



News Release

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Century College Bus Tour to Give Boomers A Unique Look at Volunteer Opportunities

Century College is reaching out to the +50 generation – “Boomers and Better” who are re-thinking what retirement means.

For many, it means focusing on volunteerism and civic engagement. Recognizing this, Century College is offering a one-day course this fall that will provide a unique opportunity for folks who are +50 and better to have a close-up look at three very different ways to contribute their time and talent in the community.

Century’s *“Rolling into Service” Bus Tour for Prospective Volunteers* will be held **Thursday, October 8, 2009**. The event is part of Century’s [PrimeTime/+50 Initiative](#), which has been made possible through a grant awarded to Century College by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC).

Participants will meet on Century's East Campus at 8:30 a.m. for a brief program. Then, the group will climb aboard for an informal bus tour to three specially-selected nonprofits: Second Harvest Heartland, Tamarack Nature Center, and East Metro Women's Council. Each nonprofit will highlight the need, impact and importance of volunteers at their organizations.

"Prospective volunteers will receive an inside look at a wide variety of volunteer roles at these organizations," said [Lynda Halbert](#), Volunteer Coordinator in Century's PrimeTime/+50 Program. "From there, it will be up to each individual to decide if one of these opportunities is the right "fit" for their background and skills. No commitment is required."

A very special feature of the day will be a presentation by guest speaker Jim Scheibel, former mayor of St. Paul who directed AmeriCorps Vista and the Senior Corps for the Clinton administration. During a mid-day lunch break, he will address the importance of civic engagement by +50 citizens who, despite the economic downturn, can provide the energy for organizations to actually thrive and grow stronger.

"Older adults are looking for ways to give back to their communities," said Scheibel. "Some say, they are just waiting to be asked. This tour will be that "ask" and a call to service."

A \$7 fee for the course, which will run from 8:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., includes a catered box lunch, the bus and program.

Interested persons can register for ***"Rolling into Service" Bus Tour for Prospective Volunteers*** by calling [Century College Continuing Education and Customized Training](#) at 651-779-3341. Space is limited, so interested individuals are encouraged to call soon.



Photo: Jim Scheibel