



## **NASUAD Celebrates the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of SCSEP and National Employ Older Workers Week**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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WASHINGTON, DC - September 19-25, 2010, is National Employ Older Workers Week, a celebration recognizing the importance of the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), and of the participation of older workers in the labor force. This year marks the 45th Anniversary of the inception of the SCSEP, which has helped over one million older Americans enter the job market by providing them with workforce training in community service settings, and by giving them the skills and tools necessary to become competitive in today's rapidly changing workforce.

In honor of National Employ Older Workers Week, and in celebration of the 45th Anniversary of the SCSEP, the National SCSEP Grantees, in partnership with the State SCSEP Grantees, the National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD), and the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a), hosted the SCSEP 45th Anniversary Celebration at the U.S. Capitol Senate Visitor's Center on Wednesday, September 22, 2010.

The event highlighted the achievements of the SCSEP throughout the years, its relevance in today's economy, and the needs of older workers in the future. To begin, special guests Gerri Fiala, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training in the U.S. Department of Labor, and Edwin Walker, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Program Operations at the Administration on Aging in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, highlighted their agencies' partnership on work with the SCSEP, and extended their congratulations to the SCSEP grantees and their participants. Lauren Gilchrist, a Legislative Assistant for Senator Al Franken, then spoke about the Senator's support of the SCSEP and other Older Americans Act programs, such as the Ombudsman program and home meal delivery programs. Group organizers then recognized retiring Wisconsin Congressman David Obey for his support and championship of the SCSEP throughout his career, and the celebration concluded with several SCSEP participants, employers and host agencies describing their positive experiences with the program.

As a representative of the 56 state and territorial agencies on aging in which 40 of the state and territorial SCSEP grantees reside, NASUAD would like to congratulate all SCSEP grantees and participants for 45 years of excellence in serving seniors.

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**National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities**, founded in 1964, represents the nation's 56 officially designated state and territorial agencies on aging. The Association's principal mission is to support visionary state leadership, advance state systems innovation and articulate a national policy on home and community based services for older adults and individuals with disabilities. <http://www.nasuad.org>