Older Adults Continue to Make Their Mark Even in the Midst of a Pandemic

May 27, 2020
Webinar Instructions

• **Audio options**
  o Use your computer speakers, OR
  o Dial in to the conference call
  o All participants are muted

• **“Questions” box**
  o Q&A session will be at the end of the presentation, but feel free to submit your questions at any time during the presentation. Click on the dropdown arrow icon “=” to pop out the questions box where you can type and submit your questions.

• **Technical issues**
  o Due to increased demand on tele-work platforms, we may experience technical issues during the webinar. We assure you we are working to mitigate and correct any possible interference.
engAGED: The National Resource Center for Engaging Older Adults

- Promotes and provides opportunities to improve the rates of social engagement in older adults.
- Supports the Aging Network with information about emerging trends, resources, and replication strategies that can be used in their communities.
- Educates and informs about innovative engagement approaches and programming.
- Collaborates with diverse organizations to develop and promote engagement opportunities through a wide variety of channels.
Presenters

- Sally Jo Spaeni, Senior Center & Senior Services Manager, Madison Senior Center
- Adrienne Hopkins, Senior Corps Volunteer Coordinator, Missoula Aging Services
Pandemic Pen Pal Program

An Intergenerational program designed to combat social isolation during COVID-19

Madison Senior Center
Marketing the Program

Facebook
Website
Newsletter

Mayor’s blog
Media Spot
Program Requirements

- 18 years of age or older
- 3 month commitment
- Consent to a background check
- Agree to program guidelines
“It’s fun to receive letters, we are writing once or twice a week and enjoying our friendship”
Mission

We promote the independence, dignity and health of older adults and those who care for them.
3 Senior Corps Programs (55+)

- Foster Grandparents
- Senior Companions
- RSVP
Teacher/School-led Opportunities

- Maintaining Connection
- Engaging Individuals’ Skills
• Google Classroom meetings
• Zoom lunch hangouts
• One-on-one virtual tutoring sessions
• Parent-approved reading phone calls
• Parent-approved reconnection calls
• Letters/gifts in at-home packets
• School Drive-by
• One time or weekly opportunities
Birthday Calls, Reconnection Calls
“Relating Through Connection, Providing Comfort”
Early Childhood Impact
School Drive-by Reconnection

MISSOULA aging SERVICES
Calling Clients

- Reassurance
- Wellness Check
- Education
- Problem Solving
- Empowerment
Engaging volunteers already placed who are comfortable with the safety precautions
Emergency Call Center

MISSOULA aging SERVICES
Homemade Masks

MISSOULA aging SERVICES
Food Bank
Red Cross Blood Delivery
Office Work at Home
Meals on Wheels
Senior Center Meals/
Congregate Meal Program

MISSOULA aging SERVICES
Telecare Program

MISSOULA aging SERVICES
Keeping Volunteers Engaged

- Keep in touch with stations
- Keep volunteers connected
- Encourage new ways to fill needs
- Offer assistance to make it work
- Recognition
Senior Corps Continues to Make its Mark!
Questions