects. A volunteer match service by town or zip code is part of this initiative.

Volunteer Match, http://www.volunteermatch.org/ is a website where volunteers can search for opportunities by location or interest. There are filters for children, teens, seniors or groups. Non-profit organizations can also post volunteer opportunities.

Create the Good, http://createthegood.org/ is an AARP program designed to match individual volunteers with specific volunteer jobs.

The National Institute of Senior Centers, National Council on Aging offers tested models for innovative volunteer initiatives at http://www.ncoa.org/strengthening-community-organizations/community-action-volunteering/. These include:

Giving Older Volunteers Professional-Level Roles
Millions of older volunteers have years of professional experience to put to use. Nonprofits that use older adult volunteers in professional roles have seen an 800% return on their investment.

Generations Helping Generations
A national partnership to develop volunteer programs that help grandparents raising grandchildren, parents raising children with special needs, and caregivers of frail elders.

Engaging Older Volunteers
NCOA sponsors the online Continuous Learning & Innovations Community. This community includes people and resources to help you discover how to empower older volunteers to solve critical needs in your community.

Putting Wisdom to Work
By engaging older volunteers in self-directed teams, this program helps organizations attract new, younger senior volunteers.

The Boomer Solution: Skilled Talent to Meet Nonprofit Needs, shares how nonprofits can best capitalize on the coming influx of Boomer talent.

State Volunteer Resources
The NC Commission on Volunteerism and Community Services, http://www.volunteernc.org/ administers the AmeriCorps State and Citizen Corps programs in North Carolina, the North Carolina Mentoring Partnership and the Governor’s Volunteer Service Awards among other efforts. It also provides support to Volunteer Centers and volunteer connector organizations in North Carolina (see below).

Local volunteer programs in the 11 counties currently funded for HCCBG Volunteer Program Development

Each of the 11 counties currently receiving Volunteer Program Development funds have one or more senior centers certified by DAAS as a Senior Center of Merit or a Senior Center of Excellence. Certified centers are required to have a volunteer program that connects seniors and the general public to volunteer opportunities with the center. Additionally, they are required to collaborate with the larger community to keep seniors informed about other volunteer opportunities outside of the senior center.

In some cases the senior center or its parent agency has been the recipient of the HCCBG Volunteer Program Development funds. Other organizations that were receiving Volunteer Program Development funds may wish to contact the certified center(s) in their county to discuss possibilities for collaboration. All senior centers and their certification level are listed for each of the 11 counties below.

The NC Commission on Volunteerism and Community Services provides support and resources to Volunteer Centers in NC. In some cases, the Volunteer Center is the agency receiving HCCBG Volunteer Program Development funds; however, the volunteer centers for all 11 counties are listed as a possible resource for those service providers that may not be connected to a Volunteer Center:

Davidson:
  Has a Level 2 volunteer center (internal to United Way of Davidson County).
  Lexington/Davidson County Senior Center, CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
  Thomasville Senior Center, CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

Davie:
  Is served by a Level 2 volunteer center in Forsyth County (internal to American Red Cross)
  Davie County Senior Services, CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

Forsyth:
  Has a Level 2 volunteer center (internal to American Red Cross)
  Kernersville Senior Enrichment Center, CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
  Shepherd's Center of Winston-Salem, CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

Hertford:
  Has a Level 1 volunteer connector organization (Albemarle Area United Way) that provides basic volunteer center services.
  Hertford Co Office Of Aging/Senior Center, CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

Johnston:
  Does not have a volunteer center or volunteer connector organization.
  Clayton Senior Center, CENTER OF MERIT

Pitt:
  Has a Level 2 volunteer center (internal to United Way of Pitt County) This serves Region Q.
Pitt County Council On Aging/Senior Center, CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
Bethel Senior Center, satellite of the Pitt Co. COA/Senior Center

Randolph:
Has a Level 2 volunteer center (internal to United Way of Randolph County)
Archdale Senior Center, CENTER OF MERIT
Asheboro Senior Center, CENTER OF MERIT
Liberty Senior Center, CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
Randleman Senior Center, CENTER OF MERIT

Rockingham:
Has a Level 1 volunteer connector organization (internal to Cooperative Extension) that provides basic volunteer center services
Madison-Mayodan Senior Center, CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
Rockingham Community College, CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
Reidsville Senior Center, CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

Stokes: Does not have a volunteer center or volunteer connector organization in the statewide network (closed the center last year; the Level 2 volunteer center in Forsyth County may begin serving Stokes County also)
Walnut Cove Senior Center, CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

Surry: Is served by a Level 2 volunteer center in Forsyth County (internal to American Red Cross)
Surry County Senior Center, CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
Pilot Mountain Senior Center (satellite of Surry County Senior Center)

Yadkin:
Is served by a Level 2 volunteer center in Forsyth County (internal to American Red Cross)
East Bend Senior Center, CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
Yadkin County Senior Center, CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
Yadkin Valley Senior Center, CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

Other Models

There are other models of volunteerism that may be useful for these counties to explore. One example of this is the Senior Leadership Program of Haywood Community Connections that trains and effectively uses Senior Resource Teams. For further information, see www.haywoodconnections.com/html/resources/html