

## **Mission**

The Benton County Volunteer Program seeks to enhance the quality of life for people of Benton County with emphasis on the economically disadvantaged and senior citizens.

## **Program Descriptions**

BCVP has three main county service programs: Medical Transportation Assistance, SHARE, Iowa Food Distribution and Human Outreach Services.

The **Medical Transportation Assistance** service is provided for people who cannot drive, do not have family or friends available to drive or cannot afford transportation to medical appointments. Clients are usually sixty years of age or older. Volunteers give their time but are reimbursed fifty cents per mile for their service.

**SHARE, Iowa** food distribution program provides quality, nutritious and tasty food at reduced cost through a volunteer-assisted, community based distribution. Everyone may participate in SHARE, Iowa; however, a donation of two hours or more per month of any community volunteer service is appreciated.

Our Human Outreach services include distributing food baskets at Thanksgiving, a Tree of Sharing project at Christmas, and a School Supply Drive. Volunteers in our Human Outreach project groups provide comfort pillows for cancer patients, do projects for care centers, cut coupons for the military and assist teachers with school oriented projects, to name a few.

## **History**

Benton County Volunteer Program originally formed as RSVP (Retired Seniors Volunteer Program) in 1974. In the 1980's RSVP reorganized into an Iowa/Benton County "Coop". In 2001, with the support of the Benton County Supervisors, BCVP (Benton County Volunteer Program) was born, in service to the residents of Benton County.

Great things are happening at BCVP with the support of Benton County, United Way of ECI, Benton County cities, grant awards and donations from organizations and individuals.

## **For Services or to Volunteer Contact**

Belle Plaine Office (Monday-Thursday 9 am to 3:30 pm)

Belle Plaine Community Center

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