



*COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*  
*Department for the Aging*

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October 6, 2009

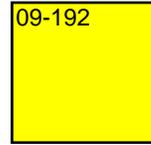
SUBJECT

VDA ID NUMBER

[Caregiving and Elder Issues](#)  
(Ellen Nau)

09-192

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**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
*Department for the Aging*

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Ellen M. Nau, Human Services Program Coordinator

**DATE:** October 6, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Caregiving and Elder Issues

**International Day of Older Persons**

Oct. 1 was the 10th International Day of Older Persons, sponsored by the United Nations. The event is part of an international campaign for policies that enable older persons to live in an environment that enhances their capabilities, fosters their independence, and provides them with adequate support and care as they age. The theme this year is: "Celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the International Year of Older Persons: Towards a Society for All Ages". For information on other International Year of Older Persons events, go to [http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/ageing/un\\_meetings.html](http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/ageing/un_meetings.html)

**Summary of Current U.S. Congress Caregiver Legislation**

Please find attached a list of current caregiving legislation now before the 111<sup>th</sup> United States Congress. Please note **S. 1131/H.R. 2550** *Independence at Home Act of 2009*. Dr. Peter Boling of VCU/MCV is one of the chief architects of this bill. Thank you to the NAC for supplying this information.

The 111<sup>th</sup> United States Congress has also passed a resolution honoring caregivers in the United States. The text of the resolution is attached.

## **2010 Brookdale Leadership in Aging Fellowship Program**

The two-year fellowship is open to all professionals in the field of aging. Applications are sought from a broad range of related disciplines, including the medical, biological, and basic sciences; nursing; social sciences; and the arts and humanities.

Each candidate must demonstrate leadership potential, provide evidence of an ongoing commitment to a career in aging, have a mentor (or mentors) willing and able to provide meaningful professional guidance to the candidate, agree to commit at least 75 percent of his or her time for career development during each of the two years of the fellowship, and propose a project related to the field of aging that will contribute to his or her career development and leadership skills. **Candidates should generally be between the first and tenth years of their graduate degree.**

The award is a two-year grant paid to the candidate's sponsoring institution in support of the candidate's research project. A grant award of up to \$125,000 each year is intended to cover 75 percent of the fellow's time, base salary, and fringe benefits.

For detailed information on the application and guidelines please visit the Brookdale Foundation Web site.

<http://www.brookdalefoundation.org/>

## **CMS Caregiver Workgroup**

The next workgroup meeting will be held on Thursday, October 29, 2009 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) at 601 E Street NW, Washington, DC, 20049, Building B, Room B2-130. A follow-up e-mail with an agenda, presentations, handouts and call-in information will soon follow. In-person or telephone attendance is available.

RSVP to [Maria.Tracy@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Maria.Tracy@cms.hhs.gov) by COB October 26, 2009

## **World Alzheimer's Report 2009**

The report which was released on September 21, 2009 estimates that 35.6 million people worldwide have dementia and that this number could double in twenty years. To read the report in detail and learn what other nations are doing in regard to their dementia populations go to: <http://www.alz.co.uk/research/worldreport/>

## **The Alzheimer's Project**

A screening of the HBO Emmy award winning "The Alzheimer's Project" scheduled for Tuesday, October 27th at the historic Byrd Theater in Richmond, Virginia. Please see attached flyer.

### **Money Follows the Person**

Ten Area Agencies on Aging are now participating in Virginia's Money Follows the Person Project. An article in the *New York Times* on September 18, 2009, "Helping Elderly Leave Nursing Homes for a Home," highlights Money Follows the Person and nursing home diversion programs. It explains Medicaid's slow shift away from nursing homes as the only option for adults with long-term care needs and towards the availability of home and community-based services. But it also notes that moving people back into the community often transfers financial responsibilities and other burdens onto family members. [http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/19/health/policy/19aging.html?\\_r=2](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/19/health/policy/19aging.html?_r=2)

### **Residents' Rights Week October 4-10, 2009**

Please find attached, a press release for Residents' Rights Week from Joanie Latimer, State Ombudsman.

### **Quantity and Economic Value of Family Caregiving for Older Persons in the Last Year of Life**

An article in the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society* (Volume 57, Number 9) by Dr. Yong Joo Rhee and colleagues estimates the quantity and economic value of informal caregiving provided to older adults during their final year of life in the community. An average of 65.8 hours per week of informal care was provided to older individuals who died while living in the community. The economic value of that care ranges from \$22,514 to \$42,351 per caregiver and totals \$1.4 billion nationally.

### **Crater Community Hospice**

Crater Community Hospice, a long-time member of the Virginia Caregiver Coalition, has received two significant awards. The Cameron Foundation awarded the organization the 2009 Excellence in Organization Management. The competitive award is accompanied by an unrestricted gift of \$30,000. The Cameron Foundation is an independent, not-for-profit organization formed in April 2003 from the proceeds of the sale of Southside Regional Medical Center.

The National Hospice and Palliative Care announced that Crater Community Hospice will be a partner in its national initiative program, *Its About How You LIVE – at Work*, funded by the Jacob & Valerie Langeloth Foundation. Through this partnership, Crater Community Hospice will be able to provide support and resources for caregivers of seriously ill.

Press releases about both awards are attached.

### **Women's Health Virginia**

***Take Thyme for Women's Health*** is the title of Women's Health Virginia's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary fundraiser to be held on Thursday, November 5, 2009. The event will support the organization's Young Women's Initiative focused on promoting the lifelong wellness of Virginia's girls, teens and young women. Information on the special four course dinner by chefs from *Palladio, Keswick Hall, The Clifton Inn* and the *Silver Thatch Inn* are attached.

### **The Virginia Caregiver Coalition**

The Virginia Caregiver Coalition will sponsor a presentation by nationally recognized author Hank Dunn at 10:00 A.M. on November 19, 2009 to mark National Family Caregiver month. The presentation will originate at the Fairfax County AAA and be available for viewing and discussion by professional and family caregivers via video conferencing. Many local Department of Health, Departments of Social Services and Disability Centers have video-conference capabilities. Please reserve a local video-conference site and let Coalition facilitator, Ellen Nau know if you would like to join in this wonderful presentation and discussion. [Ellen.Nau@vda.virginia.gov](mailto:Ellen.Nau@vda.virginia.gov)  
Information on Mr. Dunn is attached.

The Coalition's facilitator recently received an honorarium from the National Alliance for Caregiving which has been given to the Virginia Caregiver Coalition to support its various activities.

## Summary of Caregiver Legislation in 111<sup>th</sup> Congress

Updated August 10, 2009

Information on bills pending in Congress related to family caregiving is presented below in the following categories: Respite; Tax Bills; Social Security/Medicare/Medicaid Enhancements; Family Leave Enhancements; and Other Legislation.

Bill Number & Title	Sponsors	Status
<b><i>Respite</i></b>		
H.R. 519 <i>Elder Caregiver Support and Information Enhancement Act of 2009</i>	Rep. Steve Israel (D-NY) 6 Cosponsors	Referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce on January 14, 2009.
<b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Amends the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize additional appropriations for FY2010-FY2012 for the family caregiver support program. Authorizes appropriations for FY2010-2012 for the National Clearinghouse for Long-Term Care Information.		
S. 543 <i>Veteran and Servicemember Caregiver Support Act of 2009</i>	Sen. Richard Durbin (D-IL) 12 Cosponsors	Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs on March 6, 2009.
<b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Require a pilot program on training, certification, and support for family caregivers of seriously disabled veterans and members of the Armed Forces to provide caregiver services to such veterans and members, and for other purposes.		
S. 697/H.R. 1721 <i>Community Living Assistance Services and Supports (CLASS) Act</i>	Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-NY) 6 Cosponsors  Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ) 19 Cosponsors	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance on March 25, 2009. Provisions inserted into HELP's Affordable Health Choices Act.  Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Rules, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

Bill Number & Title	Sponsors	Status
<p><b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Amend the Public Health Service Act to help individuals with functional impairments and their families pay for services and supports that they need to maximize their functionality and independence and have choices about community participation, education, and employment, and for other purposes.</p>		
<b><i>Tax Legislation</i></b>		
H.R. 1192 <i>Alzheimer's Family Assistance Act of 2009</i>	Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX) 1 Cosponsor	Referred to House Committee on Ways and Means on February 25, 2009.
<p><b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Amends the Internal Revenue Code to: (1) allow a phased-in tax credit (\$2,000 in 2009 increasing by \$500 each year until allowing \$3,500 in 2012 and thereafter) for family caregivers of spouses and dependents who have long-term care needs; (2) allow a tax deduction for long-term care insurance premiums; and (3) apply certain consumer protection standards to long-term care insurance contracts.</p>		
H.R. 901 <i>Medical Bankruptcy Fairness Act</i>	Rep. Carol Shea-Porter (D-NH)	Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary on February 4, 2009.
<p><b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> To amend title 11 of the United States Code to provide protection for medical debt homeowners, to restore bankruptcy protections for individuals experiencing economic distress as caregivers to ill or disabled family members, and to exempt from means testing debtors whose financial problems were caused by serious medical problems.</p>		
<b><i>Social Security/Medicare/Medicaid Enhancements</i></b>		
S. 245/H.R. 468 <i>Retooling the Health Care Workforce for an Aging America Act of 2009</i>	Sen. Herb Kohl (D-WI) 5 Cosponsors  Rep. Janice Schakowsky (D-IL) 11 Cosponsors	Referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions on January 13, 2009.  Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor on January 13, 2009.
<p><b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Amends the Public Health Service Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to expand training for health professionals in the fields of geriatrics, long-term care, and chronic care management. Amends the Older Americans Act of 1965 to require the Assistant Secretary for Aging to: (1) develop family caregiver training materials; and (2) provide for the establishment and operation of a National Resource Center on Volunteers, Students, and Seniors to promote partnerships between entities in the aging network and institutions of higher education and secondary schools, and to encourage projects that involve underserved communities. Provides for the development of information and referral protocols for family caregivers of Medicare beneficiaries. Amends title XIX (Medicaid) of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of assessments of family caregiver support needs.</p>		

Bill Number & Title	Sponsors	Status
H.R. 769 <i>Social Security Caregiver Credit Act of 2009</i>	Rep. Nita Lowey (D-NY) 15 Cosponsors	Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means on January 28, 2009.
<b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Amends title II (Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance) (OASDI) of the Social Security Act with respect to determining entitlement to and the amount of any monthly benefit, including any lump-sum death payment, payable under OASDI on the basis of the wages and self-employment income of any individual. Deems such an individual to have been paid a wage (according to a specified formula) during each month during which the individual was engaged for at least 80 hours in providing care to a dependent relative without monetary compensation for up to five years of such service. Makes this Act inapplicable in the case of any monthly benefit or lump-sum death payment if a larger benefit or payment would be payable without its application.		
H.R. 1457 <i>Geriatrics Loan Forgiveness Act of 2009</i>	Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) 5 Cosponsors	Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on March 12, 2009.
<b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Amends the Public Health Service Act to deem certain geriatric health training to be obligated service for purposes of the National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program, and for other purposes		
S. 434 <i>Empowered at Home Act of 2009</i>	Sen. John Kerry (D-MA) 3 Cosponsors	Referred to the Committee on Finance on February 13, 2009.
<b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to improve the State plan amendment option for providing home and community-based services under the Medicaid program, and for other purposes. Family members or spouses who act as caregivers would receive tax breaks that could promote the purchase of “meaningful private long-term care insurance” and states would have access to grants to help improve the quality of home and community-based services.		
S. 683/ H.R. 1670 <i>Community Choice Act</i>	Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA) 20 Cosponsors  Rep. Danny Davis (D-IL) 60 Cosponsors	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.  Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.
<b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Amends title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide individuals with disabilities and older Americans with equal access to community-based attendant services and supports, and for other purposes.		
S. 1251/H.R. 3172 <i>Senior Navigation and Planning Act of 2009</i>	Sen. Mark Warner (D-VA)  Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance  Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means

Bill Number & Title	Sponsors	Status
<p><b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Amends titles XVIII (Medicare) and XIX (Medicaid) of the Social Security Act (SSA) to provide for Medicare and Medicaid coverage of advanced illness care management services. Directs the Secretary to conduct a pilot program under Medicare to test the use of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services discharge checklist. Directs the Secretary to establish or designate an Office on Medicare/Medicaid Integration.</p>		
<p>H.R. 2307/S. 1004 <i>Reaching Elders with Assessment and Chronic Care Management and Coordination Act</i></p>	<p>Sen. Blanche Lincoln (D-AR) 2 Cosponsors</p> <p>Rep. Gene Green (D-TX) 1 Cosponsor</p>	<p>Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.</p> <p>Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means</p>
<p><b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare part B (Supplementary Medical Insurance) coverage of geriatric assessments and chronic care management and coordination services. Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct outreach activities to inform likely eligible individuals of such assessments and services. Authorizes Medicare coverage for telehealth services to furnish such assessments and services. Directs the Secretary to contract for a study and report to Congress and the Secretary on: (1) the effectiveness of such coverage in improving the quality of care provided to Medicare beneficiaries with chronic conditions; and (2) the impact of such assessments and services on reducing Medicare expenditures.</p>		
<p><b>S. 1131/H.R. 2550</b> <i>Independence at Home Act of 2009</i></p>	<p>Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR) 10 Cosponsors</p> <p>Rep. Edward Markey (D-MA) 17 Cosponsors</p>	<p>Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance</p> <p>Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. Provisions inserted in to HR3200, the Affordable Health Choices Act.</p>
<p><b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to establish a voluntary Independence at Home chronic care coordination demonstration project under the Medicare fee-for-service program for high cost Medicare beneficiaries with multiple conditions</p>		
<p>H.R. 2773/S. 1295 <i>Medicare Transitional Care Act of 2009</i></p>	<p>Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) 3 Cosponsors</p> <p>Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) 8 Cosponsors</p>	<p>Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance</p> <p>Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means</p>

Bill Number & Title	Sponsors	Status
<p><b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Amends title XVIII of the Social Security Act to cover transitional care services under Medicare part B (Supplementary Medical Insurance) of benefits for transitional care services for qualified individuals following discharge from a hospital or critical access hospital.</p>		
<p><b><i>Family Leave Enhancements</i></b></p>		
<p>H.R.824 <i>Family and Medical Leave Enhancement Act of 2009</i></p>	<p>Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY) 11 Cosponsors</p>	<p>Referred to the Committee on Education and Labor the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, and House Administration on February 3, 2009.</p>
<p><b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Amends the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 and title 5, United States Code, to allow employees to take, as additional leave, parental involvement leave to participate in or attend their children's and grandchildren's educational and extracurricular activities, and to clarify that leave may be taken for routine family medical needs and to assist elderly relatives, and for other purposes.</p>		
<p>H.R. 1723 <i>Family Leave Insurance Act of 2009</i></p>	<p>Rep. Pete Stark (D-CA) 34 Cosponsors</p>	<p>Referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, and Ways and Means.</p>
<p><b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Authorizes the Secretary of Labor to: (1) contract with a state to establish a state Family and Medical Insurance Program to provide specified leave benefits, or expand a pre-existing state program; or (2) at a governor's request enter an interagency agreement with the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration to establish a state Family and Medical Insurance Program. Entitles eligible employees to Program benefits that include specified percentages of their daily earnings for 12 workweeks of leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 during any 12-month period.</p>		
<p><b>S. 1152/ H.R. 2460</b> <i>Healthy Families Act</i></p>	<p>Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA) 20 Cosponsors</p> <p>Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) 109 Cosponsors</p>	<p>Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.</p> <p>Referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, and House Administration.</p>
<p><b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Allows Americans to earn paid sick time so that they can address their own health needs and the health needs of their families.</p>		

Bill Number & Title	Sponsors	Status
<b><i>Health Care Reform</i></b>		
H.R. 3200 <i>Affordable Health Choices Act</i>	Rep. John Dingell (D-MI) 8 Cosponsors	Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Education and Labor. Ordered to be Reported (as Amended).
<p><b>How this helps family caregivers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increases access to affordable health insurance coverage,</li> <li>• Prohibits pre-existing condition exclusions,</li> <li>• Prohibits insurance companies from rescinding insurance policies except in instances of fraud,</li> <li>• Improves mental health coverage parity,</li> <li>• Provides for establishment of a minimum standard for offered benefits,</li> <li>• Improves consumer protection with insurance companies, including grievance and appeals mechanism and transparency and disclosure requirements,</li> <li>• Establishes an Accountable Care Organization Pilot Program that can utilize patient-centered processes of care, including those that emphasize patient and caregiver involvement in planning and monitoring of on going care management plan.</li> <li>• Provides for a 5-year medical home pilot program, and the medical home is required to provide support for family caregivers</li> <li>• Provides for a medical home pilot program in SCHIP for medically fragile children, the model is required to provide continuous involvement and education to the parent or caregiver,</li> <li>• Expands Medicaid to require coverage for disabled adults under age 65 with income at or below 133% of the federal poverty level (\$29,300 per year for a family of 4).</li> </ul>		
S. <i>Affordable Health Choices Act</i>	Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA)	Approved by the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

Bill Number & Title	Sponsors	Status
<p><b>How this helps family caregivers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requires all individuals to have health insurance;</li> <li>• Requires guarantee issue, premium rating, and prohibitions on pre-existing condition exclusions in the individual and small group insurance markets;</li> <li>• Creates a health care benefits package that that must be equal to the scope of benefits provided by a typical employer plan.</li> <li>• Expands Medicaid to all individuals (children, pregnant women, parents, and adults without dependent children) with incomes up to 150% of the federal poverty level</li> <li>• Establishes a national, voluntary insurance program for purchasing community living assistance services and supports (CLASS program), similar to a long-term care insurance program;</li> <li>• Establishes a patient safety research center to provide for the funding of the activities of organizations with recognized expertise and excellence in improving the delivery of health care services by involving caregivers and families;</li> <li>• Authorizes grants to establish community health teams to support a medical home model that includes caregivers; and</li> <li>• Provides funds to geriatric education centers that offer at least 2 courses each year to family caregivers to provide practical training for supporting frail elders and individuals with disabilities. All family caregiver training programs shall include instruction on the management of psychological and behavioral aspects of dementia, communication techniques for working with individuals who have dementia, and the appropriate, safe, and effective use of medications for older adults.</li> </ul>		
<b>Other Legislation</b>		
<p>H.R. 667 <i>Heroes At Home Act of 2009</i></p>	<p>Rep. John Salazar (D-CO) 30 Cosponsors</p>	<p>Referred to House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Health and House Armed Services Subcommittee on Military Personnel on January 23, 2009.</p>
<p><b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Requires the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a program on training and certification of family caregivers of veterans and members with traumatic brain injury (TBI)</p>		
<p>S.252 <i>Veterans Health Care Authorization Act of 2009</i></p>	<p>Sen. Daniel Akaka (D-HI) 5 Cosponsors</p>	<p>Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs on January 15, 2009.</p>
<p><b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Authorizes a pilot program for family caregiver personal care attendants for veterans and members of the Armed Forces with traumatic brain injury.</p>		

Bill Number & Title	Sponsors	Status
S. 652/H.R. 1614 <i>Community Coalitions for Access and Quality Improvement Act of 2009</i>	Sen. Parry Murray (D-WA)  Rep. Gene Green (D-TX) 6 Cosponsors	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.  Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.
<p><b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to assist in developing integrated health care delivery systems to serve defined communities of individuals to: (1) improve efficiency and coordination among providers; (2) assist local communities in developing programs targeted toward preventing and managing chronic diseases; and (3) expand and enhance services provided. Authorizes the Secretary, in awarding grants, to accord priority to: (1) applicants that demonstrate the greatest unmet need for a more coordinated system of care; and (2) applicants that best promote the objectives of this Act. Authorizes a grantee to use amounts provided only for: (1) direct expenses associated with achieving greater integration of a health care delivery system to directly provide or ensure the provision of a broad range of culturally competent services; and (2) direct patient care and service expansions to fill identified or documented gaps within an integrated delivery system.</p>		
S. 441 <i>Quality Reform Expansion and Savings Act of 2009</i>	Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) 5 Cosponsors	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
<p><b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award quality reform grants to eligible entities to enhance, encourage, and expedite implementation of quality reform plans in order to: (1) encourage the coordinated development of local health care quality reforms; (2) fund the development of practices beneficial to the health care system; (3) expand information technology, electronic health records, and interoperable data systems in the health care system; (4) develop reimbursement practices that align financial incentives with health and prevention reforms to identify and encourage best practices; (5) lower the costs of health care delivery; (6) encourage reform initiatives in different U.S. regions; and (7) reward cooperation among local entities engaged in reforming the health care system.</p>		
S. 1492/H.R. 3286 <i>Alzheimer's Breakthrough Act of 2009</i>	Sen. Barbara Mikulski (D-MD)  Rep. Edward Markey (D-MA)	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.  Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.
<p><b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Amends the Public Health Service Act to fund breakthroughs in Alzheimer's disease research while providing more help to caregivers and increasing public education about prevention.</p>		

Bill Number & Title	Sponsors	Status
H.R. 3155 <i>Caregiver Assistance and Resource Enhancement Act</i>	Rep. Michael Michaud (D-ME) 9 Cosponsors	Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs. The House agreed to the bill by voice vote. Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
<p><b>How this helps family caregivers:</b> Directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA), with respect to individuals providing noninstitutional extended care to disabled veterans, to make support services available to such caregivers, both family and non-family, including: (1) educational sessions teaching caring techniques, strategies, and skills; (2) respite care; (3) nursing care; (4) counseling and mental health services; (5) medical care; and (6) lodging and subsistence.</p>		

**One Hundred Eleventh Congress**  
**of the**  
**United States of America**  
**AT THE FIRST SESSION**

Begun and held at the City of Washington on Tuesday,  
the sixth day of January, two thousand and nine

Concurrent Resolution

Whereas 8,000 people in the United States turn 60 years old every day;

Whereas an estimated 35,900,000 people, 12.4 percent of the population, are 65 years of age and older;

Whereas the United States population age 65 and older is expected to more than double in the next 50 years to 86,700,000 in 2050;

Whereas the 85 and older population is projected to reach 9,600,000 in 2030 and double again to 20,900,000 in 2050;

Whereas it is estimated that 4,500,000 people in the United States have Alzheimer's disease today;

Whereas it is estimated that number will increase to between 11,300,000 and 16,000,000 by 2050;

Whereas 70 percent of people with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias live at home, and these individuals are examples of individuals who need assistance in their homes with their `activities of daily living';

Whereas currently over 25 percent of all seniors need some level of assistance with their `activities of daily living';

Whereas in order to address the surging population of seniors who have significant needs for in-home care, the field of senior caregiving will continue to grow;

Whereas there are an estimated 44,000,000 adults in the United States providing care to adult relatives or friends and an estimated 725,000 nonfamily private paid senior caregivers;

Whereas both unpaid family caregivers and paid caregivers work together to serve the daily living needs of seniors who live in their own homes;

Whereas the Department of Labor estimated that paid caregivers for the year 2006 worked a total of 835,000,000 hours, and the projected hours of paid senior caregivers are estimated to increase to 4,350,000,000 hours by 2025; and

Whereas the longer a senior is able to provide for his or her own care, the less burden is placed on public payment systems in State and Federal governments: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That*  
Congress--

- (1) recognizes caregiving as a profession;
- (2) supports the private home care industry and the efforts of family caregivers nationwide by encouraging individuals to provide care to family, friends, and neighbors;
- (3) encourages accessible and affordable care for seniors;
- (4) reviews Federal policies and supports current Federal programs which address the needs of seniors and their family caregivers; and
- (5) encourages the Secretary of Health and Human Services to continue working to educate people in the United States on the impact of aging and the importance of knowing the options available to seniors when they need care to meet their personal needs.

Attest:

Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Attest:

Secretary of the Senate.

5 million in the U.S. may have it.  
It's the sixth leading cause of death.  
It's the country's second most feared illness.

There is no cure, but there is HOPE.

# THE ALZHEIMER'S PROJECT

A 4-PART DOCUMENTARY SERIES CHANGING THE WAY AMERICA THINKS ABOUT ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

PART 1  
THE MEMORY  
LOSS TAPES

PART 2  
GRANDPA, DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?  
WITH MARIA SHRIVER

PART 3  
MOMENTUM  
IN SCIENCE

PART 4  
CAREGIVERS

You are invited to a special screening of  
HBO's Emmy-winning "The Alzheimer's Project"  
with panel discussion by:

**Peter A. Boling, MD**

*Director of Long-term Care & Geriatrics, VCU-Medical Center*

**Patricia W. Slattum, Pharm.D, Ph.D.**

*Associate Professor VCU School of Pharmacy*

**Robert B. Schaefer**

*Former caregiver*

**Date:** Tuesday, October 27, 2009  
**Location:** The Byrd Theatre, Carytown  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The program is free and open to the public.

alzheimer's  association



NIH | National Institute  
on Aging ★★★★★

alzheimer's  association

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GEOFFREY BEENE  
GIVES BACK  
ALZHEIMER'S INITIATIVE

AN  DOCUMENTARY FILMS. MULTIMEDIA EVENT STARTING MAY 10, 9PM 

## Press Release

**October 4-10<sup>th</sup> is Residents' Rights Week**, a week designated to honor residents living in long-term care facilities, including nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and retirement communities and to raise awareness of the rights of long-term care residents. In Virginia, we are planning events around a statewide theme of **"All the Comforts of Home."** With this theme, we emphasize the importance to nursing home residents of living in a homelike environment. The emphasis is on respecting and honoring individual choices and preferences – the things that really help residents feel 'at home.' Whether we call it person-centered care or "culture change," it's about creating less institutional environments and more individualized care, emphasizing residents' rights and quality of life as well as quality of care. What's important is what makes life satisfying and comfortable for each resident --being surrounded by caring relationships, favorite foods, familiar personal belongings, meaningful activities and routines of choice.

A central element of 'all the comforts of home' is the sense of security that comes in knowing that 'home' awaits at the end of a day – a place of one's own with all that makes it so - valued caregivers, relationships, personal items and familiar routines. Because an involuntary transfer or discharge from a nursing home can so traumatically disrupt that sense of security, we are giving special attention during Residents' Rights Week to the protections that are in place to safeguard this important security and comfort. We must be able to assure residents that they can count on being able to lay down their heads at the end of the day in the safe and familiar place they recognize as home and not fear being uprooted.

Around the state, long term care ombudsmen have planned various events to celebrate Residents' Rights Week. In Blackstone, the ombudsman will be speaking on the statewide theme to a retired teacher's association. The ombudsman in Norfolk will be taking to the airwaves on various radio and television shows, talking about residents' rights and highlighting the "All the Comforts of Home" theme. In Lynchburg, the ombudsman will offer in-service sessions on residents' rights for long term care staff. Peninsula residents of assisted living facilities have prepared skits, poems, musical numbers and stories to take 'on the road' to local nursing homes during Residents' Rights Week. The ombudsmen in our Area Agencies on Aging across the state have been encouraging local nursing homes and assisted living facilities to engage with residents and families in planning the facility's own special events to mark this important week.

At the state level, two free audio conferences on the "All the Comforts of Home" theme will be offered. Joani Latimer, the State Long Term Care Ombudsman, will present a one-hour session introducing the "All the Comforts of Home" theme on Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. She will highlight what events are

happening around the state and will talk about residents' rights and how those rights are best served by creating a homelike environment for each resident and providing care that is truly 'person-centered.' On Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. Kathy Pryor, elder law attorney with the Virginia Poverty Law Center, will hold a one-hour audio session reinforcing the theme as it relates to the need for security in one's home and a statewide effort to reduce improper transfers and discharges from nursing homes. She will discuss laws that protect nursing home residents from improper discharges and what residents, families and advocates can do to enforce those protections. Both sessions will provide an opportunity for questions in the last 15 minutes of the hour. Anyone interested in participating in these free audio conferences must register in advance to get call-in information by calling Robert Gardner at (804) 782-9430, Ext. 32 or emailing him at [Robert@vplc.org](mailto:Robert@vplc.org).

We urge everyone to take advantage of Residents' Rights Week to remember and visit friends and family members who reside in long term care facilities or to contact your local ombudsman to find out how you can become involved making a difference in the lives of nursing home residents. Residents – with their personal stories, memories and wisdom – are often a far too 'hidden' treasure in our communities. It's time to discover and celebrate that treasure!

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Krista Ratliff  
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### **Crater Community Hospice awarded Excellence in TCF Organizational Management Award**

#### **Crater Community Hospice's Organizational Management recognized by The Cameron Foundation**

Crater Community Hospice, CCH, has been named as the recipient of the 2009 *Excellence in Organizational Management Award* by The Cameron Foundation, (TCF), in their third annual recognition program. The application process for the award utilized an internal audit measuring organizations against national best practice standards. Crater Community Hospice was honored with first place demonstrating excellence in overall organizational management. Standards in the self assessment included areas such as governance, fiscal management, planning, resource development, human resources and volunteers, program management and evaluation, and marketing and communications. The competitive award comes with an unrestricted gift of \$30,000.

The award is the result of two annual recognition programs for nonprofit organizations within The Cameron Foundation's service area of Petersburg, Colonial Heights, Hopewell, Dinwiddie, Prince George, Sussex and the portion of Chesterfield County lying south of Rt.10.

Crater Community Hospice was honored with the first Cleveland A. Wright Award for Outstanding Community Service in 2007 by The Cameron Foundation. “With the challenges that so many of our local nonprofits are facing to meet their day-to-day needs in this economy, we appreciate the effort that all of this year’s applicants made to vie for such highly competitive recognition awards,” said Handy L. Lindsey, Jr., Foundation president. “We are reminded of just how important the nonprofit sector is to our quality of life in this community. For the 2009 honorees, I hope the announcement of these awards will shine an even brighter light on the critical contributions that they are making every day,” he added. The Cameron Foundation is an independent, not-for-profit organization formed in April 2003 from the proceeds of the sale of Southside Regional Medical Center. The Foundation’s programs and activities are intended to benefit residents in those areas historically served by the hospital.

“We are extremely honored to receive The Cameron Foundation’s Excellence in Organizational Management Award, said Brenda D. Mitchell, Crater Community Hospice CEO. “Receiving this award confirms for us that we are focused on the right areas to maintain a leadership role in providing these vital services to the community. We have identified priority goals in critical areas, so it is gratifying to see that our organization’s hard work is recognized and appreciated.”

Crater Community Hospice, the only non-profit hospice located in the tri-cities, was founded in 1995 through the joint efforts of Southside Regional Medical Center and John Randolph Hospital and local community citizens to serve the Crater District which comprises the Tri-Cities, Emporia and seven rural counties in Central Virginia. To learn more contact Krista Ratliff at (804) 526-4300 or [Kratliff@cratercommunityhospice.org](mailto:Kratliff@cratercommunityhospice.org). ###



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### **Crater Community Hospice Selected as Partner in National Workplace Outreach Initiative**

Crater Community Hospice has been selected as a partner with the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization's Caring Connections workplace outreach initiative, *It's About How You LIVE – At Work*, funded by the Jacob & Valeria Langeloth Foundation. The *LIVE – At Work* initiative is striving to increase awareness about the needs of working caregivers who struggle with work-life balance while taking care of their ill, elderly, or frail family members; and provide support for employers with working caregivers.

According a 2006 study from the National Alliance for Caregiving and MetLife, U.S. businesses lose from \$17.1 billion to \$33.6 billion per year in productivity for full-time employees with caregiving responsibilities.

“We are honored to be chosen as one of 35 hospice partners located across the country and will be actively reaching out to employers in our community over the next year,” said Brenda D. Mitchell, Executive Director.

Through this opportunity, Crater Community Hospice will be able to provide support and resources for employees who are caregiving for a loved one that is seriously ill, dealing with grief and loss issues, and/or need more information about planning for future healthcare decisions and other end-of-life issues.

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Information about the *It's About How You LIVE – At Work* can also be found at [www.caringinfo.org/liveatwork](http://www.caringinfo.org/liveatwork) or by calling the Caring Connections' Help Line at 800/658-8898.

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**Reservation for *Take Thyme for Women's Health***  
**Celebrating Women's Health Virginia's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

November 5, 2009 at Keswick Hall

- I want to attend. Please reserve

\_\_\_ Individual Tickets (\$90) \$\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Patron Tickets (\$150) \$\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Patron Table (Includes 8 tickets, \$1200) \$\_\_\_\_\_

I am adding a tax-deductible contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_

- I cannot attend but want to make a special  
tax-deductible 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail\_\_\_\_\_

- I am enclosing a check made payable to Women's Health Virginia

- I authorize Women's Health Virginia to charge my credit card:

Type of Card: MC    Visa    AmExp    Diner's    Discover

Number\_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date\_\_\_\_\_

Signature\_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this form along with your payment to:**  
**Women's Health Virginia**  
**1924 Arlington Boulevard, Suite 203**  
**Charlottesville, VA 22903**

You can also pay by credit card online at [www.womenshealthvirginia.org](http://www.womenshealthvirginia.org)

*Payment per ticket in excess of \$50 is a tax-deductible contribution to Women's Health Virginia.*  
*A financial statement is available upon written request from the*  
*Virginia Office of Consumer Affairs, P.O. Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23209*

# *A & A Publishers*

*Providing a resource for professionals, patients and their families regarding end-of-life decisions.*

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## *About Hank Dunn*

Since 1983 Hank has been ministering to patients at the end of their lives and their families. He served as a full-time nursing home chaplain at the Fairfax Nursing Center and as a staff chaplain for the Hospice of Northern Virginia (now Capital Hospice).

Hank is a graduate of the University of Florida with a degree in history and was on football scholarship. He received his Master of Divinity degree from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.

After serving for five years right after seminary in a very traditional church in Macon, Georgia he moved to the Washington, DC area to be a part of the very nontraditional Church of the Saviour. There he was a member of the World Peacemakers mission group. For a year following the move to DC, Hank worked as a carpenter and then for four years directed an inner-city ministry for hard-to-employ people. In 1983 Chaplain Dunn began his healthcare work as a nursing home chaplain.

He is a past president of the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. He has served on the Ethics Committees at Fairfax Nursing Center and the Reston Hospital Center and the Chaplaincy Advisory Board at the Loudoun Hospital Center. He continues to volunteer as a chaplain at Loudoun Hospital and formerly volunteered at Joseph's House, a home for terminally ill homeless men and women in Washington, DC. Hank is a frequent speaker nationally on the topic of making end-of-life decisions and spirituality and healthcare.

To help him explain end-of-life decisions to patients and families, he wrote a booklet to hand to them so they could reflect on the issues discussed. As an afterthought, he sent the book out to other institutions to see if they would be interested in purchasing it for their clients. First published in 1990, ***Hard Choices for Loving People: CPR, Artificial Feeding, Comfort Care, and the Patient with a Life-Threatening Illness*** is now in its Fifth Edition (2009), with over 2,500,000 copies sold, and it is being used in more than 5,000 hospitals, nursing homes, faith communities and hospice programs nationwide. *Hard Choices* is available in Spanish and will soon be translated into Chinese in Taiwan.

His second booklet, ***Light in the Shadows: Meditations While Living with a Life-Threatening Illness***, was released in its second edition in 2005. This is a collection of reflections on the emotional and spiritual concerns at the end of life.

He enjoys backpacking, biking, hiking, fly fishing, kayaking and life in general.

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