



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

Community Advisory Groups • Meeting Highlights • Monday – November 7, 2016  
FGP - 10:00 a.m. • SCP - 11:00 a.m.

---

- FGP and SCP Advisory Group meetings were held on Monday, November 7, 2016 at the NEMCSA Alpena Annex office with Nancy Wedge, chairperson for the Foster Grandparent Program and Pat Rondeau, chairperson for the Senior Companion Program presiding.
- Pat Rondeau, NEMCSA Board Representative, provided a report from the June, August, September and October NEMCSA Board Meetings. Special mention was made of the results of the on-going recruitment efforts to increase the number of Foster Grandparent Program volunteers. Currently the number of enrolled FG volunteers is 52, with participants in each of twelve counties in the program coverage area—this marks a milestone achievement in the recruiting effort. Senior Companion Program enrollment stands at 38 volunteers. Also reported by Pat, was information concerning the Housing and Client Services division, which is currently making some changes/improvements in the manner in which housing assessments are being conducted.
- Leslie Atkinson, Volunteer Programs Services Coordinator, reported on the recent Alpena and Gaylord in-service meetings. The August meeting was a review of the Volunteer Handbook of Effective Practices—which was presented in a power point format. The speaker/topic for September's meeting was the Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP). Susan Bowen and Ann Weir presented information on the importance of having Medicare Part D Prescription drug coverage. At the October meeting, Michelle Smith and Tammy Dean from NEMCSA's Client Services presented information about the commodities, housing and weatherization programs.
- Heidi Powers, Project Director for Volunteer Programs, reported that the three-year grant renewals for FGP and SCP have been approved by the funding sources. Heidi also reported on the completion of two (2) New Volunteer Orientation Meetings; one in Grayling and one in Alpena. Completing the placement process for new volunteers is the current process. The goal is have all the new volunteers placed and actively serving by November 30<sup>th</sup>. Welcomed back as a member of the SCP Advisory Group was Ed Cherry, Senior Companion volunteer from Iosco County.
- Informational handouts included: Meeting dates for 2017 for the FGP and SCP Advisory Group Members, flu shot reminders, an Alzheimer's disease fact sheet, information on Michigan legal help, an article on fire prevention and everyday fitness ideas from the National Institute on Aging.
- Members discussed ideas/topics for future in-service meetings, the continued recruitment of new FGP and SCP volunteers; and shared their service learning experiences. It was decided to begin the FGP Advisory Group meeting at 9:30 a.m. (instead of 10:00 a.m.) in order to provide additional time before the start of the SCP Advisory Group meeting.
- The next advisory group meetings are scheduled for Monday, February 13, 2017 at the NEMCSA Annex Office. Foster Grandparent Advisory Group meets at 9:30 a.m., and the Senior Companion Advisory Group meets at 11:00 a.m.