



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

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September 7, 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.



11-205

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Ellen Nau, Program Coordinator

DATE: September 7, 2011

SUBJECT: Grandparents Day

Grandparents Day, September 11, 2011

West Virginian Marian Lucille Herndon McQuade, with the behind-the-scenes support of her husband Joseph L. McQuade, began a campaign to honor grandparents in 1970. The couple had 15 children, 43 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild. In 1979, President Jimmy Carter proclaimed the first Sunday after Labor Day each year as National Grandparents Day (September was chosen to signify the "autumn" years of life).

Mrs. McQuade was elected Vice-Chair of the West Virginia Committee on Aging and appointed as a delegate to the White House Conference on Aging. In 1972, Mrs. McQuade's efforts resulted in President Richard Nixon proclaiming a National Shut-in Day. She served as President of the Vocational Rehabilitation Foundation, Vice-President of the West Virginia Health Systems Agency, and was appointed to the Nursing Home Licensing Board. After being married for over 60 years, Mr. McQuade passed away in 2001. Mrs. McQuade passed away in 2008.

There are three purposes for National Grandparents Day:

1. To honor grandparents.
2. To give grandparents an opportunity to show love for their children's children.
3. To help children become aware of the strength, information and guidance older people can offer.

In honor of Grandparents Day, AoA is providing information on how many grandparents in the United States are supporting their grandchildren at a statistical widget located at: <http://www.aoa.gov/>



11-206

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Joseph D. Hoyle
Policy Analyst

DATE: September 7, 2011

SUBJECT: Adding Link to AlzPossible from AAA websites

In response to a request by the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Commission, please add a link from your websites to their AlzPossible website and notify joseph.hoyle@vda.virginia.gov, once you have made the addition.

www.alzpossible.org – the Virginia Alzheimer's Commission AlzPossible Initiative

Thank you, to the AAAs who have already made this change and notified me.



11-207

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Jackie Taggart

DATE: September 7, 2011

SUBJECT: Senior Group Knitting and Crocheting - Cascades

Dr. Lynn A. Reid, Director, Loudoun County Area Agency on Aging, Leesburg, Virginia would like to share with others recognition given to the Cascades senior members in Sterling, Virginia. The article, written by the *Washington Post*, can be found at: http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/with-needles-and-yarn-group-spreads-warmth/2011/09/01/gIQAQn5U4J_story.html?sub=AR.

Thank you.



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Katie Roeper
Assistant Commissioner

DATE: September 7, 2011

SUBJECT: "Under the Radar NYS Elder Abuse Prevalence Study"

Following is a letter that we received sharing a report that is available on a study of Elder Abuse in New York State.

Dear Director:

We are writing to introduce you to an important report released in May on elder abuse in New York State. The report, *"Under the Radar: New York State Elder Abuse Prevalence Study,"* details the findings of groundbreaking research on community-dwelling older adults in New York State who have experienced mistreatment at the hands of family members and other trusted individuals. The research was conducted through a unique collaboration by Lifespan of Greater Rochester, Weill Cornell Medical College and New York City Department for the Aging. The co-principal investigators were Mark Lachs, MD, Cornell Weill Medical College, and Jacquelin Berman, PhD, New York City Department for the Aging.

This research represents the first study in the United States to document the prevalence and incidence of elder abuse in an entire state. The findings demonstrate that elder abuse occurs in all parts of New York State and affects a significant number of older adults. It also reveals that only a fraction of cases come to attention of agencies and organizations responsible for assisting victims of abuse. In addition to state-level data, the report also contains prevalence and incidence data as well as referral patterns for elder abuse cases broken down by regions of the state.

“Under the Radar NYS Elder Abuse Prevalence Study”

September 7, 2011

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The study report highlights the need for all service systems that have regular contact with older people to be on the alert for cases of elder abuse. The study findings also suggest that Adult Protective Services divisions, law enforcement units, criminal justice agencies, aging service providers as well as the general public need to collaborate to find better ways to prevent elder abuse, identify victims when abuse takes place and to provide services to those victimized by mistreatment.

Dr. Lachs has characterized elder abuse as *“the most hideous form of ageism imaginable.”* The research partners are hopeful that this report will help those who deliver aging services to understand elder abuse better and will bring communities in New York together to take assertive action to protect older adults from the harm and indignity of elder mistreatment.

The pdf version of the report is available at the Lifespan of Greater Rochester website: <http://www.lifespan-roch.org/documents/UndertheRadar051211.pdf>.

Sincerely,

Ann Marie Cook
President/ CEO

Paul L. Caccamise
Vice President for Program

Art Mason
Program Director
Elder Abuse Prevention



11=209

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: James A. Rothrock, Interim commissioner
Virginia Department for the Aging

DATE: September 7, 2011

SUBJECT: Telecoils – Getting “in the Loop”

With the natural aging of our population, more and more Vintage Virginians are dealing with hearing loss and in many cases there are remedies that are simple and relatively inexpensive to acquire. This article is to detail an emerging technology—Telecoils.

“Telecoils are probably the most underutilized yet inexpensive forms of assistive technology for hearing aid wearers,” says Ron Lanier, Director of the Virginia Department of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Indeed, telecoils can create a tremendous improvement in your ability to understand dialogue and hear more clearly than ever before.

What is it, exactly? A telecoil (also known as a t-coil or a t-switch) is a small coil of wire designed to pick up a magnetic signal. It’s a special circuit located inside the hearing aid itself and is also built into cochlear implant processors. Telecoils are designed for “in-the-ear” and “behind-the ear” aids, not the smaller hearing aids – which simply aren’t big enough to fit the telecoil. The telecoil is called an induction coil, which is a metal rod surrounded by several turns of a copper wire. The magnetic field then creates a very small electrical current in the wire, and the telecoil changes magnetic energy into electrical energy. They may be used in any setting which provides an induction loop assistive listening system.

So, how does it work and how can it actually help *me*? Unlike a standard hearing aid microphone which picks up *all* sounds, telecoils pick up electromagnetic signals *only*. It is activated by a switch on the cochlear implant or hearing aid, and is capable of making a tremendous difference in your life when combined with standard hearing assistive

Telecoils – Getting “in the Loop”

September 7, 2011

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technology (**HAT**) such as the hearing loop, an infrared system or an FM system. Melding the two technologies of telecoils with HAT can greatly improve your ability to understand conversation at movie theaters, in church, in the classroom, at meetings, anywhere there’s a need to be “tuned in” and fully engaged.

Since the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990, public places have increasingly become accessible to hearing assistive technology. Perhaps most importantly, telecoils can also be used at home with the television and can improve hearing on telephones which are hearing-aid compatible. The Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing states that telecoils, “which are activated by a switch on the hearing aid, allow the hearing aid to pick up the phone signal directly, preventing feedback and eliminating background noise when making a phone call.” Telecoils can be used with neckloops in place of standard headphones. According to the Hearing Loss Association of America, the “neckloop is similar to a hearing loop, except that it is worn around the neck and can be plugged into other audio devices (such as an MP3 player, computer, or FM or infrared receivers) to transmit the audio signal directly to the hearing aid telecoil, bypassing the need for headphones.” Telecoils enable the user an unobtrusive means of using assistive listening systems. In addition, they can help you with noisy situations; since the hearing aid microphone is turned off, you get to pick up only the signal you *want* to hear.

In speaking from his own experience with telecoils, Ron Lanier, Director of the Virginia Department of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing states, “There are tremendous benefits for its use, and I know from personal experience the advantages it provides for communications access in every aspect of daily life.” Additional information on telecoils can be found at www.hearingloop.org.

Polly Franks Sweeney, Special Advisor to the Governor for Disability Issues



11-210

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: James A. Rothrock, Interim Commissioner
Virginia Department for the Aging

DATE: September 7, 2011

SUBJECT: AARP Solutions Forum, September 8, 2011 - State Performance
Delivering Long-Term Services and Supports: How Can States Do
Better?

Following is information on an AARP sponsored forum on State Performance:
Delivering Long-Term Services and Supports. The forum is scheduled for 12:00 noon
on September 8, 2011.

You are invited to bring a bag lunch and join VDA and DRS staff in the VDA conference
room to view the presentation together if it is convenient for you. Also, the link
www.longtermscorecard.org will go live on the 8th and have a link to the webcast.
There is no need to register.

AARP

SOLUTIONS FORUM

September 8, 2011

Delivering Long-Term Services and Supports: How Can States Do Better?

September 8, 2011

11:30 AM - 2:30 pm

Room SH-902

Hart Senate Office Building

Constitution Avenue and First Street NE

Washington DC 20510

AARP, The Commonwealth Fund and The SCAN Foundation invite you for lunch and discussion of a new report being released on September 8:

"Raising Expectations: A State Scorecard on Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) for Older Adults, People with Physical Disabilities and Family Caregivers."

Developed by AARP's Public Policy Institute with support from The Commonwealth Fund and The SCAN Foundation, the State LTSS Scorecard presents the first broad evaluation of how well states provide assistance to millions of adults who need help with daily activities.

States play a critical role in the care many people receive. The Scorecard ranks states by performance, identifies specific areas where each state can improve and highlights state policies that result in better performance. Speakers who will discuss Scorecard findings and address policy options include:

- Jennifer Burnett, Director, CMS Division of Community Systems Transformation
- Bruce Chernof, M.D., President and CEO, The SCAN Foundation
- Henry Claypool, Director, HHS Office on Disability
- Robert Hornyak, Acting Director, Center for Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Administration on Aging
- Bonnie Kantor-Burman, Director, Ohio Department of Aging
- Kathleen A. Kelly, Executive Director, Family Caregiver Alliance
- Mary Jane Koren, M.D., VP, The Commonwealth Fund
- Dawn Lambert, Connecticut Money Follows the Person Program

REGISTER HERE

Register now-
Space is Limited

Not in DC?

Watch a live
Webcast at: [www.
longtermscorecard.org](http://www.longtermscorecard.org)

For more information:
Contact Andrew Bianco
202-434-3839
abianco@aarp.org

Director

- Susan Reinhard, AARP SVP for Public Policy
- Martha Roherty, Executive Director, NASUAD
- Herb Sanderson, Associate State Director, AARP Arkansas

Lunch available at 11:30. Forum starts at noon.

For more information, contact Andrew Bianco, 202-434-3839, abianco@aar.org.

AARP Solutions Forums are a program of the AARP Public Policy Institute that informs and stimulates public debate on the issues we face as we age. Through research, analysis and dialogue with the nation's leading experts, PPI promotes development of sound, creative policies to address our common need for economic security, health care, and quality of life.

If you would prefer to stop receiving AARP's Public Policy Newsletter, then please [click here](#).

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About AARP

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AARP 601 E Street NW Washington, DC 20049