

Employment opportunities for YAN seniors

By Don Decker, YAN News

“Your job is to get a job, our job is to help you!” says a motto from the brochure of the National Indian Council on Aging (NICOA) which has an employment program for any one 55 or older. Under the auspices of the Senior Community Services Employment Program (SCSEP) through the U.S. Department of Labor, this program is looking for a few qualified applicants to be placed in the work sector in the community for part-time work. Eligibility is based on age and family income and those “most-in-need characteristics”.

Nina Sanchez, program manager of the local WIOA (Work Innovation Opportunity Act) at Yavapai-Apache Nation implemented this opportunity to recruit seniors who may want to seek and gain employment through this national program.

“I am working on the recruitment and trying to get this program started here at the Nation. I’ve met with some of the seniors and handed information along with the application. I am more than happy to help them complete the application and get it sent in for them,” said Ms. Sanchez.

Ms. Sanchez completed a two-session summer youth employment program under the WIOA program which exposed youth to work experience and exposure to various career fields. The WIOA is an on-going program providing various services to individuals desiring employment training and work placement.

SCSEP program individuals selected for the program are provided with a wide range training opportunities while being employed up to 20 hours per week. The SCSEP consider mature workers as more reliable and valuable resources and places qualified participants in the local workforce.

The facts for mature workers clearly point to the fact(s) that mature workers want to stay active and engaged in their communities. Studies show that older citizens play an even more important role in the world economy by bringing special skills and knowledge to the worksites. For inquiries about the SCSEP program, contact **Nina Sanchez 928-567-1091**
