



Executive Update

Dear Friends of SHORE UP,

Since our founding in Worcester County in 1965, SHORE UP has grown to serve all nine counties on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Our roots are deep in the community, and our mission remains strong: to support individuals and families striving for self-sufficiency and financial independence. As a community action agency born from President Johnson's War on Poverty, we work locally to build trust and deliver vital resources directly to those who need them most.



Today, we tackle multigenerational poverty through programs in housing, utility assistance, education, skills training, and financial counseling. These services empower people to create brighter futures for themselves and their families, and we need your support to keep that momentum going.

If you're passionate about making a difference and believe in uplifting our neighbors, consider joining us in this mission. We invite you to promote our programs, volunteer, or serve on our Board of Directors, where your insight and dedication can help shape SHORE UP's future. Please email us at agency@shoreup.org with your interest and a brief summary of your motivation. Together, let's continue to drive change on the Shore!

Tyrone Chase, Ph.D.
Executive Director

Foster Grandparents on a Mission: SHORE UP Volunteers Lead by Example

At SHORE UP, we believe in the power of giving back—and no group embodies that spirit more than our dedicated Foster Grandparents. These volunteers don't just show up; they show out, consistently making a difference across the Lower Eastern Shore! In just the past month, our Foster Grandparents have taken community service to the next level:

- **Collected Eyeglasses & Pill Bottles for the Lions Club:** In partnership with a local chapter of the Lions Club, our volunteers gathered hundreds of used eyeglasses and empty pill bottles to aid in providing vision care and medication storage to underserved communities.
- **Attended Ribbon-Cutting for a New Community Resource:** Always ready to lend their support, our Foster Grandparents celebrated the opening of a new local resource center, symbolizing their commitment to staying engaged in initiatives that uplift our community.
- **Recycled Christmas Cards for Seniors:** Recognizing the joy that a simple greeting can bring, they collected and repurposed old Christmas cards to create beautiful new holiday greetings for residents of local senior citizens homes.

And they're just getting started! As the new year approaches, our Foster Grandparents are already brainstorming their next service projects, proving that age is no barrier to making a lasting impact. "Our Foster Grandparents are the heartbeat of this program," said Program Director Joyce Farrare. "Their passion and dedication inspire us every day. They remind us that giving back is a lifelong mission."



Head Start Recruitment & Job Fair

SHORE UP will be holding a recruitment and job fair on Thursday, February 5. If you are interested in working in our Head Start or Early Head Start program, please mark your calendars now! We will hold on-the-spot interviews, provide information about our programs and services, and answer any questions you may have.

In order to accommodate the schedule of prospective applicants, the job fair will be held in two shifts that day: from 10 AM to 1 PM and from 3 PM to 6 PM. We hope to see you there!



Ready for a Refund? SHORE UP Offers Income Tax Preparation Free of Charge!

Once again this year, SHORE UP's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program will be completing tax returns for hundreds of Delmarva residents at no charge! If you earned less than \$67,000 in 2024, you are eligible for this free service.

Tax forms should be picked up either at our Salisbury office (520 Snow Hill Road) or at the Loretta Village office in Princess Anne (12409 Loretto Road). Complete the paperwork at home and pull together any relevant documents such as W-2 or 1099 forms. Then either drop off your information for us to complete your return or, if you want your taxes done in person, call for an appointment.

Interested in helping the program as a volunteer? See details on page 3.

Shady Pines Needs Your Help!

Our adult day program at the Shady Pines in Salisbury provides families with a safe, supportive, and friendly environment in which their loved ones can thrive. The program is open to Somerset & Wicomico County residents age 16 or older with a need for daytime supervision while their primary caretaker is at work.



The rising cost of program supplies, along with a lack of public awareness of this much-needed community service, has been a challenge for our program participants and staff. We are asking for your help in two ways:

1. Tell people you know in Somerset & Wicomico Counties about our Adult Day Program at Shady Pines. We provide two meals and a snack, limitless socialization opportunities, special events, and engaging activities.
2. Check out our Amazon wish list that details everything we need for cleaning, meal prep, activities, and more. You can view the wish list at <https://amzn.id/shadypines> or scan the QR code below with your cell phone's camera. Items purchased from the wish list will default to the Shady Pines address so that anything you purchase as a donation will be delivered directly to the center.



BE A TAX PREP VOLUNTEER

SHORE UP!
INC.



Helping People. Changing Lives.

SHORE UP's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) is looking for volunteers to help with tax preparation beginning January 2025. No experience necessary - volunteers will be trained and certified.

- ✓ Flexible hours available including evenings and weekends
- ✓ Free training and certification in income tax preparation

For More Information:

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410-749-1142, ext 1056