



ERIE COUNTY RSVP VOLUNTEERS CRUISE ON THE MISS BUFFALO IN APPRECIATION FOR THEIR VOLUNTEERISM

Erie County senior volunteers were honored for their remarkable service with a scenic thank-you cruise aboard the Miss Buffalo on Tuesday. Hosted by the Erie County Department of Senior Services Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), this celebratory event took place on the picturesque Buffalo waterfront, offering a well-deserved afternoon of relaxation and enjoyment to those who have dedicated their time and talents to serving the community.

The RSVP program is committed to empowering older adults to remain active, engaged, and connected with their communities. Its mission focuses on improving lives, strengthening communities, and fostering civic engagement through service and volunteering. By participating in RSVP, seniors can apply their lifelong skills, develop new ones, or explore passions still on their bucket list while making a meaningful impact locally.

In 2023 alone, RSVP volunteers contributed over 47,000 hours of service to various communities across Erie County. At today's minimum wage, this incredible effort represents a labor cost savings of approximately \$700,000 for Erie County residents. Many of the dedicated volunteers have been involved with the program for over 10 years, some 20 years, demonstrating a longstanding commitment to service and community.

"This cruise is a small token of our gratitude for the immeasurable contributions our volunteers have made throughout the years," said **Angela Marinucci Commissioner of the Erie County Department of Senior Services**. "Their dedication not only enriches the lives of those they serve but also strengthens our entire community. We are proud to celebrate their achievements and thank them for their outstanding service."

The Miss Buffalo cruise provided an opportunity for the RSVP volunteers to relax and reflect on their remarkable achievements while enjoying the stunning views of Buffalo's waterfront. The event was a fitting tribute to the spirit and dedication of Erie County's senior volunteers.

For more information about the Retired Senior Volunteer Program and how to get involved, please visit <https://www3.erie.gov/seniorservices/rsvp> or call 716-858-7548.



