



RSVP



Since 2001

REALTOR® Service Volunteer Program

What Seniors Are Saying

“ Five times “thank you” for the great team of Realtors who did so many helpful services at my home.

I do so very much appreciate their giving up free time to give assistance with the out-of-reach and beyond balance household maintenance chores.

”

—Irene W.



What is RSVP?

RSVP is an annual week-long community outreach program that takes place in May during “Adopt-A-Senior” Week. The program provides **free assistance to qualified seniors** who cannot otherwise perform certain household tasks due to physical or financial constraints.

RSVP is:

- ✦ Endorsed by the community
- ✦ Appreciated by homeowners
- ✦ Supported by volunteers

What Seniors Are Saying

“ This RSVP for seniors program is a Godsend for me! I don't know how I'd be without them helping me.

Please keep this program forever!

It's such a wonderful service. I look forward to it next year. ”

—Florence O.

Free Home Services for Seniors & the Homebound

Washing windows, changing furnace filters, turning over mattresses, vacuuming, changing light bulbs, replacing smoke detector batteries and other similar household tasks ... These are just a few chores that keep a home in good order. Unfortunately, these jobs may seem simple to some people, but they can be taxing and insurmountable to many seniors and disabled adults.

The REALTOR® Service Volunteer Program (RSVP), which operates through your local Association of Realtors, promotes safety in the home and assistance to the elderly. The program is one way Realtors and Affiliates can give back to their communities and perhaps help seniors and the homebound maintain their independence and stay in their homes longer.



What Seniors Are Saying

“ I had heard of the program last year,
but was too embarrassed to call.

**I felt I could still do the work ...
I'm so grateful they came today.**

You have no idea how happy we are
that these men are taking the time off
their regular jobs to help us.

”

—Guadalupe L.

How does the program work?

An application is completed by the resident. Requested tasks are reviewed with the homeowner, and a team is assigned to do the work. **The goal is to have all the work completed by a small team of volunteers in a single visit.**

Some frequently requested tasks:

- + Wash a few windows
- + Flip a mattress
- + Replace smoke detector batteries
- + Change furnace filters
- + Change light bulbs
- + Affix house numbers on the house
- + Remove trip-hazards from walkways
- + Light vacuuming
- + Move furniture
- + Move items from hard-to-reach shelves
- + Rake leaves
- + Trim overgrown hedges for safety

What Seniors Are Saying

“ Today I was visited by three wonderful folks. They came ... to help the elderly with things around the house. ... (and) made today better than Christmas!

I can't say enough about how wonderful they are and what a great job they did for me.

I am forever grateful that you have this service. ”

—Mary Jane M.



What Seniors Are Saying

“ I’m writing to express my deep appreciation for the excellent work (done) ... in and around my home.

It was done with both efficiency and loving care.

As you no doubt know, nowadays those two things are rare. ”

—Norma E.



Who does the work?

Realtors & Affiliates (lenders, insurance agents, attorneys, title insurers, builders, surveyors, contractors, home inspectors and others in real estate-related businesses) of your local Realtor® Association take time each year to perform household tasks that seniors and the homebound cannot do by themselves.

What Seniors Are Saying

“ Thank you so much for the work the 5 people did for me.
They were so pleasant and polite
and I enjoyed each one so much.

I'm fortunate to have these young ones help make my
home so beautiful & clean. Thank you very much. **”**

—Ellen D.

History of RSVP

RSVP was first launched in each of the five districts of the Silicon Valley Association of REALTORS® (SILVAR) in the spring of 2001, when a group of Realtors and Title Company representatives in the Palo Alto/Menlo Park area wanted to find a way to serve their communities in a hands-on, personal way. The program was adopted as an official association community outreach project in 2002.

The program was expanded to Realtors and Affiliates of the San Mateo County Association of Realtors® (SAMCAR) in 2003. The Fresno Association of REALTORS® have followed suit. There are plans to expand the

program to other Realtor Associations in California and around the nation.

During the first year the program was undertaken, more than 100 homes were served. In 2003, over 250 homeowners took advantage of the program and nearly 300 real estate agents and professionals from related businesses volunteered their assistance. In 2006, 500 SILVAR and SAMCAR Realtors and Affiliates visited 352 homes of seniors and the homebound on the Peninsula and in the South Bay. The program consistently involves local businesses and merchants donating funds and materials.

What Seniors Are Saying

“ Although I was a Director of Agency & Community Relations for the Volunteer Center of San Mateo County (34 years) and referred many volunteers to all human service agencies, I have never been a recipient. It was humbling to be one.

I continue to work part-time and continue to volunteer.
Perhaps in my various roles as a volunteer for Peninsula Hospital, Ombudsman Program and HICAP - I'll pass on the splendid gift of giving that you gave me. ”

–Francisca G.





**RSVP is an annual week-long
program providing
free services to seniors.**

**For an application please call
the Silicon Valley
Association of REALTORS®
(408) 200-0100**



RSVP is an annual community volunteer program supported and sponsored by your local Association of Realtors and their Affiliates, assisting seniors and the homebound since 2001 who need a helping hand.

19400 STEVENS CREEK BLVD., SUITE 100, CUPERTINO, CA 95014
PHONE (408) 200-0100 • FAX (408) 200-0101 • WWW.SILVAR.ORG