Budget Cuts Threaten Senior Volunteer Programs

Local News

Posted by: David Haviland

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Aberdeen, WA. – HR 1, the Continuing Resolution for fiscal year 2011 passed by the House of Representatives on February 19, 2011 eliminates funding for the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and the programs it administers, including the Retired & Senior Volunteer Program, the Foster Grandparent Program, and the Senior Companion Program (collectively the” Senior Corps”), as well as AmeriCorps, VISTA, and Learn and Serve America.

CNCS is an independent federal department in the Executive Branch. CNCS administers programs that use se

Senior Corps is a very important collection of programs under CNCS that is slated for elimination under HR 1. I

Senior Corps Programs:

CNCS’s budget of about $1.1 billion helps millions of Americans provide vital services to millions more of thei

Foster Grandparents: 29,100 ($111 million)Retired and Senior Volunteer Program: approximately 400,000 older volunteers ($63 million)Senior Companions: 14,680 ($47 million)

The

Foster Grandparent Program (FGP)

, connects older volunteers with opportunities to provide one on one mentoring, nurturing, and support to children with

Foster Grandparents may serve 15 up to 40 hours a week, and receive a small stipend to defray the cost of voluntee

In FY 2010, 29,100 FGP volunteers delivered 24 million hours of service in their communities. More than 137,

The

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

volunteers (who are non-stipend volunteers) delivered more than 62 million hours of service by working with a networ

Annually, RSVP volunteers help 676,000 seniors live independently, training them to be alert for financial scammers

The

Senior Companion Program (SCP)

provides a cost-effective option in the continuum of care available to the nation’s aging population. Eac

Senior Companions serve between 15 and 40 hours per week and income eligible volunteers receive a modest mon

In FY 2010, 14,680 SCP volunteers delivered 12.2 million hours of service in their communities, taking care of the in-

Cost Effective National Infrastructure:

Senior Corps programs, RSVP, FGP, and SCP, leverage community support throughout the United States to help sc

There are 18 RSVP programs in Washington State with 12,799 volunteers contributing 2.2 million hours annually.&nb

Our local community has an RSVP program covering Grays Harbor and Pacific counties. Over 400 volunteers

If you would like more information, please contact Jenny Knutson at 360-532-4900 or 360-533-5100