



## Senior Companions and Foster Grandparents

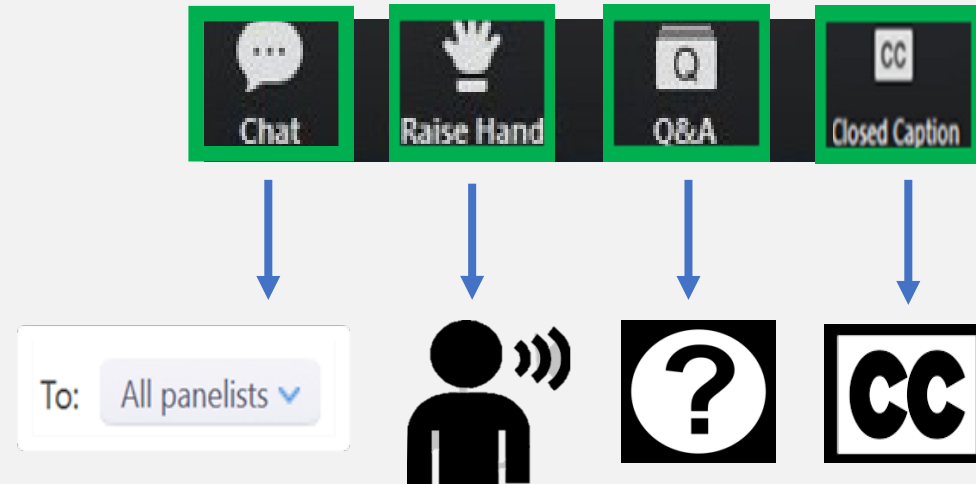
April 24, 2024

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# Webinar Objectives

- Explain how a senior companion program benefits homebound elders and the volunteers who assist them
- Discuss how a foster grandparent program enhances the emotional and social well-being of volunteers and the children they serve



## Today's Presenter

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**Senior Volunteer Coordinator**

**Pueblo of Zuni**

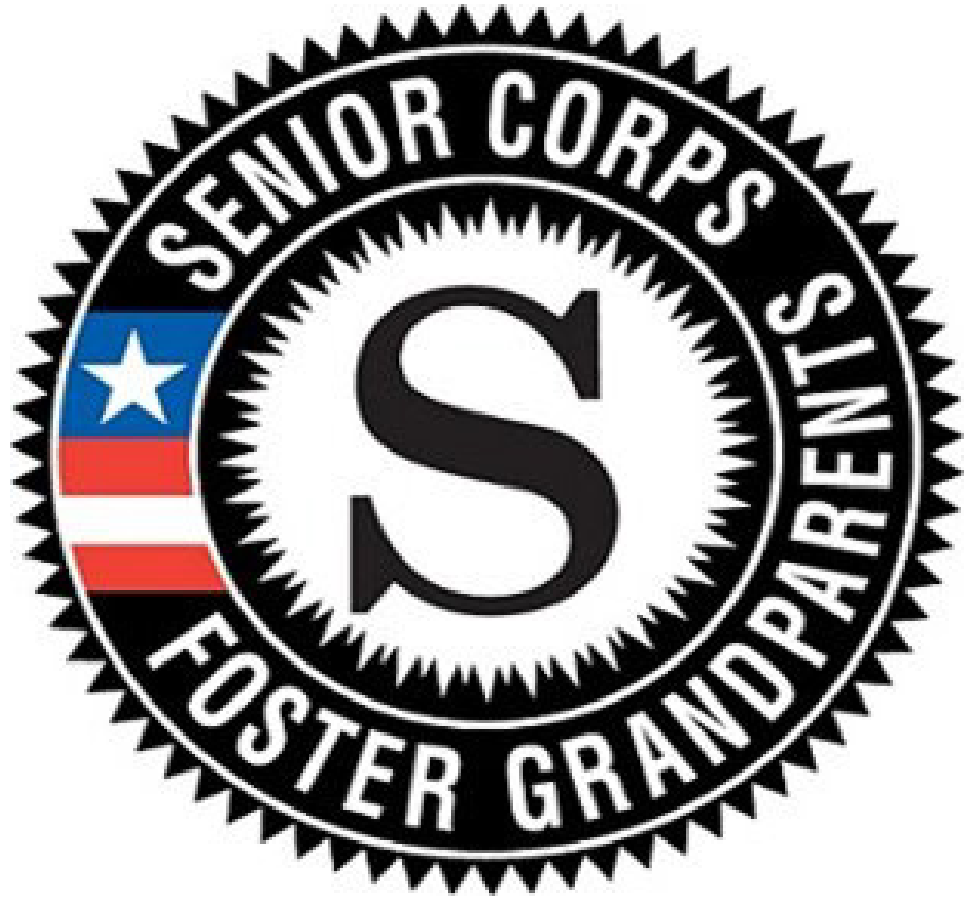
# Pueblo of Zuni, Senior Volunteer Program

For more than 25 years, both the Senior Companion Program and the Forster Grandparent Program, have received funding from:

- The federal agency, Corporation for National and Community Services
- New Mexico Aging & Long-term Services Division
- Pueblo of Zuni General Fund



Corporation for  
**NATIONAL &  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICE** 



# Mission Statement

The goals of the Senior Companion and Foster Grandparent Programs are to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering.

# Senior Companion Program

Senior companions are volunteers aged 55 and over who make a difference by providing assistance and friendship to adults who have difficulty with daily living tasks such as cleaning and other household chores.

Senior companions help these adults remain independent in their homes rather than having to move to more costly institutional care.

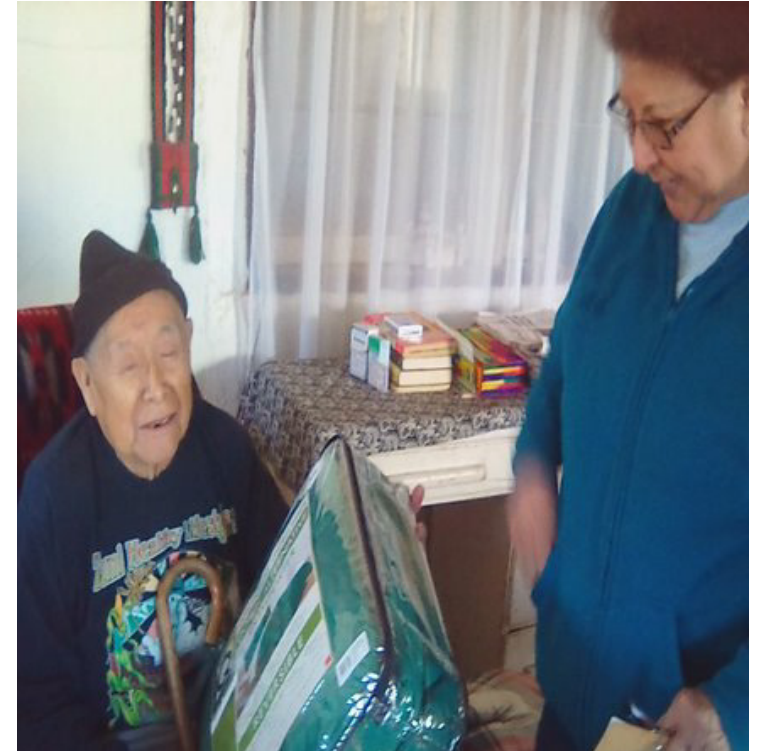




# Senior Companion Program

Senior companions give family caregivers much-needed time off from their duties, run errands, and often provide friendship for their clients.

Additionally, the individual who spends time with their senior companion is often happier when socializing with an elder while being able to assist with minor household chores and contributing to their community.



# Foster Grandparent Program

Volunteers aged 55 and over stay active by serving children and youth in the Zuni community. Some examples of services provided include helping children learn to read, providing one-on-one tutoring, caring for children with disabilities and helping those who have been abused or neglected.

Foster grandparents supporting children has resulted in better school attendance and improvement with all academic areas of their grade level.



# Program Eligibility

- Must be 55 and over
- Must meet the low-income eligibility requirement
- Complete FBI, state and local background check
- Serve as a volunteer 15 to 40 hours a week
- Receive a tax-free hourly stipend of \$4.00 per hour



# Senior Companions and Foster Grandparents

## **Who develops the care plan?**

For senior companions, a care plan is developed by the recipient and the senior companion provider. Plans are implemented daily and outline what kind of supports the elder needs.

## **What kind of care does the plan include?**

Senior companions can assist an elder with activities of daily-living skills which may include minor household chores, sweeping floors, dusting, etc.

The main outcome is for the recipient to receive socialization so they will not be isolated or get lonely, and to prevent being moved into a nursing home.



# Senior Companions and Foster Grandparents

## **Who develops the care plan?**

For the foster grandparent program, the plan is developed by a teacher, and or parent, and are focused on academics. Like the senior companion care plan, these plans are also implemented daily and outline what kind of supports the child needs.

## **What kind of care does the plan include?**

Foster grandparents work under their assigned teacher with children who require additional supports by providing them tutoring and mentoring to achieve their academic goals.



Thank you!



**Questions?**



