



Foster Grandparent Program of NE Michigan  
Senior Companion Program of NE Michigan

Community Advisory Groups • Meeting Highlights • Monday – February 13, 2017

FGP – 9:30 a.m. • SCP – 11:00 a.m.

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- FGP and SCP Advisory Group meetings were held on Monday, February 13, 2017 at the NEMCSA Annex Office with Nancy Wedge, chairperson for the Foster Grandparent Program and Pat Rondeau, chairperson for the Senior Companion Program presiding.
- New staff member, Michael Blewett, was introduced. Michael has accepted the position of Field Support Specialist. His focus will be the Senior Companion Volunteer Program, but will also assist with the Foster Grandparent program as time allows.
- Pat Rondeau, as the NEMCSA Board Representative for the Advisory Groups, provided a report on the NEMCSA Board meetings from November and December 2016, and January 2017.
- Volunteer Programs Director, Heidi Powers, reported that volunteer enrollments in the FGP are doing well. Current disenrollments seem to be based on dissatisfaction with the volunteer's service—by both the volunteer and the station supervisor. To that end, program staff will focus on better preparing potential volunteers for the actualities of volunteer service; be it in a classroom setting, or an in-home placement. Summer placements for FG volunteers are showing signs of increasing with the possibility of the Oscoda County Library, the Crawford County Library and the Boys & Girls Club of Alpena coming on board as new volunteer stations. An invitation will be extended to volunteers in both the FG and SC programs to increase their service hours at their current volunteer locations. For the Senior Companion Program volunteers, it was presented that several “regional” meetings are being set-up to allow discussion/inter-action with volunteers concerning volunteer service adjustments that need to be made within the program. These regional meetings will be for the current Senior Companion volunteers only and will be held the end of February and the beginning of March.
- Upcoming changes in the timesheet process were also discussed. Beginning in late March 2017 a new timesheet schedule for mailing/receiving timesheets in the office will be implemented. This new schedule will allow the volunteer to record each day's service as it happens and then mail to the office. The current “system” results in the volunteer having to anticipate one week's activity. The new procedure will greatly reduce the number of timesheet changes being phoned into the office and allow each volunteer to keep track of changes in their regular schedules as they occur.
- An invitation was extended to the current membership to submit names of possible new members for the FGP and SCP Advisory Groups to the Project Director, Heidi Powers. It was noted that Robert Lyngos has submitted his resignation as a member of the FGP Advisory Group.
- Discussion was held on the topic of the annual survey. Input was solicited from the group members as to what they would like to know about volunteer programs. Ideas were presented and discussed.
- The next advisory group meetings are scheduled for Monday, May 8, 2017 at the NEMCSA Annex Office. FGP Advisory Group meets at 9:30 a.m., and the SCP Advisory Group meets at 11:00 a.m.
- The 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Foster Grandparent Volunteer Recognition Luncheon is scheduled for May 16, 2017.
- The 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Senior Companion Volunteer Recognition Luncheon is scheduled for June 20, 2017.