

Welcome to Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)

Our Mission

Provide job training and placement for individuals age 55 or older with limited financial resources and to provide employers with trained, motivated workers.

Caritas Family Solutions SCSEP is operated under a USDOL grant and in cooperation with The Center for Workforce Inclusion, Inc. SCSEP is funded by a \$45.2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor. This funding provides 90% of the support for SCSEP with The Center providing 10% match or \$5 million. The SCSEP Program is an equal opportunity program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

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From the Manager



October is "National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM)."

The purpose of NDEAM is to increase awareness about disability employment challenges and to celebrate the many and varied contributions of workers with disabilities. This year's theme is "Inclusion Drives Innovation."

Many seniors with disabilities often face significant barriers to employment, resulting in lower rates of participation in the labor force and higher unemployment rates compared to non-disabled workers.

Employment is essential to an individual's sense of purpose, dignity, inclusion and economic growth, ultimately resulting in a happier life.



Remember our seniors during NDEAM!

Gary D. Woods
SCSEP Program Manager



Caritas SCSEP Presents Remote Caregiver Initiative (RCI) Senior Check-In

SENIOR WELFARE CALLS

The COVID-19 pandemic has prevented many people from seeing their beloved senior members and has also isolated many seniors.

This can be anxiety-inducing and may leave loved ones concerned about their health and safety. However, Remote Caregiver Initiative (RCI) is providing a possible solution...a welfare call.

The RCI offers a live call senior check-in service. Our live call service provides a human connection, which can be a lifesaver both physically and emotionally. Our operators are also able to provide critical reminders about doctor appointments and medication.

Through a special program with the Department of Labor (DOL), SCSEP, and the Center for Workforce Inclusion (formerly SSAI, the grantor for Caritas SCSEP); Caritas Family Solutions provides both community services and work-based training to qualifying individuals 55+ years of age.

However, in March, due to the pandemic, DOL, for the first time since the program's inception in 1965, created the Emergency Paid Sick Leave (EPSL)

to protect SCSEP participants, which are most susceptible to the disease; and without placing them on approved break and allowed them to continue to earn their wages.

Recently, however, DOL made the decision to allow SCSEP participants to train from home. Training opportunities now exist in areas such as: scheduling appointments, making masks for COVID-19, data entry, assembling packets or kits, as well as placing calls to clients. It is this last area that makes the Remote Caregiver Initiative (RCI) concept so unique.

The RCI is the brainchild of Caritas SCSEP Participant, Betty Gengler, who has been with Caritas SCSEP as an Employment Specialist for the past three years; but since she's been on EPSL, says she misses her interaction with participants. "We (participants) have been in a holding pattern for six months, and I thought this would be a neat way to continue our job training and develop new skills, while continuing safe practices suggested by the CDC."

For more information about SCSEP, contact 618-688-1180.

Caritas Family Solutions SCSEP Receives \$25,000 Lutheran Foundation Grant

Caritas Family Solutions SCSEP has again been awarded a grant of \$25,000 from Lutheran Foundation of St. Louis, for supportive services, training, etc. "For a third year we are very pleased to continue providing our support of Caritas Family Solutions and their Senior Employment Program," said Ann Vazquez, Lutheran Foundation of St. Louis, CEO and President.



SCSEP is a major program of the Older Americans Act, and is the only federal government program mandated to assist unemployed older adults seeking to rejoin the workforce by working in their community.

Lutheran Foundation of St. Louis is the grant-making ministry of 74 St. Louis area Lutheran Church-Missouri

Synod congregations. The Foundation's vision is to see the Church brought into the lives of hurting people and people included in the healing life of the Church.

October Birthdays

Betty Gengler,
Raymond Lawson,
Mary Maurer,
Maria Stockley,
Anthony Lewis,
and Michael Hendricks



Employed One Year

Arlene Martin