



Gary A. Officer
Executive Director

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MEDIA ADVISORY

U.S. Senator Ben Cardin in Sandtown-Winchester and Towson to Discuss a Better Deal for Marylanders

Senior Service America, Inc. (SSAI) is delighted to announce that on Monday, August 21, 2017, U.S. Senator Ben Cardin will take part in two discussions with SSAI Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) participants and other local seniors and residents of Baltimore City and Baltimore County.

The first meeting will take place at 10 a.m. at West Baltimore's Sandtown-Winchester Senior Community Center. The Sandtown-Winchester Senior Community Center is located at 1601 Baker St., Baltimore, MD 21216. At this meeting, the Senator will discuss federal programs and policies that could be expanded or improved to better serve the needs of citizens, such as Medicare, the programs under the Older Americans Act such as SCSEP and Senior Nutrition, healthcare, prescription drug coverage, improving Social Security and retirement security. Gary A. Officer, SSAI's Executive Director, will join the Senator.

"Marylanders are fortunate that Senator Cardin recognizes the needs of seniors by supporting programs like the Senior Community Service Employment Program, Medicare, Social Security and meals. Additionally Senior Service America Inc. recognizes the Senator's strong support of the jobs initiative that is part of the "Better Deal" economic agenda for America," notes Mr. Officer.

The second meeting on Monday, August 21st will be a Town Hall Forum with Senator Cardin starting at 12:30 p.m. at the Bykota Senior Center, attended not only by seniors served by one of SSAI's long-time SCSEP subgrantees, the Baltimore County Department on Aging, but also by local elected officials and other local residents. The Bykota Senior Center is located at 611 Central Avenue, Towson, MD, 21204.

In addition to discussing issues important to seniors at the Town Hall at the Bykota Senior Center, Senator Cardin will also provide updates on multiple issues under intense debate at the federal level – such as affordable health care, tax reform, opioid addiction resources and Chesapeake Bay restoration funding – that are of particular importance to Marylanders. He also will respond to questions from attendees on current affairs. Part of an ongoing listening tour to all parts of the state, this forum will allow Marylanders the chance to present their concerns on key issues directly to the senator and other elected officials in attendance.

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About the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)

Eligible adults 55+ participate in the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), a major program of the Older Americans Act. SCSEP, the only federal job training program focused exclusively on helping low income seniors, promotes personal dignity and self-sufficiency through work. Its temporary part-time community service jobs provide a hand-up, not a hand-out for older, unemployed low-income Americans. The Senior Community Service Employment Program allows eligible persons to participate for up to only four years, but the average tenure nationally is 18 months.

About Senior Service America, Inc.

Senior Service America, Inc. (SSAI) is a national nonprofit organization based in Silver Spring, Maryland that provides employment opportunities to low-income and other older adults in 34 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. As the second largest of the 19 national SCSEP grantees of the U.S. Department of Labor, SSAI provides more than \$38 million in Senior Community Service Employment Program funds annually to a diverse network of 65 local partner organizations in 13 states. For more information, go to www.seniorserviceamerica.org, call (301) 578-8826, email gofficer-ssa-i.org, or Twitter @SrSvcAmerica. (Officer is available for phone interviews upon request.)