



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF SCHENECTADY
NEW YORK

Gary R. McCarthy
Mayor

City Hall, 105 Jay Street, Rm 111
Schenectady, N.Y. 12305-1938
(518) 382-5000
Fax: (518) 382-5272
gmccarthy@schenectadyny.gov

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Mayor Gary R. McCarthy to Join Nationwide Effort to Recognize Impact of National Service

Schenectady, NY - Mayor Gary McCarthy today joined Mayors from throughout the Country in pausing to recognize the powerful impact of volunteerism for the Mayors' Day of Recognition for National Service. The Nation's mayors are increasingly turning to national service and volunteerism as a cost-effective strategy to address city challenges at a time of fiscal constraint. More than 50 AmeriCorps and Senior Corps members serve in Schenectady, proving vital support to city residents. We hope this event helps to prompt volunteerism and support for nonprofit and national service groups.

"Volunteer service strengthens communities, helps enrich lives and develops municipal participation," said Mayor Gary McCarthy. The City of Schenectady along with the Corporation for National and Community Service have coordinated to make today a day that recognizes the key role that volunteerism plays in solving local problems and challenges.

Schenectady benefits from AmeriCorps members and Senior Corps volunteers through several different organizations. There are AmeriCorps VISTA members with Habitat for Humanity as well as Youthbuild working to revitalize neighborhoods while learning skills and building community capacity; Foster Grandparents are located in six sites including two of the local elementary schools mentoring and assisting children; and RSVP volunteers helping the city to provide services to its constituents.

Since 1994 more than 670 Schenectady residents have served more than 660 thousand hours. We also want to provide special recognition of the Foster Grandparent Program. This year marks the 50th Anniversary of this special program and we thank all of the Foster Grandparents, past, present, and future who are providing a valuable assistance to our children.

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