

Retired and Senior Volunteer Programme

Retire into *Action*

Funding the **way forward** for RSVP



Information about Legacies and Wills



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



make a difference
rsvp

Where there's a will...there's a way

"Each day, all around us, volunteers make their community a better place in which to live. Their time and energy, given freely and generously, transforms lives. Whether it is by making friends with a housebound person, helping school children learn to read, or securing accommodation and training for a homeless person so that they can reclaim their dignity, volunteers provide the solution to some of society's greatest needs.



Long into the future, volunteers will be needed to strengthen our communities and tackle society's problems. By supporting CSV/RSVP with a legacy you will be helping to ensure that people will always be there to make a difference not just to the lives of other people, but to their own lives as well."

Denise Murphy, Director CSV/RSVP

Who we are

Since 1988 RSVP has been making use of the wisdom and experience of the over 50s in community volunteering. Today more than 10,000 volunteers help in schools, hospitals, sheltered housing, inner cities, isolated rural communities, GPs' surgeries and with knitting items for home and abroad. We pride ourselves on being volunteer led, and with only one paid

member of staff for every 500 volunteers, we are extremely cost effective. However, our growth over the years has meant that total expenditure has also risen. Most of this has been to cover volunteers' costs, since we make sure that no one is out of pocket through their volunteering.

Our needs for the future

Although part of CSV, RSVP is responsible for raising funds to achieve its goals. We see our future as increasing our numbers in order to reach out to hitherto untouched areas of the country, so that our volunteers can help in more hospitals, support more schools and more vulnerable and isolated people. You can help us achieve these long term goals through a legacy in your Will. If you are uncertain as to how this works, the following brief outline shows you that it really isn't complicated, and that it works to protect your interests and those for whom you care.

A Will is...

- A legal document.
- It gives instructions to your executors, who are the people you choose to settle your affairs and dispose of your property after your death.
- It tells them, for example, your wishes as to your funeral – who you would like to inherit your things – what you want done with your home – how to divide your money.

- You can add a note (called a codicil) specifying how or where a sum of money is to be spent. *For example, £1,000 to CSV to support RSVP's retired and senior volunteers working in schools...£1,000 to fund RSVP in Wales.* You can also suggest donations instead of flowers at your funeral, and so on.

How to go about it

For your peace of mind and to make sure it is done correctly, you should consult a solicitor who will charge between £60/70. Age Concern has a Will writing service with a standard charge of £60.

What if you don't make a Will?

- Your estate will still have to be divided up and this takes time and can involve a costly legal process.
- It's possible that your assets won't be divided as you hope, because there is nothing in writing regarding your wishes.
- Your estate may pay more to the Chancellor than is necessary.

Revising your Will

It is advisable to check your Will from time to time in case circumstances have altered – for example, the birth of a new grandchild.

You might also want to change your mind about some things you have specified, or

you may want to make additions. This would be an opportunity to include a legacy for RSVP.

About Legacies

A legacy is a gift of money, or personal property, left to a person in your Will. You can leave many legacies – to family, friends and different worthy causes. If you feel RSVP has done something for you, and value what it does for others, we hope you will include us amongst your other legacies.

The benefits of a Legacy

The benefits will outlive you and help to provide long-term stability for our projects with some of the most vulnerable members of society. For example:

- A £150 legacy could fund a volunteer for a whole year, enabling them to reach people in need – such as helping children with special needs to learn to read.
- A £500 legacy could help support a 'Healthy Cooking' programme for young mothers and their children in deprived city areas.
- A £1,000 legacy will fund a team of volunteers for eight months in their work with disabled and housebound elderly people, and with carers of all ages.
- A £3,000 legacy will enable volunteers to expand into a new location, whether rural or inner-city, and motivate and bring long-term benefits to the community.

These figures will give you an idea of what can be accomplished with your legacy to RSVP.

If you already have a Will, you can always add a legacy.

You will find this is quite simple. Speak to your legal advisor, saying that you want CSV's work with retired and senior volunteers (i.e. RSVP) to be included among your beneficiaries. Say how much you want RSVP to have, and if you like, what you want it to be used for.

Questions & Advice

If you have any doubts or queries about Wills or legacies, please contact Richard Addis at:
CSV/RSVP, 237 Pentonville Road
London N1 9NJ.
Tel: 020 7643 1385
email: rsvpinfo@csv.org.uk

We hope you will let us know if you wish to leave us a legacy, as this will help with our future planning. We will then ensure you receive updates on our progress and development.

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