



**Community Renewal Team**  
Changing lives... Creating opportunity!

Corporation for  
**NATIONAL &  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICE** 



## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
August 14, 2017

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### **RSVP Seeks Senior Volunteers to Read with Children 1-Hour/Week Throughout School Year**

HARTFORD — The Community Renewal Team's Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is actively seeking volunteers age 55+ with a passion for reading to serve in our signature program, READs, for the 2017-18 school year in five local communities: **Berlin, New Britain, Manchester, Vernon, and Portland**. The program is seeking 200+ volunteers to cover the schools in these communities.

The RSVP READs program is a school-based program where volunteers are partnered with students in local elementary schools, providing reading guidance for 1 hour per week from October to May during the school year. Tutors in the RSVP READs program help to make reading fun for students, serving as positive role models that inspire students to develop their own love of reading.

"As a READs RSVP Tutor, we can promise you that you will truly make a difference in the lives of the students you help throughout the year," says Theresa Strong, RSVP Manager for the Community Renewal Team. "Volunteer today and share your love of reading with children in your community."

To get started, volunteers simply need to let the RSVP team know what weekdays you are available to give at least one hour, and which school district you want to help. You will then be placed with the program that meets your availability. You can also choose to serve as a substitute in the reading program, if that better fits with your schedule.

**Individuals that would like to volunteer should contact Theresa Strong, RSVP Manager of the Community Renewal Team, via email at [strongt@crtct.org](mailto:strongt@crtct.org) or by calling (860) 519-3484.**

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*Community Renewal Team, Inc. is the designated Community Action Agency for Middlesex and Hartford Counties and is the largest non-profit provider of human services in Connecticut. The agency's mission is Preparing Our Community to Meet Life's Challenges. The mission is achieved each day by helping people and families become self-sufficient while making sure basic needs are met. CRT's programs include Head Start, Meals on Wheels, energy assistance, supportive housing and shelters, and many others, serving people in more than 60 cities and towns in both our core catchment area and throughout Connecticut. [www.crtct.org](http://www.crtct.org)*