EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEER

Many senior citizens continue to work past retirement. Currently, the average life expectancy for those who reach age 65 in the United States is 83. If you consider taking early retirement as allowed by Social Security at age 62, will you have the financial resources to support yourself for 20 or more years? Economic need causes many seniors to continue working while others do so to remain engaged and because they enjoy what they do.

Volunteering can also offer seniors the opportunity to remain active and engaged, and allows them to utilize and contribute the skills they have gained over a lifetime. Churches, schools, hospitals, nursing facilities and other service agencies often rely on volunteers who are willing to give their time and share their expertise.

The following resources assist seniors who wish to obtain meaningful employment, make a career change or find an enriching volunteer opportunity.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Illinois Employment and Training Center (IETC)
837 S. Westmore/Meyers Road, Lombard, IL 60148
(630) 495-4345, or **(630) 495-0655 (TDD)**
www.ietc-dupageco.com
www.illinoisskillsmatch.com

The College of DuPage, the Workforce Development Division of DuPage County, the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES), Parents Alliance Employment Project, the Northeastern Illinois Area Agency on Aging, the Illinois Department of Human Services and the Office of Rehabilitative Services make up the IETC of DuPage County, a one-stop career center in Lombard. The IETC offers a wide range of employment and training services at one convenient location. Serves DuPage County residents of all ages. Offerings include:

- job search and placement assistance
- computers with internet access for job search
- on-site employer recruitment
- weekly job club
- employment services for individuals with disabilities
- vocational assessment and counseling
- job training scholarships

- free workshops on topics including: interview skills, stress management, negotiating a salary and resume writing
- assistive technology for people with disabilities

Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES)
Administers state unemployment insurance and job service programs. Assists job seekers in finding employment. Special staff is available to attend to the needs of older workers and veterans. If further assistance is needed, call **1-800-244-5631, 1-866-322-8357 (TTY),** or visit their website at **www.ides.state.il.us.** Office locations include:

Bolingbrook – 321 Quadrangle Drive, **(630) 759-0647 -** Serves Bolingbrook, Burr Ridge, Darien, Downers Grove, Lemont, Naperville, Plainfield, Willowbrook and Woodridge.

Elgin - 30 DuPage Court, **(847) 888-7900 -** Serves Bartlett, Bloomingdale, Carol Stream, Glendale Heights, Hanover Park, Medinah, Roselle, St. Charles, Wayne and West Chicago.

Lombard - East Gate Shopping Center, 837 S. Westmore-Meyers Road, **(630) 495-4345 -** Serves Addison, Bensenville, Clarendon Hills, Downers Grove, Elmhurst, Glen Ellyn, Hinsdale, Itasca, Lisle, Lombard, Oak Brook, Villa Park, West Chicago, Westmont, Wheaton, Willowbrook, Winfield and Wood Dale.

North Aurora - 2 Smoke Tree Plaza, **(630) 844-6640 -** Serves part of West Chicago, Winfield, Aurora, Eola, Naperville, North Aurora, and Warrenville.

workNet DuPage Career Center
2525 Cabot Drive, Suite 302
Lisle, IL 60532
(630) 955-2030
630) 955-2098 (TTY)

Job seekers will find a resource room, job club, workshops and scholarships. Business owners can post jobs, attend recruiting events and job fairs and connect with a trained workforce.

Senior Community Service Employment Program

The Senior Community Service Employment Program, sponsored by the Illinois Department on Aging, is a federally funded employment program designed to assist the mature worker (age 55+) in re-entering the job market. It operates under a grant

from the U.S. Department of Labor under Title V of the Older Americans Act. Apply through one of these offices:

Northeastern Illinois Area Agency on Aging
245 W. Roosevelt Road, Bldg. 6
West Chicago, IL 60185
(815) 939-0727, or **1-800-528-2000**
www.ageguide.org

Jewish Vocational Services
10 E. 22nd Street
Lombard, IL 60148
(630) 261-9324

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

DuPage County Long Term Care Ombudsman Program
421 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton, IL 60187
(630) 407-6500

This program provides advocacy for residents of long term care facilities. Volunteers visit local nursing homes to provide socialization for residents, as well as advocate for their rights. Volunteers may be friendly visitors as well as assist with complaint investigations. For more information, contact **DuPage County Senior Services** at the number above.

DuPage County Money Management Program
421 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton, IL 60187
(630) 407-6500

Volunteers are trained and supervised to assist seniors having difficulty managing their money. Administered by the Illinois Department on Aging, this program is sponsored and insured through AARP. The Money Management Program is part of the AARP Foundation, AARP's affiliated charity. For more information, see page CS-3 or call **DuPage County Senior Services** at the number listed.

DuPage Senior Citizens Council (DSCC)
1919 S. Highland Avenue, Bldg. A, Suite 210, Lombard, IL 60148
(630) 620-0804
www.dupageseniorcouncil.org

Volunteer opportunities are available to deliver meals to the homebound elderly, assist at Senior Dining Centers, help with chore days, or other activities that benefit older adults. Volunteers ensure that DSCC programs are available to all DuPage County seniors in need. See **NUTRITION** page 110.

Giving DuPage
421 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton, IL 60187
(630) 407-6500
1-800-942-9412
(630) 407-6502 (TDD)
www.givingdupage.org

A public/private initiative of business, civic groups, individuals, non-profit organizations and DuPage County government. Its mission is to promote giving and volunteering in DuPage County. It connects those in our community who have time, talent, or resources with agencies serving the residents in our community.

In-Home Senior Respite Program
Metropolitan Family Service DuPage County
222 E. Willow Avenue, Wheaton, IL 60187
(630) 784-4875
www.metrofamily.org

Volunteers are recruited, trained and supervised to offer respite to family caregivers and companionship for the care recipient. Volunteers typically provide three hours of respite, and do not perform any medical or professional services. See page 58 for more details.

Hospice volunteers provide valuable services to persons and families dealing with the end-of-life process. Responsibilities can include: listening as a patient shares memories, feelings, fears, filling in to give a family caregiver short, needed respite, offering families reassurance and comfort, providing administrative support in the offices, running errands, performing light housekeeping chores, visiting patients in nursing homes or taking a patient on an outing. For a list of hospice providers in the area, see page 63.

Lifelink Corp./Bensenville Home Society
331 S. York Road, Suite 206, Bensenville, IL 60106
(630) 766-5800
www.lifelink.org

Seeks volunteers to supplement and enrich Lifelink in its mission to meet human needs. Opportunities include working with residents at Lifelink housing communities, fundraising activities, and assisting administration staff with office duties.

Hands On Suburban Chicago (HOSC)
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)
2121 S. Goebbert Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60005
(847) 228-1320
www.volunteerinfo.net

HOSC inspires, equips and mobilizes people to volunteer and take action to support their communities. HOSC recruits and places volunteers with non-profits in need of help and trains non-profit staff in volunteer and non-profit management. Serves 45 towns and villages in North and Northwest suburbs of Chicago.

Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)
1444 N. Farnsworth, Room 504, Aurora, IL 60505
(630) 692-1162
www.scorefoxvalley.org

Volunteer group of retired or semi-retired executives and business owners who provide free management consultation to small businesses and to those considering starting a business. SCORE counseling sites in DuPage County include Aurora, Elmhurst, Lisle and Naperville, and can be accessed through local Chamber of Commerce offices.

Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP)
Illinois Department of Insurance
320 W. Washington Street, Springfield, IL 62767-0001
(217) 524-4872
1-800-548-9034 (Toll-Free in Illinois)
www.insurance.illinois.gov

Volunteer counselors are trained by the Illinois Department of Insurance to educate consumers about Medicare, Medicare supplements and Part D plans, Medicare HMOs, long term care insurance, Illinois Cares Rx and other senior health insurance options. They can also assist in filing Medicare claims and help investigate disputes. Counselors must be affiliated with a sponsoring organization. These sponsors provide office space and support services. SHIP counselors do NOT sell or solicit any type of insurance. For more information, or to locate a potential local sponsor call **DuPage County Senior Services** at **(630) 407-6500.**