



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT FOR AGING
AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

DIVISION FOR THE AGING



James A. Rothrock, Commissioner

VDA WEEKLY E-MAILING

September 1, 2015

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ACL News & Information

Here is a link to news & information from the Administration for Community Living (ACL):

<http://www.acl.gov/NewsRoom/NewsInfo/Index.aspx>

NASUAD Weekly Update

Here is a link to the weekly update from NASUAD:

<http://www.nasud.org/newsroom/friday-update>

Note: The web links in this document may change over time. DARS-VDA 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.

1610 Forest Avenue • Suite 100 • Henrico, VA 23229

Office 804.662.9333 • Toll free 800.552.3402 • TTY users dial 711 • Fax 804.662.9354



HCBS Measure Development Webinar

Wednesday, September 9, 2015, 12:00pm - 1:30pm ET

Join the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE), and Mathematica Policy Research (Mathematica) for a webinar describing their work to develop quality measures for Medicaid fee-for-service beneficiaries using home- and community-based services (HCBS).

[Learn more about the effort and register for the webinar.](#)

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Publishes Guides for Caregivers

Robert H. Brink, Deputy Commissioner, Division for the Aging

More than 22 million older Americans use a caregiver to help make financial decisions. Virginia Attorney General Mark R. Herring and Richard Cordray, director of the federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, recently launched the first-ever state-specific guide for financial caregivers, providing information on how to successfully manage someone else's money in Virginia. The set of several *Managing Someone Else's Money* guides is specific to the Commonwealth and will make it easier for caregivers to follow Virginia's unique rules and to find help close to home. The guides help you to be a financial caregiver in three ways:

- They walk you through your duties – and give you tips on Virginia laws and procedures.



- They tell you how to watch out for scams and financial exploitation, and what to do if your loved one is a victim.
- They tell you where you can go for help from agencies and service providers in Virginia and elsewhere.

Please visit <http://1.usa.gov/1MJvHq7> to learn more about the guides and learn how you can order copies of the free printed guides in bulk. If your organization has a social media account, please join DARS in spreading the word to help reach older adults and the children (or grandchildren) who may benefit from the informative guides.

Dominion Foundation Awarding Community Needs Grants

Tim Catherman, Director Aging Operations

“The Dominion Foundation will award up to \$1 million in grants that address critical community needs to nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations in communities served by Dominion companies.” For details, visit the foundation website at <https://www.dom.com/communityneedsgrants>

VAIRS Webinar on Mental Health Awareness

Kathy B. Miller, Director of Programs, Division for the Aging

The Virginia AIRS Training & Education Committee invites you to a free webinar on basic mental health awareness on Wednesday, September 23rd at 10:00 AM. During the webinar we will be looking at the stigma and preconceived notions about mental health, examining the prevalence of those with mental health concerns in our community, and strategies to be more helpful to callers with mental health concerns and their families/concerned others. The presenter is Christy Letsom who is the Chair of the Virginia Suicide Prevention Coalition, and a member of SAMHSA sub-committee for Standards and Practices for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and Virginia’s Inter-Agency Committee for Suicide Prevention.

[Register now!](#)

This webinar will be available over the Internet for free. An headset plugged into your computer/laptop/device's audio will provide the best quality.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

We hope that you will join us. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Altise M. Street, CIRS

*Richmond/Southside Regional Outreach Manager, 2-1-1 VIRGINIA
United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg*



2001 Maywill Street; P.O. Box 11807
Richmond, VA 23230
phone: 804-771-5845
www.yourunitedway.org
www.211VIRGINIA.org

Fire Safety Outreach Materials for Older Adults

Kathy B. Miller, Director of Programs, Division for the Aging

Older adults have an increased risk of dying in a fire. Help prevent older adult fire casualties in your community with these safety tips, social media messages, public service announcements and handouts developed by the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) and other organizations.

These free materials are yours to use when educating older adults (ages 65 and over) and their caregivers about the importance of home fire safety.

Statistics to share

- In 2010, older adults (ages 65 and older) represented 13 percent of the United States population but suffered 35 percent of all fire deaths.
- Older adults are 2.7 times more likely to die in a fire than the general population. The risk worsens as we age. People ages 85 and older are 4.6 times more likely to die in a fire.
- Older adult males are 62 percent more likely to die in a fire than older adult females.



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Make a Fire Escape Plan Around Your Abilities poster

Fire-Safe Seniors program

The “Fire-Safe Seniors” program helps you plan and implement fire safety interventions for the high-risk group of older adults. It can be used by organizations that serve seniors at the national, state or community level, such as fire departments, meal delivery programs, home companion groups, senior center associations, and many other groups.

[Additional Video Formats, Transcript »](#)

[Additional Video Formats, Transcript »](#)

VA Housing Coalition 2015 Housing Policy Forums

James A. Rothrock, Commissioner



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HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES
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Where you live makes all the difference



Learn and Share at

Virginia Housing Coalition's 2015 Housing Policy Forums

Arlington 9/28, Chesapeake, 9/30,

Roanoke 10/1, Richmond 10/2

Once again this year, the [Virginia Housing Coalition](#) (VHC) will be holding a series of Regional Housing Policy Forums across the state. These sessions will be held in four locations throughout Virginia.

Please help us ensure fair
housing for all people.

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Catch up on HOME's other
activities online!



www.HOMEofVA.org



Virginia Housing Coalition
Educate, Advocate, Change

The sessions will include an update on upcoming NIMBY workshops, the Multifamily Energy Efficiency Coalition, and the anticipated merger of the Virginia Housing Coalition and the Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness. Presenters will also review the Coalition's 2015 legislative agenda and housing-related legislation in the last General Assembly session before moving into the interactive portion of the session.

The interactive portion of the session will allow the VHC to hear from you about the most pressing housing-related issues that are affecting your work in your community. Your input will be used to set housing policy priorities and will help shape the upcoming legislative agenda for the 2016 session of the General Assembly.

No RSVP required

VHC's 2015 Housing Policy Forums:

Northern Virginia

Monday, September 28, 10am-12pm
AHC Headquarters
2230 North Fairfax Dr.





Arlington, VA 22201

Hampton Roads

Wednesday, September 30, 10am-12pm
Hampton Roads Planning District Commission
The Regional Building
723 Woodlake Drive
Chesapeake, VA 23320

Roanoke

Thursday, October 1st, 10am-12pm
Freedom First Credit Union
West End Education Room
1210 Patterson Ave SW
Roanoke, VA 22201

Richmond

Friday, October 2nd, 10am-12pm
VHDA Housing Center
4224 Cox Road
Glen Allen, VA 23060





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NCOA Drug Savings Card for Seniors

Kathy B. Miller, Director of Programs, Division for the Aging



NCOA Week



Card offers drug savings for seniors

Know a senior looking to save on medicine? NCOA is partnering with FamilyWize to offer a free savings card that can help anyone, with or without insurance, get the best price for their prescriptions at participating pharmacies.

[Get the details](#)



Virginia Tech Event Celebrating National Disability Employment Awareness Month (Includes Attachment)

Cecily Slasor, on behalf of Pamela Vickers, University ADA Coordinator/VA Tech

Please join University ADA Services and University Libraries at Virginia Tech for the opening event celebrating National Disability Employment Awareness Month. The interactive, traveling exhibit "Allies for Inclusion: The Ability Exhibit" [will be on display in Virginia Tech's Newman Library](#) in the second floor commons from Oct. 1-7. The opening reception will be from 10 a.m. to noon Oct. 1 at the library, 560 Drillfield Drive.

Please [register for the reception](#) by Sept. 15.

Individuals with a disability who desire an accommodation should contact [Katryn Stewart](#) at [540-231-2850](tel:540-231-2850) by Sept. 15 at 5 p.m.

[Directions and parking information](#) are available online.

For more information, visit the Virginia Tech [National Disability Employment Awareness Month website](#) or contact kbassler@vt.edu.



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Pamela G. Vickers, M.S., Ed.S.
University ADA Coordinator
Virginia Tech
North End Center, Suite 2300 (0318)
300 Turner Street
Blacksburg, VA 24061
Phone: (540) 231-9718
Fax: 540-231-3830

BLACKSBURG, Va., Aug. 18, 2015 – Part of creating an inclusive community means taking the time to understand individuals who are different.

Virginia Tech's [University ADA Services](#) and [University Libraries](#) have joined forces to educate students, employees, and community members about how they can demonstrate respect, comfort, and awareness for others.

The interactive, traveling exhibit, "Allies for Inclusion: The Ability Exhibit," will be on display in Virginia Tech's Newman Library, second floor commons area, from Oct. 1-7. The opening reception will be held Oct. 1 from 10 a.m.-noon at the library, 560 Drillfield Drive in Blacksburg.

All students, employees, and community members are invited to attend the exhibit and the reception. [Registration is required](#) for the reception. Individuals with a disability who desire an accommodation should contact [Katryn Stewart](#) at 540-231-2850 by September 15 at 5 p.m. [Directions and parking information](#) are available online.

The training includes a range of interactive activities to engage participants as well as discussions about disability-related topics including person-first language, universal design, and the disability movement. Upon completion of the training, participants can choose to display an Ability Ally placard at their work space or wear a wristband identifying them as an Ability Ally.

On October 5, 6, and 7, there will be informal 15-minute presentations about a variety of topics including accessible spaces on campus and accessible teaching strategies as well as resources available through the university's [Assistive Technologies](#) unit.

"By hosting the Allies for Inclusion exhibit, we hope we can encourage the community to join us in becoming better allies to those with disabilities as we endeavor to better serve our patrons, users, and employees," said Tyler Walters, dean of University Libraries.

The *Allies for Inclusion: Ability Exhibit* was created by the St. Louis University College of Education and Public Service.

Each October, [University ADA Services](#) in the [Department of Human Resources](#) hosts an event to celebrate National Disability Employment Awareness Month and highlight the university's commitment to build and maintain a culture of inclusion and diversity.

National Disability Employment Awareness Month is a national campaign sponsored by the Department of Labor designed to raise awareness concerning disability employment issues.

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- [Laura L Neff-Henderson](#)
 - [540-231-7643](#)
 - lauranh@vt.edu

Related Links

- [Two artists to discuss how their disabilities have shaped their careers and life experiences](#)