

Department of Elder Affairs

Office of Volunteer and Community Services



Volunteer Opportunities and Partnerships

AmeriCorps, Senior Companion, RELIEF programs: Part of the Corporation for National and Community Service, which also oversees Senior Corps and Learn and Serve America. Since 1996, the Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA) has partnered with Volunteer Florida and local community-based organizations to administer these programs, which provide respite, home modification and repair, chore services and community outreach to elders, caregivers and families.

Contact Information: Florida Department of Elder Affairs AmeriCorps Program Director, Christine Kucera at 850-414-2000 or kucerac@elderaffairs.org

Eckerd Youth Alternatives (EYA) program: A private not-for-profit organization, Eckerd Youth Alternative program serves nearly 10,000 youth each year through more than 40 programs in nine states. The program currently partners with DOEA in its Early Intervention Mentoring program for **Brevard, Marion and Pinellas counties**. The focus of the program is to provide supportive adult mentors to children who are separated from incarcerated parents.

Contact Information: 850-414-2086 or fitzpatrickzz@elderaffairs.org

Guardian ad Litem program: A network of professional staff and community advocates, partnering to provide a strong voice in court and positive systemic change on behalf of Florida's abused and neglected children. A total of 20 local Guardian ad Litem programs serve in all 20 judicial circuits in Florida.

Contact Information: Toll-free 1-866-341-1425 or www.GuardianadLitem.org

Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program: A volunteer-based organization seeking to improve the quality of life of frail, vulnerable elders who live in long-term care settings, including nursing homes, assisted living facilities and adult family care homes by directly responding to their concerns.

Contact Information: Toll-free 1-888-831-0404 or <http://ombudsman.myflorida.com>

SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders): A statewide, volunteer-based program offering free and unbiased Medicare and health insurance education, counseling and assistance to Medicare recipients and their families and caregivers. **SHINE** is funded through a grant from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and is administered by the Florida Department of Elder Affairs.

Contact Information: Toll-free 1-800-963-5337 or www.floridashine.org

Seniors vs. Crime: A non-profit organization of senior volunteers working to right civil wrongs for Florida seniors and to educate seniors about scams, consumer fraud, con games and other criminal acts. Seniors vs. Crime is a special project of the Florida Attorney General's Office. The Seniors vs. Crime Project is actively seeking volunteers to become Senior Sleuths and to help the project better protect seniors from harmful activity.

Contact Information: Toll-free 1-800-203-3099 or www.seniorsvscrime.com

Volunteer Florida: The Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service was established in 1994 by the Florida Legislature to administer grants under the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993. The commission grants funds to Florida AmeriCorps and National Service programs; encourages volunteerism for everyone from youth to seniors to people with disabilities; promotes volunteerism for disaster preparedness and response; and helps strengthen and expand volunteer centers in Florida.

Contact Information: www.volunteerflorida.org