



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, older Americans bring a lifetime of skills and experience as parents, workers, and citizens that can be tapped to meet challenges in our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, for more than four decades Senior Corps, and its three programs - RSVP, Senior Companions, and Foster Grandparents - have proven to be highly effective ways to engage Americans ages 55 and over in meeting national and community needs; and

**WHEREAS**, each year Senior Corps provides opportunities for nearly 330,000 older Americans across the nation, including approximately 6,372 dedicated seniors in the great state of Tennessee, to serve their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Senior Corps volunteers last year provided more than 96.2 million hours of service, helping to improve the lives of our most vulnerable citizens, strengthen our educational system, mentor children and youth, protect our environment, provide independent living services and contribute to our public safety; and

**WHEREAS**, Senior Corps volunteers build capacity of organizations and communities by serving through more than 65,000 nonprofit, community, educational, and faith-based community groups nationwide; and

**WHEREAS**, at a time of mounting social needs and growing interest in service by older Americans, there is an unprecedented opportunity to harness the talents of volunteers 55 years of age and older to address community challenges; and

**WHEREAS**, service by older Americans helps the volunteers by keeping them active, healthy, and engaged, helps our communities by solving local problems, and helps our nation by saving taxpayer dollars, reducing healthcare costs, and strengthening our democracy; and

**WHEREAS**, the third annual Senior Corps Week, taking place May 7-11, 2012, is an opportunity to thank Senior Corps volunteers for their service and recognize their positive impact and value to our communities and nation;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim May 7-11, 2012 as

## SENIOR CORPS WEEK

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this 27th day of April, 2012.

Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Joe Ricketts in blue ink.

Secretary of State

