



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

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AAA TUESDAY E-MAILING
April 12, 2011

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Note: The web addresses (links) in this document may change over time. The Department for the Aging does not attempt to refresh the links once the week has passed. However, this document is maintained on the web for a period of time as a reference. Some links may require registration.



11-109

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging and Staff

FROM: James Rothrock, Interim Commissioner

DATE: April 12, 2011

SUBJECT: Resource for Low Income Loans for Assistive Technology

Originally established as the Assistive Technology Loan Fund Authority over 15 years ago, the **NewWell Fund** is a low interest loan program for Virginians with disabilities and Vintage Virginians needing help purchasing assistive technology. With growing emphasis on expanding independent living opportunities and a tightening economic climate, the **NewWell Fund** is gaining importance and attention as a key community resource, striving to no longer be one of the Commonwealth's best kept secrets.

Assistive technology is simply any device or piece of equipment that allows a person to be more independent. Whether in the form of a power chair, ramp, hearing aid, magnifier, door opener, or anything else that helps a person go through or around a barrier, these devices can make a powerful difference in the life of a person with a disability or someone who is aging. Assistive technology is a necessary and important part of everyday life, and the successful acquisition of the right device can lead to new opportunities for learning, achievement, productivity, involvement, and enjoyment.

Unfortunately, people sometimes have a problem paying for the assistive technology that they need. In order to purchase these devices themselves, many may have to incur financial risk or go without other life necessities. Given these financial difficulties, creative funding options are needed.

The **NewWell Fund** offers affordable loans to creditworthy Virginians for assistive devices and services that enhance their independence and community life. Most loans are for adaptive vehicles, home modifications, and hearing aids, but they are also available for speech and vision devices, prosthetics, and much more. There is no minimum loan amount, and qualified applicants can borrow as much as \$50,000.

The **NewWell Fund** prides itself on friendly customer service. Please call **866-835-5976** or visit the website, www.newwellfund.org for more information.



11-110

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: James Rothrock, Interim Commissioner

DATE: April 12, 2011

SUBJECT: Assets for Independence Webinar: Disability Accommodations

Assets for Independence will be hosting a webinar on "Disability Accommodations" on April 20th. This session will examine relative regulations within the ADA and provide practical guidance for meeting the regulations through cost and time efficient strategies. Webinar participants will learn:

-Basics of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
-Your responsibilities under the ADA as a recipient of Federal funds -How to ensure your facility and your program services are accessible
-How to provide accommodations and budgeting for potential costs -Resources to support you along the way

- Thursday, April 21st
- 3:30 - 5:00 PM Eastern
- [Webinar registration](#)
- Dial-in Information: 1-888-390-4470; Passcode: AFI



11-111

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Tim Catherman
Director of Administrative Services

DATE: April 12, 2011

SUBJECT: Social Security Numbers

Think twice before asking for someone's social security number!

There are several laws that protect social security numbers. The *Virginia Government Data Collection and Dissemination Practices Act* (§2.2-3808.A.2), prohibits public agencies, "from collecting a social security number or any portion thereof unless the collection of such number is (i) authorized or required by state or federal law and (ii) essential for the performance of that agency's duties."

Also, the federal Social Security Number Protection Act of 2010 prohibits federal, State, or local agencies from displaying the Social Security account number of any individual, or any derivative of such number, on any check issued for any payment.

The SSN line on the Uniform Assessment Instrument (UAI) is not sufficient justification for its collection. Please be aware a SSN is not needed for Older American Act or VDA services. The only exception is when a VICAP Counselor is assisting a Medicare beneficiary.

Remember to think twice! Is the SSN needed to comply with state or federal law and is it essential for the performance of the agency's duties!



11-112

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Joseph Hoyle, MD MPH
Virginia Department for the Aging

DATE: April 12, 2011

SUBJECT: Older Americans Month Activities Request

If you are planning an event during the month of May, please let me know, so that I may collate them. I plan to send out a list of events in the mailing scheduled for 5/3/11. To my knowledge, this was last done in 2008 and is an opportunity to make each other aware of events around the state.

Since 1963, the month of May has been designated by the U.S. Administration on Aging as America's special time to honor and recognize its older citizens. This year's theme is "Older Americans: Connecting the Community," which recognizes the role of older adults in creating and bolstering the fiber of our community, state, and nation.

Thank you for considering. Please send a list of your events to joseph.hoyle@vda.virginia.gov.



11-113

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Janet James, Esq. – State Legal Services Developer, Public Guardian
Program Coordinator

DATE: April 12, 2011

SUBJECT: National Healthcare Decisions Day is Almost Here! April 16, 2011

National Healthcare Decisions Day (NHDD) is fast approaching and will be recognized in the Commonwealth of Virginia and throughout the United States on Saturday, April 16, 2011. The objectives of NHDD are to provide much needed information to the public, reduce the number of tragedies that occur when a person's wishes are unknown, and improve the ability of healthcare facilities and providers to offer informed and thoughtful guidance about advance healthcare planning. The Virginia Department for the Aging encourages you to join us in this collaborative effort.

For more information, including free advance directive resources, please visit www.nhdd.org or www.facebook.com/nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Kathy Miller, Director of Programs

DATE: April 12, 2011

SUBJECT: 2010 Unmet Demand for Services

Attached please find the Excel spreadsheet that compiles information submitted by AAAs on the unmet demand for services for the 2010 calendar year. Highlighted cells indicate missing data. If you have any changes or corrections, please email me at kathy.miller@vda.virginia.gov.

If your agency has not yet submitted its January 2011 Unmet Demand for Services Report, please forward it to me at the email address above.

Virginia's Unmet Demand for Services Report reflects a "snapshot" of the assessed unmet service demand during one month every quarter. The report connects each unit of service to a specific individual who has been assessed by the AAA utilizing the UAI and has been found eligible for services. Only unmet needs assessed by the AAA are reported and only those needs that cannot be met at the present time through any AAA program, regardless of funding source, are documented as unmet. If the AAA does not provide a particular service, it does not report on the unmet demand for that service.

If a client has a need that is partially met by a family caregiver, then the reported unmet demand is reduced accordingly. *For example, if an individual is assessed to need 2 home delivered meals per day, or 14 per week, but the family caregiver prepares meals on weekends, the unmet demand would be reduced by 4 meals.*

The report contains unmet need information for the following six services:

- Adult Day Care
- Home Delivered Meals
- Homemaker

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- Personal Care
- Residential Repair
- Transportation

For each of these services, the report contains the following:

- Number of unmet service units assessed or requested (e.g. meals, hours, one-way trips)
- Number of persons unserved
- Number of persons underserved.

Since the Unmet Demand for Services Report is based only on those individuals that are known to the AAA and have been assessed for services, it does not represent the maximum demand for needed services for all older Virginians. The report never estimates demand.

Unmet Needs data are collected for one month each quarter during the months of **January, April, July** and **October**. **Reports are due to VDA by the 12th of the subsequent month.** For the remainder of the 2011 calendar year, the due dates for the Unmet Demand for Services Reports are as follows:

April	Thursday, May 12
July	Friday, August 12
October	Monday, November 14

