

# The Senior Companion Program

AmeriCorps Seniors

Session 3 | October 26, 2020- 3:30 PM E.T./ 12:30 P.T



**All lines are on  
Mute**



**Questions in  
Q&A Pod**



**Technical problems?  
Let us know in the  
chat.**



**Audio:  
Phone and  
Online**



**Recording &  
Slides  
available on  
Competition  
Page**

[2021FGPSCP@cns.gov](mailto:2021FGPSCP@cns.gov)

[https://www.nationalservice.gov/  
FY2021/FGP&SCP-Competition](https://www.nationalservice.gov/FY2021/FGP&SCP-Competition)

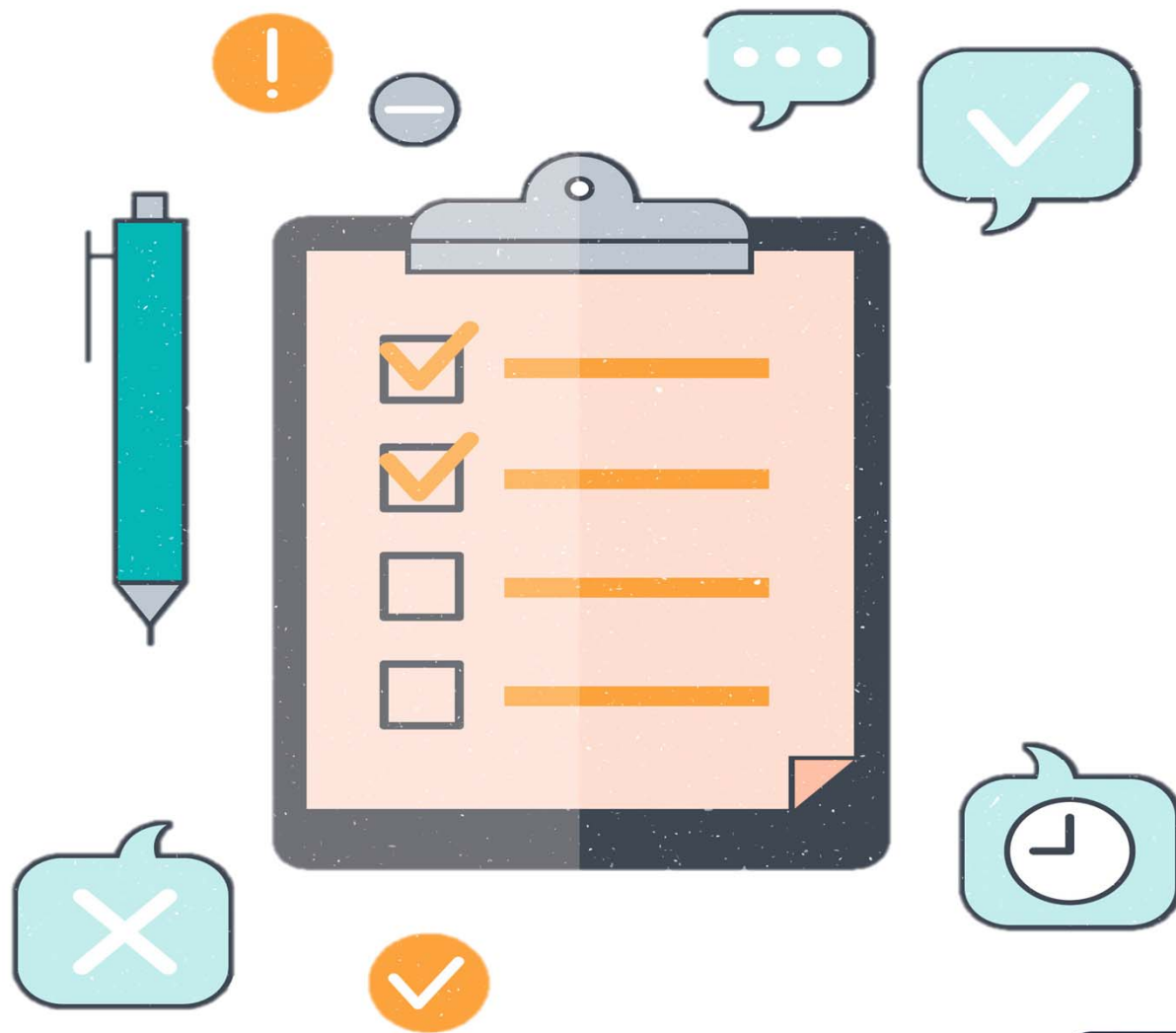


# Training and Technical Assistance Calls



Webinar	Cycle 1	Cycle 2
Introduction to the 2021 FGP-SCP Expansion Competition	Oct. 21	Jan. 5
The Foster Grandparent Program	Oct. 26	Jan. 6
The Senior Companion Program	Oct. 27	Jan. 12
Submitting your Application via eGrants	Nov. 2	Jan. 14
All Calls at 3:30 ET/ 12:30 PT		

Register, view recordings, and get connection information at:  
<https://www.nationalservice.gov/FY2021/FGP&SCP-Competition>





## Agenda

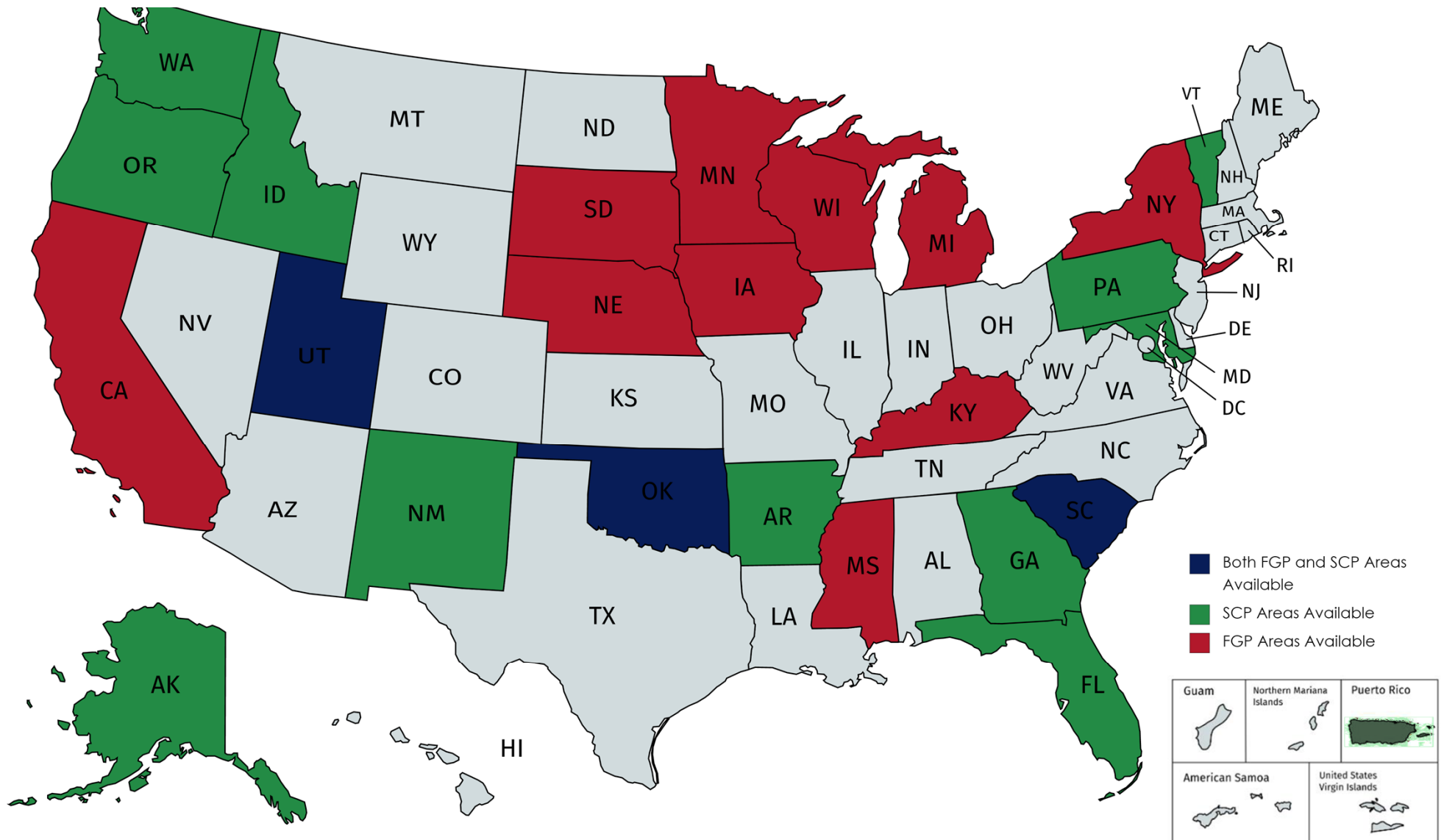
- Competition Basics
- AmeriCorps Seniors Senior Companion Program
- National Performance Measures
- Recap





## FY 2021 FGP-SCP Expansion Competition

- AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion Programs accepting applications **now**.
- Applications due by **5:00pm ET** on **February 3, 2021**
- To view available geographic service areas:  
Appendix A







2021 AmeriCorps Seniors SCP Expansion Competition Appendix A - List of Geographic Service Areas	
State	Areas Affected
Alaska	Aleutians East Borough
Alaska	Anchorage Borough
Alaska	Bristol Bay Borough
Alaska	Cohoe Borough
Alaska	Cooper Landing Borough
Alaska	Denali Borough
Alaska	Haines Borough
Alaska	Juneau Borough
Alaska	Kenai Peninsula Borough
Alaska	Ketchikan Gateway Borough
Alaska	Kodiak Island Borough
Alaska	Lake and Peninsula Borough
Alaska	Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Alaska	Nikiski Borough
Alaska	North Slope Borough
Alaska	Northwest Arctic Borough
Alaska	Petersburg Borough
Alaska	Salamatof Borough
Alaska	Sitka Borough
Alaska	Skagway Borough
Alaska	Soldotna Borough
Alaska	Sterling Borough
Alaska	Unorganized Borough
Alaska	Wrangell Borough
Alaska	Yakutat Borough
Arkansas	Arkansas County
Arkansas	Ashley County
Arkansas	Baxter County
Arkansas	Benton County

# Resources

Document	What is it For?
<b>FY 2021 FGP/SCP Competition NOFO</b>	Establishes competition, application requirements, evaluation criteria, funding priorities and more. <b>Start here!</b>
<b>FGP/SCP Grant Application Instructions</b>	Step-by-step instructions for navigating eGrants, CNCS' electronic grants management system
<b>Appendix A: List of Available Funding Opportunities by State</b>	Lists available service areas and associated funding amounts and minimum requirements of volunteers
<b>Appendix B: FGP/SCP National Performance Measure Instructions</b>	Summarizes performance measurement requirements, lists available measures
<b>Work Plan Development Worksheets</b>	Allows you to plan Work Plans outside of eGrants
<b>Frequently Asked Questions</b>	Updated periodically, provides more information on specific questions



## Agenda

- Competition Basics
- **AmeriCorps Seniors Senior Companion Program**
- National Performance Measures
- Recap



# Purpose



## **A. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

### **A.1. Purpose of AmeriCorps Seniors' Senior Companion Program Funding**

The mission of AmeriCorps is to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering. Through AmeriCorps, AmeriCorps Seniors, and the Volunteer Generation Fund, AmeriCorps has helped to engage millions of citizens in meeting community and national challenges through service and volunteer action.

Established in 1974, the AmeriCorps Seniors' Senior Companion Program (SCP) engages adults age 55 and over to provide companionship and support to other adults in need of extra assistance to remain at home or in the community for as long as possible. AmeriCorps Seniors' Senior Companion volunteers serve an average of 20 hours per week, with most of the volunteer service taking place in the homes of their clients. Among other activities, they provide companionship to ease loneliness and social isolation, assist with transportation and light chores, help to serve as eyes and ears to professionals who can intervene in the case of medical or other deterioration on the part of the clients, and give support to informal caregivers. While serving, AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers improve their own lives by staying active and civically engaged.

# SCP Volunteers



- Volunteers under 200% of poverty line may receive stipend
- Stipend= \$3.00/hour
- Other Cost Reimbursements can include:
  - Supplemental Insurance
  - Meals
  - Transportation
  - Recognition
  - Physicals
  - Other Costs

45 CFR 2551

SCP Operations Handbook

## MANAGE AMERICORPS SENIORS GRANTS

## AmeriCorps Seniors

[Get Involved - AmeriCorps Seniors  
Pathfinder](#)[AmeriCorps Seniors Programs](#)[What is AmeriCorps Seniors?](#)[Current Volunteers](#)[AmeriCorps Seniors Grantee  
Resources](#)[Manage AmeriCorps Seniors Grants](#)[AmeriCorps Seniors Training Calendar](#)[AmeriCorps Seniors & Health  
Benefits](#)[AmeriCorps Seniors Elder Justice](#)[AmeriCorps Seniors FAQs](#)[CONTINUATIONS AND RENEWALS: NOTICE OF FUNDING, APPENDIX A PERFORMANCE MEASURE INSTRUCTIONS, APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS AND MORE](#)[COVID-19](#)[AMERICORPS SENIORS PROGRESS REPORT \(PPR LITE AND PPR ANNUALS\)](#)[PROGRAM HANDBOOKS AND SUPPLEMENTS](#)[OTHER RESOURCES](#)[APPLICATIONS AND FUNDING AVAILABILITY](#)[GUIDANCE: LEAVE AND VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION](#)[GUIDANCE: PROHIBITION OF FEE-FOR-SERVICE ACTIVITIES](#)[2020 PROGRESS REPORT SUPPLEMENT \(PRS\) DATA COLLECTION AND STATION ROSTER UPDATES](#)[FEDERAL FINANCIAL REPORT \(FFR\)](#)[CLOSEOUT DOCUMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS](#)

## Subpart D—SENIOR COMPANION ELIGIBILITY, STATUS, AND COST REIMBURSEMENTS



### **§2551.43 What income guidelines govern eligibility to serve as a stipended Senior Companion?**

(a) To receive a stipend, a Senior Companion may not have an annual income from all sources, after deducting allowable medical expenses, which exceeds the program's income eligibility guideline for the State in which he or she resides. The income eligibility guideline for each State is 200 percent of the poverty line, as set forth in 42 U.S.C. 9902 (2).

(b) For applicants to become stipended Senior Companions, annual income is projected for the following 12 months, based on income at the time of application. For serving stipended Senior Companions, annual income is counted for the past 12 months. Annual income includes the applicant or enrollee's income and that of his/her spouse, if the spouse lives in the same residence.

(c) Allowable medical expenses are annual out-of-pocket medical expenses for health insurance premiums, health care services, and medications provided to the applicant, enrollee, or spouse which were not and will not be paid by Medicare, Medicaid, other insurance, or other third party payor, and which do not exceed 50 percent of the applicable income guideline.

(d) Applicants whose income is not more than 100 percent of the poverty line shall be given special consideration for enrollment.

(e) Once enrolled, a Senior Companion shall remain eligible to serve and to receive a stipend so long as his or her income, does not exceed the applicable income eligibility guideline by 20 percent.

[64 FR 14115, Mar. 24, 1999, as amended at 67 FR 60998, Sept. 27, 2002; 69 FR 20830, Apr. 19, 2004; Redesignated at 72 FR 48584, Aug. 24, 2007; 74 FR 46508, Sept. 10, 2009; 83 FR 64646, Dec. 17, 2018]

eligibility to receive assistance from other programs?



# Volunteer Stations



- Station: Where a volunteer will serve
- Responsible for:
  - Developing appropriate assignments
  - Selecting Beneficiaries
  - Developing a written Assignment Plan
  - Providing any necessary orientation and training for assignment
  - Supervision
  - Reporting to sponsor
  - Safety and security of volunteers

45 CFR 2551  
SCP Operations Handbook



# Volunteer Assignments



## **§2551.71 What requirements govern the assignment of Senior Companions?**

(a) Senior Companion assignments shall provide for Senior Companions to give direct services to one or more eligible adults that:

- (1) Result in person-to-person supportive relationships with each client served.
- (2) Support the achievement and maintenance of the highest level of independent living for their clients.
- (3) Are meaningful to the Senior Companion.
- (4) Are supported by appropriate orientation, training, and supervision.

(b) Senior Companions shall not provide services such as those performed by medical personnel, services to large numbers of clients, custodial services, administrative support services, or other services that would detract from their assignment.

[67 FR 60999, Sept. 27, 2002, as amended at 83 FR 64647, Dec. 17, 2018]

## Key Terms



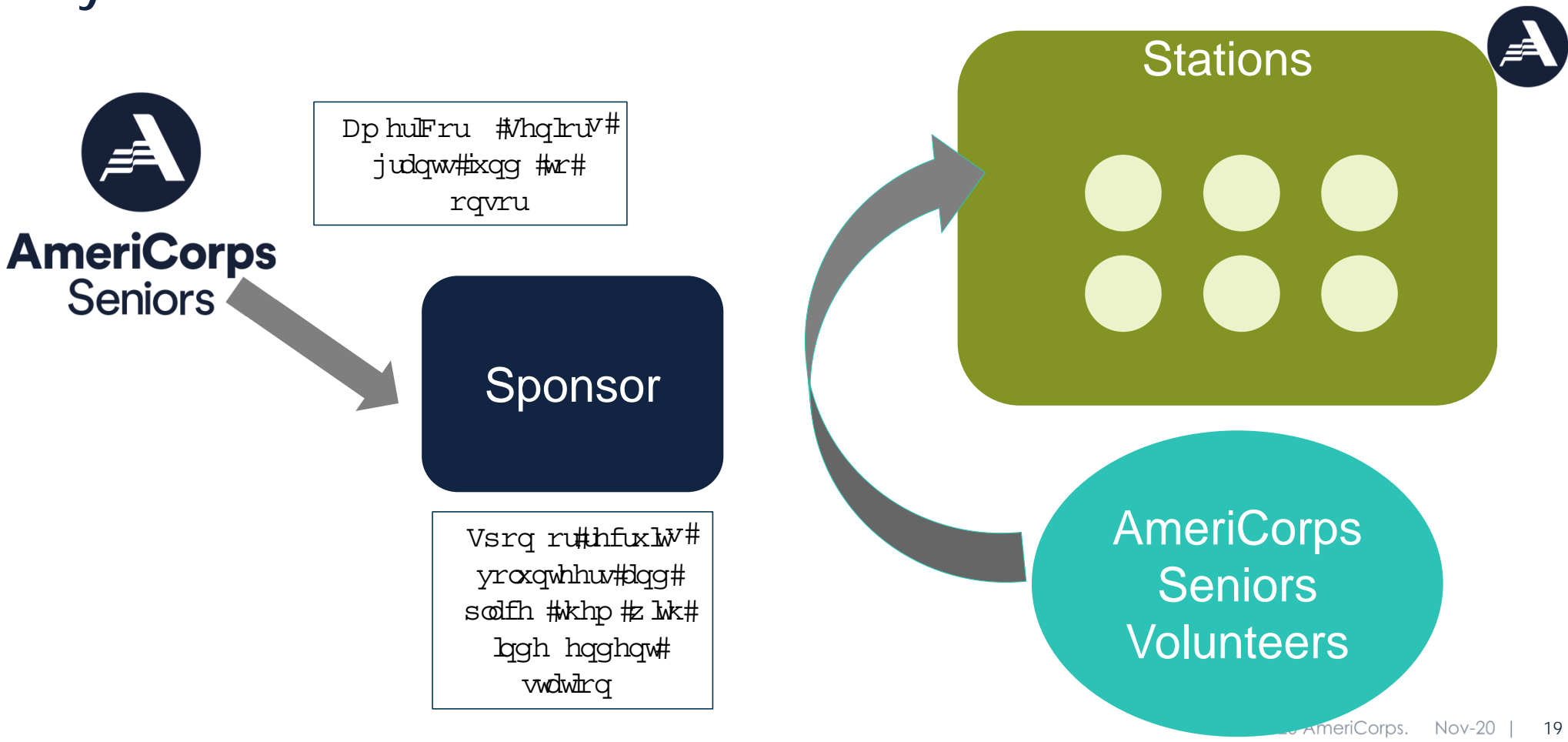
### **SPONSOR/ GRANTEE:**

The organization that receives AmeriCorps Seniors funding and is legally responsible for stewarding grant funds

### **STATION:**

A community partner where AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers serve

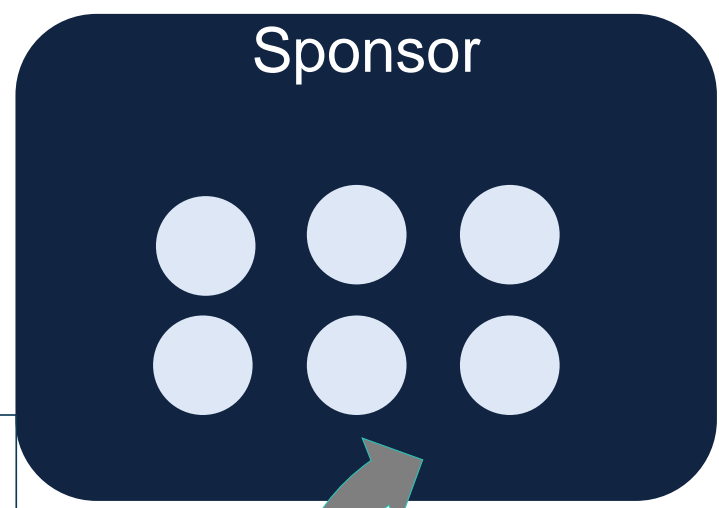
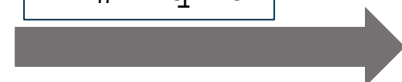
# Key Terms



Key Terms



Dp huFru #  
Vhqlrw##  
judqw#xqg #  
wr# rqvru



Vsrq ru#  
Surjudp

Vsrq ru#hfuxlw#  
yroxwhuw#bqg#  
solfh #khp #z lklq#  
rzq#surjudp #  
+ rqvru@#vdlrq,





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- Competition Basics
- AmeriCorps Seniors Senior Companion Program
- **National Performance Measures**
- Recap





# WHY MEASURE PERFORMANCE?



## Why Measure Performance?

- Accountability
- Improvement
- Replication or Adaptation
- Communication



## National Performance Measures

- A uniform set of measurements used across FGP, AmeriCorps Seniors, and AmeriCorps
- Allows you to measure and assess your effectiveness, communicate it to AmeriCorps and others
- Allows AmeriCorps to tell a unified story about the impact of FGP nationwide and continue to improve our performance





# National Performance Measures



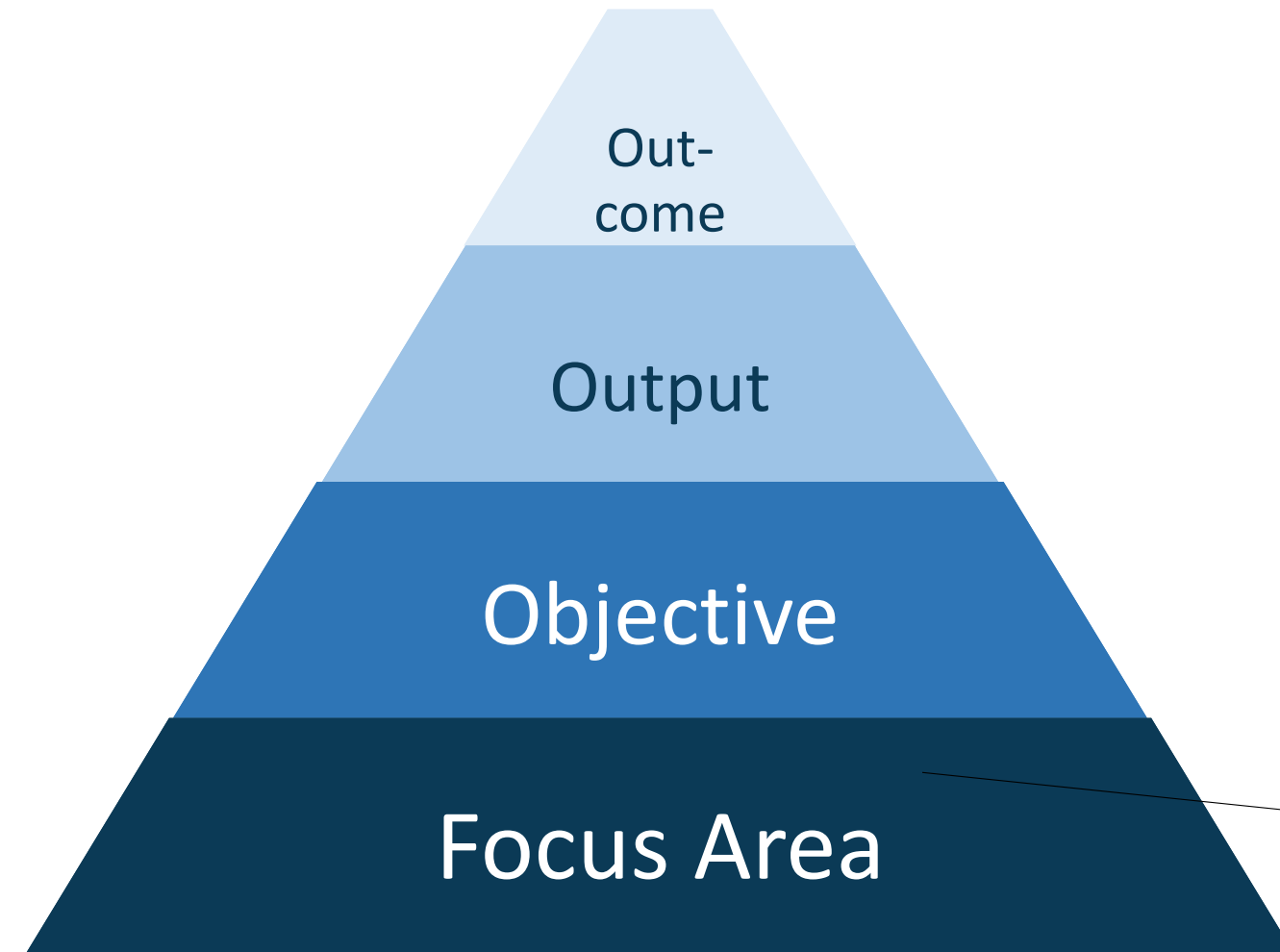
Out-  
come

Output

Objective

Focus Area

# National Performance Measures



Out-  
come

Output

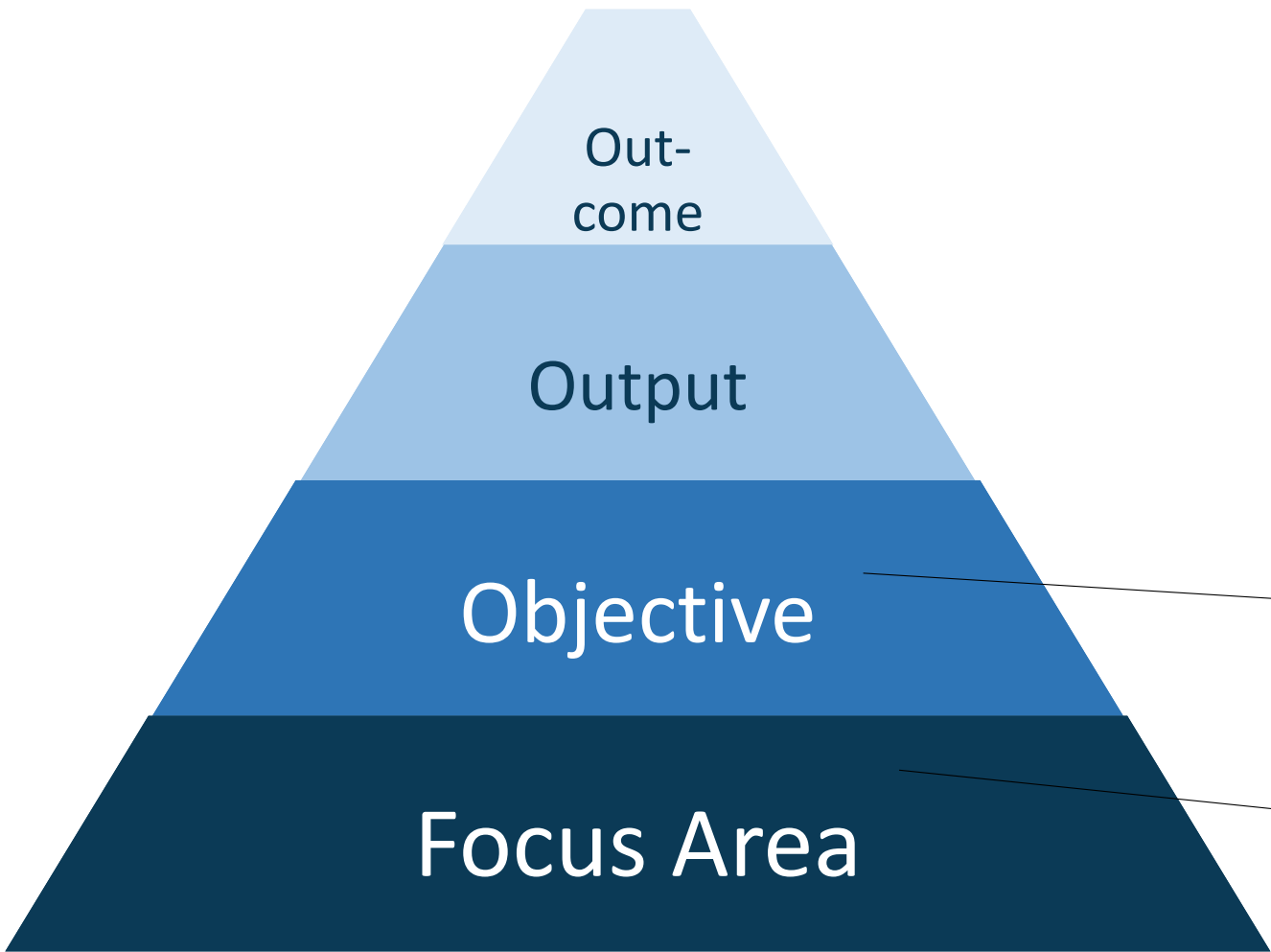
Objective

Focus Area

Healthy Futures

Primary Focus Area:  
Healthy Futures

# National Performance Measures

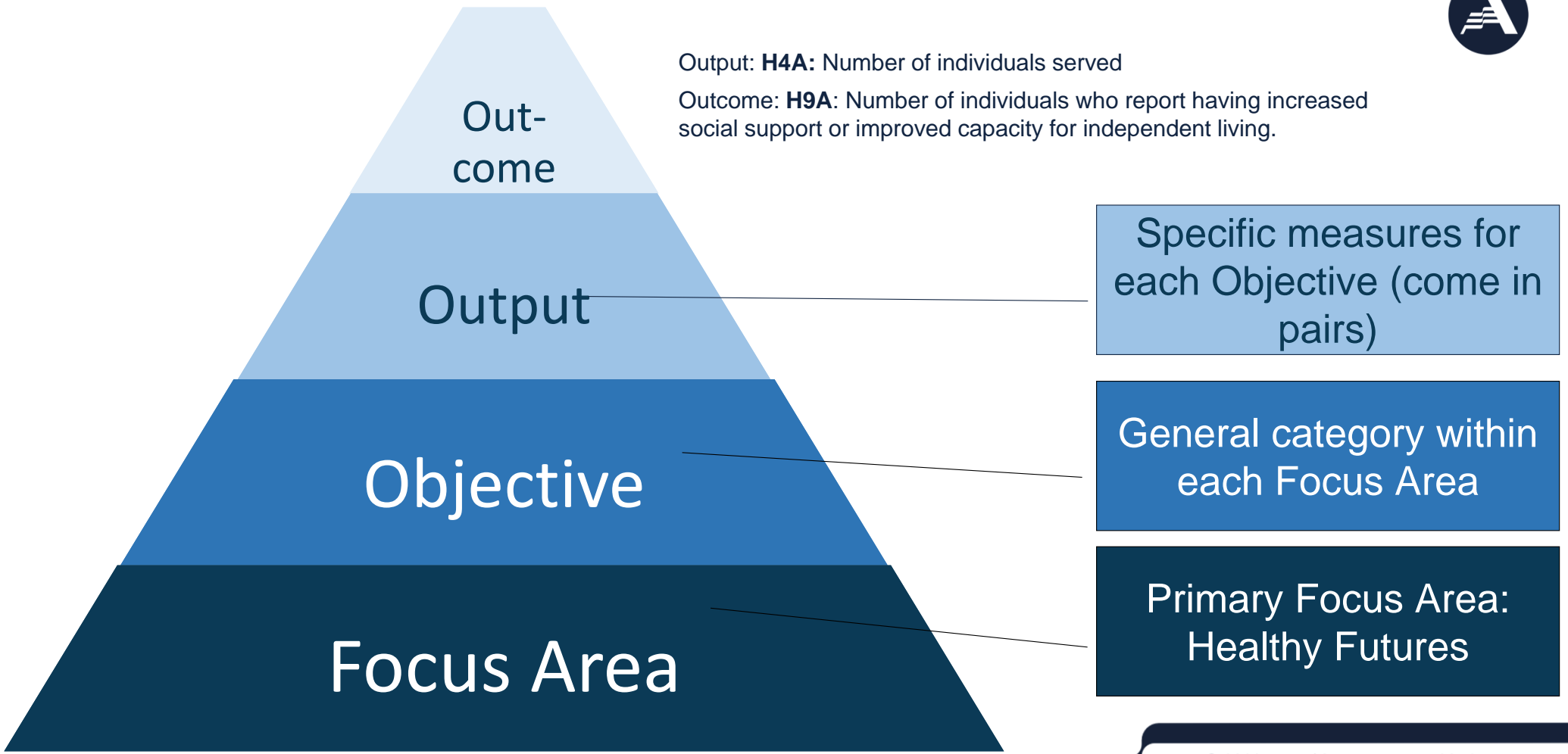


Aging in Place  
Access to Care

General category within  
each Focus Area

Primary Focus Area:  
Healthy Futures

# National Performance Measures





## **NATIONAL PERFORMANCE MEASURE WORK PLAN:**

A workplan that results in an output and an outcome specified in AmeriCorps National Performance Measures (Appendix B to the NOFO)



Community Need:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
Output	Output Instrument	Service Activity (each selected will generate a separate work plan)	# of Unduplicated Volunteers	# of Total Volunteers	# of Volunteer Stations	Output Target	Outcome	Outcome Instrument	Outcome Target

Total number of unduplicated volunteers in National Performance Measure Work Plans: \_\_\_\_\_

Update this as you complete work plans to reflect the cumulative number of unduplicated volunteers programmed into National Performance Measure Work Plans. For example, if this is the first work plan I have completed, and I have included 10 Unduplicated Volunteers in Column D, the value would be 10. If this is my second, and I have included 10 Unduplicated Volunteers in Column D in each work plan, it would be 20, and so on.

Service Activity Description(s)

Output Instrument Description(s)

Outcome Instrument Description(s)

2021 AmeriCorps Seniors SCP Expansion Competition Appendix A - List of Geographic Service Areas	
State	Areas Affected
Verona	Montague
Verona	Capulets



40  
VSYS proxy \$6,500,500

= \$260,000



2021 AmeriCorps Seniors SCP Expansion Competition Appendix A - List of Geographic Service Areas	
State	Areas Affected
Verona	Montague
Verona	Capulets

For every **\$6,500** in annual base federal funding, at least **One VSYS** must be placed in work plans that result in National Performance Measure outcomes in the Healthy Futures Focus Area.



# Appendix B

## Healthy Futures Focus Area

### Focus Area Notes:

- These performance measures are intended to measure the impact of activities that meet health needs within communities including access to care, aging in place, and addressing childhood obesity.
- These activities must be carried out by National Service Participants or by volunteers directly recruited and/or supported by National Service Participants.
- All individuals counted under these measures must be program beneficiaries, not National Service Participants.

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Applicants that select output H4A may select outcome H9A, H14, or H15A.

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<b>H4A (output)</b>	Number of individuals served
<b>Definition of Key Terms</b>	<b>Individuals:</b> recipients of AmeriCorps-supported services related to improving health-related outcomes <b>Served:</b> substantive engagement of individuals with a specific health-related goal in mind. Cannot consist solely of mass dissemination of information such as email blasts, social media posts, or distributing pamphlets.
<b>How to Measure/Collect Data</b>	Tracking mechanism that ensures an unduplicated count of individuals who have received services

<b>H9A (outcome)</b>	Number of individuals who report having increase social support or improved capacity for independent living
<b>Definition of Key Terms</b>	<b>Individuals:</b> those reported in H4A or V1, V7A, V8
<b>How to Measure/Collect Data</b>	Survey, interview, caseworker assessment, or other instrument capable of measuring changes in social support or perceived social support and/or independent living capacity at the individual beneficiary level. When possible, pre-post assessments should be utilized.  AmeriCorps is providing a mandatory survey instrument for the AmeriCorps Seniors Senior Companion Program and recommends its use for AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP: <a href="#">Senior Corps Independent Living Survey</a> .



# Work Plans



Focus Area	Output	Outcome	VSUs
Healthy Futures	H4A: Number of individuals served	H14: Number of caregivers of older adults and individuals with disabilities who reported having increased social support	25
Healthy Futures	H4A: Number of individuals served	H9A: Number of individuals who report having increased social support or improved capacity for independent living	15

# What determines a successful Application?





#### E. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

##### E.1. Review Criteria

Applications should include a well-designed plan with clear and compelling justifications for receiving the requested funds. Reviewers will assess the quality of applications by using the selection criteria described below and will rate them accordingly. They will also consider the weights assigned to each criterion.

Categories/Subcategories	Percentage
Program Design	50
• Strengthening Communities	35

Categories/Subcategories	Percentage
Program Design	50
• Strengthening Communities	35
• Recruitment and Development	15
Organizational Capability	30
• Program Management	15
• Organizational Capability	15
Cost-Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy	20
• Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy	20

• Cost-Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy: Work plans have outputs and outcomes that are achievable, based on resources, program design and the number of volunteers engaged.

##### Recruitment and Development of Volunteers (15 percent)

Reviewers will assess the extent to which the proposed project addresses:



# Questions?