

## ***E-Newsletter from The Resource Center***

### **Headlines at a Glance**

- Celebrate Older Americans Month
- Beginning with the End in Mind: A Performance Measurement Toolkit for AmeriCorps\*VISTA
- Recent Report on Baby Boomers: Retention and Turnover in Volunteering
- Summer Institute Focuses on School-Community Partnerships



[Check out  
My Improvement Plan!](#)

### **Spotlight of the Month**

#### **Celebrate Older Americans Month**



Making Choices  
for a Healthier Future

May is [Older Americans Month](#) with the theme "Making Choices for a Healthier Future." It's a time to pay tribute to, and acknowledge the contributions of older persons in our communities.

This year the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Aging encourages us to think differently about health and long-term care, and to work together to modernize our current systems so that we may adequately plan for and address the needs of current and future generations. Older persons are entitled to live their lives with dignity and independence through:

- Streamlined access to home and community services, and access to information that enables planning ahead for long-term care
- Information about cost-effective prevention practices that improve health and quality of life
- Innovative, affordable, and flexible options of care and support that provide an array of choices about how and where to live

In keeping with the theme "Making Choices for a Healthier Future," refer to these selected effective practices on the topic of senior health and wellness.

- [Organizing a senior health and wellness fair](#)
- [Teaching cardiovascular health to Senior Companions](#)
- [Using pedometers to help senior volunteers increase activity levels](#)
- [Preventing osteoporosis through community exercise classes](#)
- [Accessing an online senior health and resource eligibility system](#)
- [Compensating family members who care for elderly relatives in the home](#)

## From The Resource Center

### Beginning with the End in Mind: A Performance Measurement Toolkit for AmeriCorps\*VISTA



Do you need help with the project plan for your VISTA project application? Looking for specific tips and suggestions about data collection? Review a sample project plan, logic model, and more in the new and improved [Performance Measurement Toolkit for AmeriCorps\\*VISTA](#).

The toolkit — created by Project STAR and housed at The Resource Center — provides project applicants with helpful background information, a framework for project planning, and guidance for applying performance measurement requirements to projects. The latest version includes these enhancements:

- A revised three-year logic model
- Appendix material that is separated from the body of the toolkit, with the ability to download these items individually or as one complete set of documents
- An expanded directory of resources that now includes books

Project STAR provides training and technical assistance to Corporation-funded programs in the area of performance measurement. Find more Project STAR resources and information at [The Resource Center](#).

### Add to Your Reading List

Learn more about performance measurement with these three books from The Resource Center's lending library. To borrow an item, please call Erica Marsh at 1-800-860-2684, ext. 260, or get more information about the [lending library](#) online.

#### [Handbook of Practical Program Evaluation](#)

Offers efficient and economical methods for assessing program results and identifying ways to improve program performance. Covers both in-depth program evaluations and performance monitoring as well as evaluation methods that can be useful at all levels of government and in nonprofit organizations. Includes new chapters on logic modeling and evaluation applications for small nonprofit organizations.

#### [Comparative Performance Measurement](#)

Contains strategies to improve decisions that pertain to management, operations, policy, and resource allocation. Demonstrates how managers can determine the scope of a comparative performance measurement effort, select data that are measurable, meaningful, and comparable, and develop data instruments and procedures to maximize the useful data collected.

#### [Performance Measurement: Getting Results](#)

A comprehensive guide that contains methods for government and human services agencies to measure the performance of their programs. Explains every component of the process, from identifying the program's mission, objectives, customers, and trackable outcomes, to finding the best indicators for each outcome and identifying sources of data and how to collect it. Includes numerous charts, tables, and real-life examples.

## Announcements

### Recent Report on Baby Boomers: Retention and Turnover in Volunteering



In keeping with its commitment to support civic engagement and culture, the Corporation for National and Community Service continues research and develop efforts to further this goal. To better understand the dynamic of retention in baby boomer volunteers, the Corporation studied data collected by the U.S. Census Bureau and Bureau of Labor Statistics from 2002–2006. The recent report, titled “Keeping Baby Boomers Volunteering: A Research Brief on Volunteer Retention and Turnover,” notes the high volunteer rate of baby boomers; it also notes the moderate turnover — three out of every ten baby boomer volunteers choose not to return in the following year. The study lends greater insight into the preferences of baby boomer volunteers, which can in turn lead to more effective retention practices and enhanced engagement of this population.

[Read the full report.](#)

### Summer Institute Focuses on School-Community Partnerships

The Second Arizona State University Summer Institute on Community takes place June 1-2, 2007, in Mesa, AZ. The topic for this year's institute is "Community and Education."

Hosted by Community-Campus Partnerships for Health, which serves as the higher education senior program advisor for the Learn and Serve America National Service-Learning Clearinghouse, the event aims to:

- Strengthen partnerships between researchers, educators, students, school administration, local communities, and community organizations
- Discuss models of collaboration between school and community
- Create practical solutions for including communities in the educational process

For program and registration details and a complete list of speakers, visit the website: [www.asu.edu/ssc/summerinstituteoncommunity/secondsummer.htm](http://www.asu.edu/ssc/summerinstituteoncommunity/secondsummer.htm)

Each month, The Resource Center provides this e-newsletter to highlight information and resources that help programs funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service. [Visit us today](#) to search, browse, download, order, and borrow from among thousands of useful assets. Click [here](#) to subscribe or unsubscribe to this e-newsletter.

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