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**The HAP Foundation Hosts Celebration for Sangamon County AmeriCorps Seniors in Workforce Development Program**

*Thirteen seniors completed Community Health Worker education training*

[The HAP Foundation](#) celebrated the completion of educational training for 13 AmeriCorps Seniors in the Workforce Development program today in Springfield.

The HAP Foundation trained 13 individuals aged 55+ to become Community Health Workers in Sangamon County. Community Health Workers are trusted members of the community who demonstrate compassion and empathy for others and enjoy connecting resources to promote a healthy lifestyle. HAP's AmeriCorps Seniors Workforce program is working with AgeLinc (Area Agency on Aging for Lincolnland), Alzheimer's Association Springfield, Greater All Nation Tabernacle Senior Ministry, Heartland Housed, Illinois Assistive Technology Program, Ollie Home Care Services, Salvation Army, Senior Services of Central Illinois, Smith Alzheimer Center at SIU School of Medicine, and Traditions Health to provide job training as host sites for program participants.

"We commend the 13 seniors who have completed their educational training to now become Community Health Workers in Sangamon County," said Joseph Matty, President, The HAP Foundation. "As the next phase of the program begins, we look forward to further engaging to community through our partnerships with host sites."

Earlier this year, HAP's AmeriCorps Seniors program launched in Peoria County with 11 volunteers. Over the next three years, this program will expand to Knox, Macon, and Rock Island counties. In July 2023, [The HAP Foundation announced that it was awarded \\$332,000](#) to support senior volunteer service through community education from AmeriCorps Seniors. AmeriCorps is a federal agency for national service and volunteerism that provides opportunities for Americans of all backgrounds to serve their country, address the nation's most pressing challenges, and improve lives and communities.



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**About The HAP Foundation:**

*The HAP Foundation is an independent nonprofit that provides education, advocacy, workforce development, and research on hospice, palliative care, and grief for all ages. With four decades rooted in direct patient care, it currently focuses on educating communities and professionals on hospice and palliative care; engaging in community-based research to better understand and impact disparities in hospice, palliative care, and grief support; increasing the Community Health Worker workforce to strengthen and share serious illness resources and education in the community; and advancing policies that assist individuals and families during end of life. Also, The HAP Foundation offers association management and consulting services. [www.thehapfoundation.org](http://www.thehapfoundation.org)*



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