



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT FOR AGING  
AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

DIVISION FOR THE AGING



James A. Rothrock, Commissioner

## **VDA WEEKLY E-MAILING**

**November 17, 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.nasuad.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.

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November 11, 2015

[Empowering Veterans to Direct Their Own Care and Services](#)



By Lori Gerhard, Director, Office of Consumer Access & Self Determination, ACL

Today the country pauses to honor the service and sacrifice of our nation's veterans. ACL believes that one of the best ways of honoring their service is helping veterans remain in their own homes and communities throughout their lives.

To that end, ACL provides an array of home and community-based services to veterans across the country through the aging and disability networks. These programs include the Veteran-Directed Home and Community-Based Services (VD-HCBS) program, the National Family Caregiver Support program, and lifespan respite programs.

The VD-HCBS program began in 2008 as a partnership between the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) and ACL. It provides veterans of all ages the opportunity to direct their own long-term supports and services and continue to live independently at home. Eligible veterans decide for themselves what mix of goods and services best meet their needs. They manage their own flexible budgets and hire and supervise their own workers.

ACL and VHA's long-range national vision is to have a long-



term service and supports system that is person-centered, consumer-directed and helps people at risk of institutionalization to continue to live at home and be engaged in community life.

[Learn more and watch two videos showing the program in action in San Diego and Central Texas.](#)



## UPDATES

**November 13, 2015**

### **Remembering Jamie Kendall**

ACL is mourning the loss of Jamie Kendall, Acting Director of the Independent Living Administration, who died yesterday, November 12.

Jamie was an inspirational leader, brilliant colleague and dear friend, but these words do not begin to really capture who she was or how many people she touched.

Jamie was an inspirational leader, brilliant colleague and dear friend, but these words do not begin to really capture who she was, or how many people she touched.

In sharing memories, her colleagues at ACL universally speak of her infectious optimism, quick wit, and ready laughter, which were matched by a unique intellect and a gift for analyzing problems and leading people to develop solutions.

She is remembered also as a mentor who blended a genuine concern for people with a no-nonsense expectation of excellence. She set the highest example, and people were motivated to live up to it. Because of her, countless people who were not “disability people” came to understand that true inclusion, and enabling people to live the lives they choose for themselves, are simply human rights. Her legacy includes a team of colleagues who are committed to continuing the work



she not only started, but significantly advanced throughout her career.

She was a tireless advocate and was dedicated to her work, but her family was the center of her world. The stories she shared from day to day reflected a love for her husband Tim, their children and new grandbaby, and their extended family that was evident to all.

Jamie had a tremendous love for life, and she shared that with everyone she encountered. In turn, she was loved by many, and we will miss her terribly.

Note: In lieu of flowers, the family asks that gifts be sent to the Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation [www.oif.org](http://www.oif.org) (804 Diamond Ave #210 Gaithersburg, MD 20878) or Alexandria Animal Rescue, [www.alexandriaanimals.org](http://www.alexandriaanimals.org) (4101 Eisenhower Ave 22304). Cards or other warm wishes may be sent to Tim Dondro and Family, care of ACL, 330 C Street SW, Washington, DC, 20201.



**November 16, 2015**

### **ACL Seeks Comments on Independent Living Proposed Rule**

Today, ACL published [a proposed rule for Independent Living \(IL\) programs](#) in the Federal Register. The Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) is now open for public comment through the Federal Register and Regulations.gov. The rule will not take effect until after all comments are reviewed and a final rule is released.

This proposed rule consolidates and streamlines prior regulations and provides details regarding new requirements included in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Signed into law in July 2014, WIOA moved IL



programs from the Department of Education to the Department of Health and Human Services, creating the Independent Living Administration within ACL. WIOA also made changes to IL programs in areas including core services and development of state plans for independent living.

In developing this NPRM, ACL paid close attention to the text of the bill passed by Congress and to feedback on the WIOA transition provided by stakeholders over the past year.

This NPRM is a starting point, now we want to hear from you. Submit a comment by January 15, 2016 to let us know what you think of the proposed rule and how it can be improved in ways that are consistent with statute.

In order for us to give thorough consideration to all public input, comments must be submitted through Regulations.gov, a fully-accessible central hub for information on the development of federal regulations. We've developed a brief [step-by-step guide to submitting comments online](#).

If you wish to request further accommodations, please contact Marlina Moses-Gaither at [Marlina.Mosesgaither@acl.hhs.gov](mailto:Marlina.Mosesgaither@acl.hhs.gov).

[Learn more about Independent Living programs](#) and help spread the word on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



UPDATES

**Nov. 16, 2015**

### **[n4a News: Strategies to Secure Health Care Provider Contracts Focus of ACL Meeting](#)**

*This post was sent by n4a on November 12, 2015*

Last week, members of the [ACL Business Acumen Learning Collaborative](#) gathered to share strategies for securing contracts with health care organizations by offering service packages that



provide one-stop access to an array of Aging & Disability Networks' services and supports. The Collaborative is made up of 11 [ACL-selected networks](#) – geographically dispersed from California to Vermont and from Indiana to Tennessee – each comprised of AAAs and other CBOs that receive technical assistance in such areas as pricing, contracting and marketing.

[\[MORE\]](#)

## **Save the Date! Virginia Governor's Conference on Aging: "Designing Our Future" will be held May 2 and 3, 2016**

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

Breakout session proposals addressing the conference themes will be accepted through December 15, 2015. Please use the attached form. The three main conference themes include:

- Culture Change in Long-Term Services and Supports
- Safety and Financial Security: Older Adults in the new Virginia Economy
- Livable Communities: Overcoming Barriers and Sharing Strategies

Please submit your proposal to Martina James at [Martina.James@dars.virginia.gov](mailto:Martina.James@dars.virginia.gov).

## **2015-2016 State Holiday Schedule**

*Tim Catherman, Director of Aging Operations*

The Virginia Department of Human Resource Management has issued the holiday schedule for 2016. The DARS offices will be closed in observance of the following holidays for the remainder of 2015 and 2016.



**2015**

Wednesday, November 25 (Close at Noon)  
Thursday, November 26 - Thanksgiving Day  
Friday, November 27 - Day After Thanksgiving  
Thursday, December 24 - Offices Closed  
Friday, December 25 - Christmas

**2016**

Friday, January 1 - New Year's Day  
Friday, January 15 - Lee-Jackson Day  
Monday, January 18 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
Monday, February 15 - George Washington's Birthday  
Monday, May 30 - Memorial Day  
Monday, July 4 - Independence Day  
Monday, September 5 - Labor Day  
Monday, October 10 - Columbus Day and Yorktown Victory Day  
Friday, November 11 - Veterans' Day  
Wednesday, November 23 - (Close at Noon)  
Thursday, November 24 - Thanksgiving Day  
Friday, November 25 - Day After Thanksgiving  
Friday, December 23 - Offices Closed  
Monday, December 26 - Christmas (observed)

The calendar can also be found at <http://www.dhrm.virginia.gov>. If you have any questions, please let me know.

**Due this Month! Annual Security Training for PeerPlace and OmbudsManager**

*Tim Catherman, Director Aging Operations*

The Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) requires all users of PeerPlace and Harmony OmbudsManager to complete and certify annual refresher security awareness training. DARS provides a basic training course that meets this requirement. The course is titled: End User Cyber Security Awareness Training. This training along with the required "Acceptable Use Policy and Agreement Form" and a link to the Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA) "IT Information Security Standard (SEC501-xx)" that each agency is required to meet the requirements of can be accessed on the VDA website at: <http://www.vda.virginia.gov/infosystemaccess.asp>.



The agency's Information Security Officer designated by the Executive Director is responsible to ensure each individual completes the annual training by November 30, 2015. Individuals hired within the year need to complete the training only once. Each agency is required to maintain records of the training, including the individual's name and the training date. In the event an individual does not complete the required training, the agency is required to suspend, (or request suspension for OmbudsManager) that user's access to the system within thirty (30) days. Access to the system may be regained once the individual has met the requirements. Only the annual refresher security awareness training must be repeated each year. The Acceptable Use Policy and Agreement Form only needs to be completed one time and kept on file. For OmbudsManager users, the OmbudsManager Access and Change Request form will need to be completed in its entirety annually and returned to Gail Thompson at [Gail.Thompson@dars.virginia.gov](mailto:Gail.Thompson@dars.virginia.gov), telephone: (804) 726-6617; Fax: 804-662-9140. If you have any questions about the PeerPlace System please contact the No Wrong Door Help Desk at [nwdhelp@dars.virginia.gov](mailto:nwdhelp@dars.virginia.gov) or call (804) 662-9559. If you have questions about the Harmony OmbudsManager please contact Gail Thompson at [Gail.Thompson@dars.virginia.gov](mailto:Gail.Thompson@dars.virginia.gov) or call (804) 726-6617.

## **Affordable and Special Needs Housing Program**

*Tim Catherman, Director of Aging Operations*

Application Due:

Nov. 30, 2015 and May 31, 2016

Applications are still being accepted for the Affordable and Special Needs Housing (ASNH) program will be accepting applications until Monday, Nov. 30. For the 2015-2016 program year, DHCD has moved to a biannual application window with the first applications due by Nov. 30 and the spring application period ending on May 31, 2016.

The Affordable Housing and Special Needs (ASNH) program goals are to create and preserve affordable housing units within the commonwealth of Virginia with an emphasis on non-entitlement areas. The program achieves these goals by providing assistance in the form of financing to projects that will meet local affordable housing needs and support state housing policy. Approximately \$5.1 million in HOME funds will be made available during the 2015-2016 program year to assist affordable housing projects selected through the ASNH program application process.

All applications must be submitted through the DHCD CAMS system <[http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001ECdVnNnSExQoNqd01BuLWNOP-dTzIxQdphO6GdWFBOXaHSf\\_ZwrnnNTgfaCbMioZJgEHhuY9\\_-](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001ECdVnNnSExQoNqd01BuLWNOP-dTzIxQdphO6GdWFBOXaHSf_ZwrnnNTgfaCbMioZJgEHhuY9_-)



[MsJKnstOQeHIOg2EqXC3aKpgJLu6RgoA1irj7F3r2euNaIx9njqYff3DA4Plf1EhLfu3mX0fwFWPiMoP9uG\\_E4RH9bUmrVYq1MeToHJ7ZHjGSIo02L1LvFbtX3DtoLyNOzs1SirCGTA==&c=DBxoi4YrB\\_xrtajl8EzF\\_5Ct6nZ9zZAf2NvqX6rJwHnHHxpYdelx0Q==&ch=VIKQH2SFc\\_RjckgT2zUUMiAd3-eAn3HRHcIaQREVMcQbUhjp9kulqw==>](https://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/affordable-and-special-needs-housing-program).

For information on the Affordable and Special Needs Housing program, contact Kevin Hobbs at [Kevin.hobbs@dhcd.virginia.gov](mailto:Kevin.hobbs@dhcd.virginia.gov) or at (804) 371-7120.

## **HUD is Offering a Webinar on their Section 232 Program - Basics for States and Providers**

*Tim Catherman, Director of Aging Operations*

This webinar is for states and providers and outlines the program requirements for participating in the Section 232 program which provides FHA-insured loans for healthcare facilities for those in need of supportive services, including settings for frail elderly individuals and individuals with I/DD. Special emphasis is placed on Asset Management and efforts to actively address the impacts of the Olmstead Decision on Section 232 portfolio facilities, including ways to divest (i.e. the transfer of physical assets) or transform (i.e. operation improvement plans, change in target populations or new operators) such properties. Tim Gruenes, Director of Office of Residential Care Facilities' Asset Management and Lender Relations and Jeremy Robitaille, Healthcare Account Executive, will present.

Registration for HUD's Section 232 Program - Basics for States and Providers on Dec 7, 2015 2:00 pm can be done at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6040190587299142402>

## **ValueBased Contracting Corner**

*Tim Catherman, Director of Aging Operations*

In July 2015 CMS initiated a value-based reimbursement pilot program for home health care agencies. The article "Reinventing Home Health" located at <http://healthaffairs.org/blog/2015/08/11/reinventing-home-health> has a lot of applicability for the AAA network. There are several good takeaways:

- Through accountable care organizations (ACOs) and other Innovation Center initiatives, CMS's goal is to transition from fee-for-service to performance-based compensation, and eventually, to full capitation like Medicare Advantage.
- CMS is telling the industry: *innovate or die*.



- CMS will increase or decrease the amount reimbursed for services depending on quality performance.
- Nine states were randomly selected to be part of the pilot program: Arizona, Florida, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nebraska, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Washington.
- The industry needs a turnaround, a reinvention of what its role is to be in a post-ACA environment.
- A thriving home health provider will align with ACOs, hospitals, and health systems for bundled services and risk-based contracts based on patient type. And they will be fully accountable for the quality of care delivered and will put their payment at risk if quality suffers.
- Industry executives must develop a sense of urgency to find the opportunities that drive their enterprises forward, and not remain stuck in the past.

## **NASUAD Friday Update Archive and Subscription**

*Cecily Slasor, Administrative Assistant*

### **Friday Update Archive**

Did you miss a previous issue?  
Check out [past Friday Updates](#).

### **Subscribe**

[Click here](#) to subscribe to Friday Update or other NASUAD news updates.

## **National Healthcare Decisions Day 2016 (flyer)**

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



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VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT FOR AGING  
AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

## How can your future healthcare wishes be honored if no one knows what they are?

The most important conversations are sometimes the toughest to have. Creating an advance directive, and more importantly, talking about the kinds of care you want, and don't want, will ease the minds of those who love you.

### **National Healthcare Decisions Day is April 16, 2016**

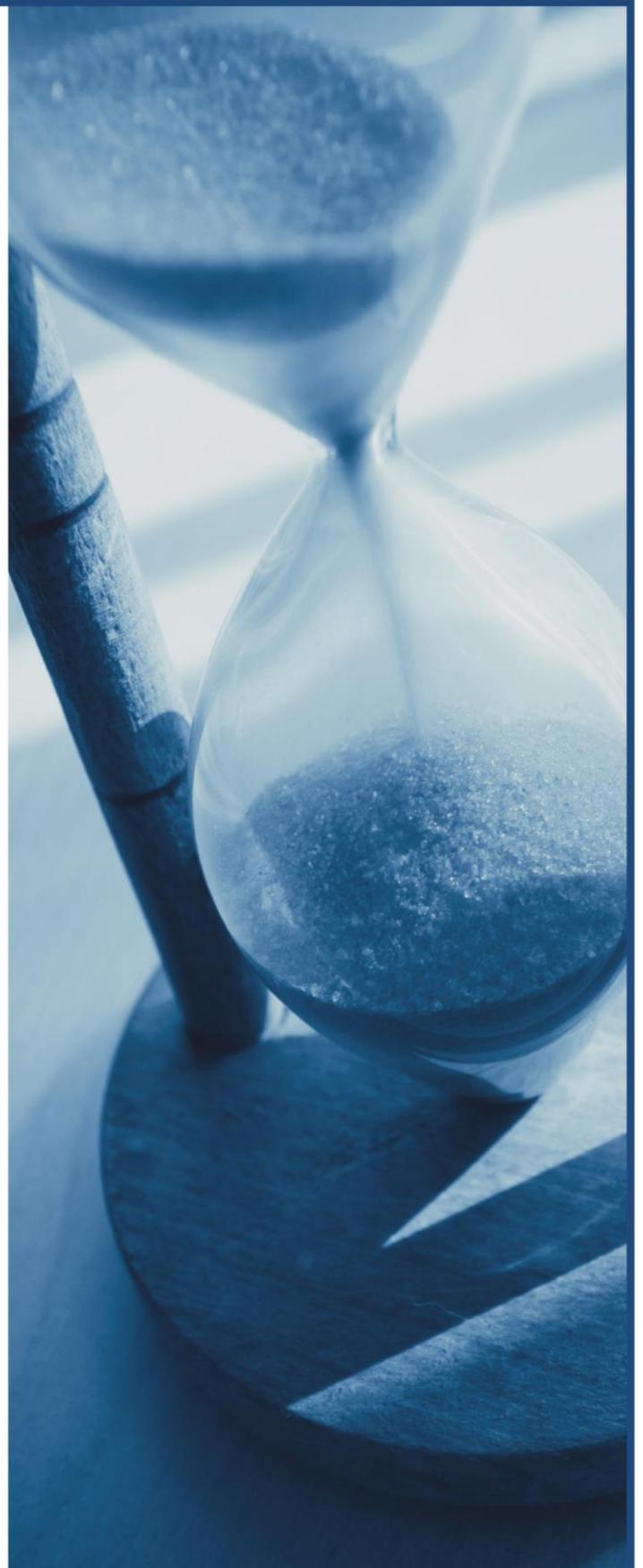
Please join our event:

**Type in your event  
information here!  
(Keep this text box "in  
front" of the  
background.)**

*It always seems  
too early...  
until it's too late.*

**Don't wait for a crisis.**

**Have the conversation now**





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AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

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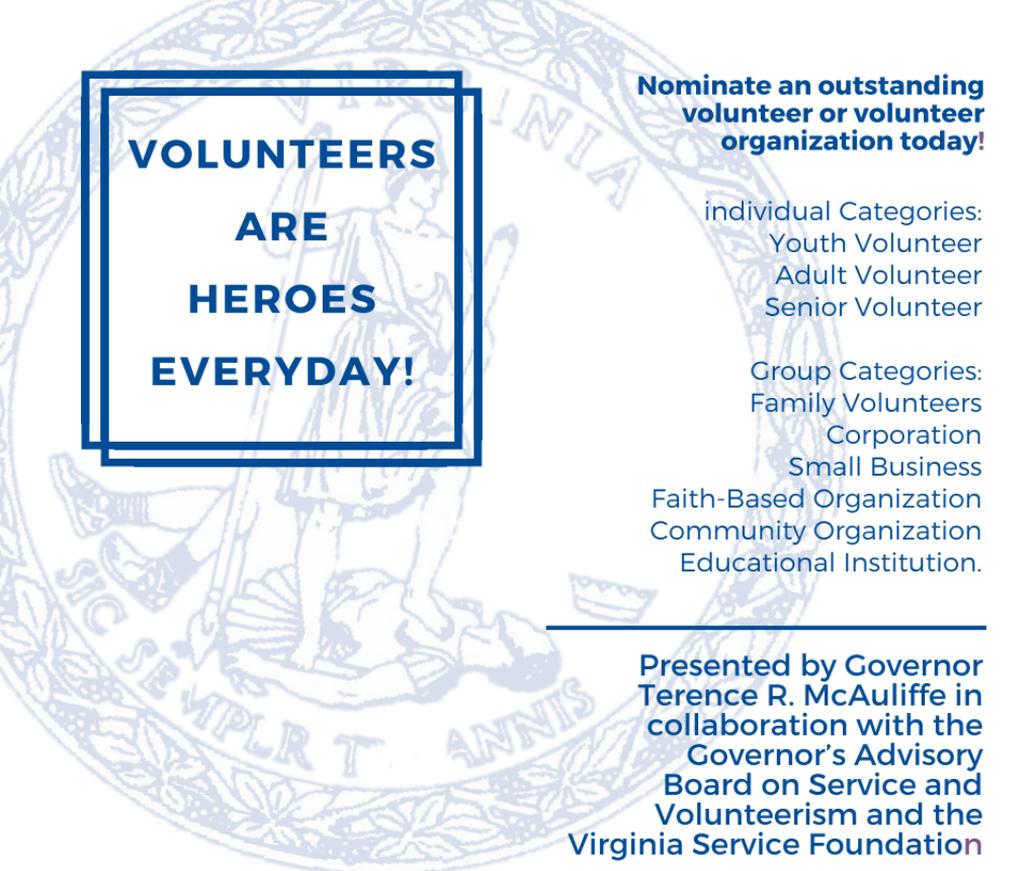
**Nominations Open for Governor's Volunteerism & Community  
Service Awards (attachment)**

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

Attached is a flier about the Governor's Awards. Please help us spread the word and distribute widely to your networks and ask them to do the same.

Thank you!

Cathy Walker-Galyean

The background of the entire page features a large, light blue watermark of the Seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The seal depicts a woman standing on a globe, holding a bow and arrow, with a crest above her head. The words "SIGILLUM REIPUBLICAE VIRGINIAE" are inscribed around the top, and "SIG SEPTUPL T ANNIS" around the bottom.

**VOLUNTEERS  
ARE  
HEROES  
EVERYDAY!**

**Nominate an outstanding  
volunteer or volunteer  
organization today!**

Individual Categories:  
Youth Volunteer  
Adult Volunteer  
Senior Volunteer

Group Categories:  
Family Volunteers  
Corporation  
Small Business  
Faith-Based Organization  
Community Organization  
Educational Institution.

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Presented by Governor  
Terence R. McAuliffe in  
collaboration with the  
Governor's Advisory  
Board on Service and  
Volunteerism and the  
Virginia Service Foundation

**2016  
VIRGINIA  
GOVERNOR'S  
VOLUNTEERISM &  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICE AWARDS**

**The deadline for nominations is  
December 16, 2015.**

**[VAVOLUNTEERISMAWARDS.ORG](http://VAVOLUNTEERISMAWARDS.ORG)**