



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

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**September 16, 2008**

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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.



*COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*  
*Department for the Aging*

**MEMORANDUM**

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

**AND:** Nutrition Directors

**FROM:** Elaine S. Smith, MS, RD  
Program Coordinator

**DATE:** September 16, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Link to Article of Interest

Below is a link to an interesting article about Senior Centers, meal programs, and appealing to younger seniors and "boomers".

**Its Appeal Slipping, the Senior Center Steps Livelier**

(By Jane Gross of the New York Times, March 25, 2008)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/25/us/25cafe.html?scp=10&sq=senior&st=cse>



*COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*  
*Department for the Aging*

**MEMORANDUM**

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

**FROM:** Marica B. Monroe

**DATE:** September 16, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Equal Opportunity in Procurement (EOP) SWAM Report

Due to changes in reporting requirements, the quarterly EOP report is no longer required until further notice. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the name of this report, this is the report that was used to capture small, women, and minority-owned business (SWAM) procurement by AAAs for the quarter. This change is effective with the July-September Equal Opportunity in Procurement quarterly report that would have been due October 10, 2008.

Although quarterly reporting is no longer required, the Virginia Department for the Aging remains committed to participating as a state agency in the Commonwealth of Virginia's SWAM business procurement initiatives. With that, the Department for the Aging continues to encourage Area Agencies on Aging to award where practical procurement opportunities to certified SWAM vendors in compliance with the area plan and/or contract. The only change is that this information will no longer have to be reported to VDA.

Thank you for your time and attention. Please let me know if you have questions or need assistance.



*COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*  
*Department for the Aging*

**MEMORANDUM**

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

**AND:** Nutrition Directors  
Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Coordinators

**FROM:** Elaine S. Smith, MS, RD  
Program Coordinator

**DATE:** September 16, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Fire Safety Funding Opportunity

The Virginia Department of Health, Division of Injury and Violence Prevention is currently accepting proposals to implement the *Get Alarmed, Virginia!* residential smoke detector installation and fire safety education program in local communities such as yours between November 1, 2008 and September 29, 2009. Organizations may apply for ANY monetary amount up to **\$40,000** to put into operation the required activities of the program. **Proposals are due by 3 PM on October 10, 2008.**

Funds may be used for:

- purchasing long life lithium battery smoke detectors
- paying staff to install smoke detectors
- purchasing equipment to install detectors such as ladders, drills, etc.
- developing and launching media and marketing campaigns
- limited local travel mileage and office supplies

This is a great opportunity that one of our AAAs, Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens, applied for and was awarded 2 years ago. Organizations that are not fire departments may apply. However, you must include with your application a

memorandum of agreement or understanding from your local fire department that clearly states their willingness to train smoke detector installers during the lifetime of the project. Organizations that received a *Get Alarmed, Virginia!* grant in the past are not eligible for this opportunity.

You may request a copy of the *Get Alarmed, Virginia!* Request for Proposal document from me or from Lenny Recupero, contact information below. Visit the *Get Alarmed, Virginia!* Web page at <http://www.vahealth.org/civp/fire/getalarmedva.asp> for additional information about the program.

Please review the Request for Proposal document very carefully to ensure that your proposal includes all of the requirements as outlined in the RFP. You may contact Lenny Recupero with any questions you have by telephone at (804) 864-7734 or by E-mail at [Leonard.recupero@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:Leonard.recupero@vdh.virginia.gov). Feel free to share this information with other injury prevention providers in your community.



*COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*  
*Department for the Aging*

**MEMORANDUM**

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

**FROM:** Debbie Burcham

**DATE:** September 16, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Programs for Employee Caregivers

On August 20<sup>th</sup> Commissioner Nablo presented to the Health & Human Resources Subcommittee of the Senate Finance Committee. Members raised a question about what the aging network is doing to assist employers to better support/aid employee caregivers? On August 28<sup>th</sup> I sent an e-mail asking you if your AAA currently has any programs or activities in place to assist employers in your regions. Below is Linda's response to Senator Houck and the HHR Subcommittee members. I thought you might be interested in reading about the creative programs and strategies some AAAs have developed to assist employee caregivers.

To Senator Houck:

There is no specific funding to address the need of employers to better support their employees who are caregivers for elderly or disabled family members and friends. However several local Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) have developed creative strategies to address this issue through their use of local, state and federal funding as well as grant funding. Out of 25 AAAs, nine reported having developed or have immediate plans to develop programs/services to assist their community employers. These programs are described below:

**Richmond area**

For the past 2 years, through grants from the Richmond Memorial Health Foundation, Senior Connections and the Richmond Area Caregivers Coalition have joined with other

partners to educate employers and employed caregivers about the growing need for eldercare through **Workplace Partners for Eldercare**. This initiative addresses the impact of caregiving in the workplace with the goals of increasing employer productivity and improving the health of caregivers. Surveys were completed with 19 employers of diverse sizes and operations. These businesses have a combined workforce of 25,000 employees, 71% being women. The program served 1100 caregivers and their families.

### **Fairfax**

In Fairfax County, lead by the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging, **Partners for Eldercare** provided free services to area employers. Following the completion of an employee and company survey, a Partners staff member discusses the results with the company's human resource and/or Employee Assistance Program staff in order to help them create a business care plan to address the needs of employees who are caregivers. *Partners for Eldercare* offers:

- On-site educational seminars on caregiving-related topics
- Sensitivity training for management staff to understand the impact of caregiving on their staff
- Access to information on local resources—through Aging, Disability and Caregiver Resources Information line
- Free caregiver trainings provided in the community each fall and spring
- Special series of trainings for Fairfax County employees who are family caregivers

### **Prince William**

Prince William Area Agency on Aging conducts a program for County employees who are caregivers by providing three-hour classes offered through EAP.

### **Arlington**

Arlington Agency on Aging offers brown-bag lunch presentations and provides resource materials when requested by area employers.

### **Roanoke area**

In the Roanoke area, the employed caregiver network is part of the Sr. Citizen's Coordinating Council. This council provides information for employers and employees, including, but not limited to "hidden costs of caregiving" and "how you know you're a caregiver". In addition LOA – Area Agency on Aging uses Older Americans Act funding to pay for one-on-one counseling with caregivers as long as either the caregiver or care recipient is over the age of 60.

### **Alexandria**

Alexandria AAA has made their Adult Day Care program available to City employees for their family members at the same rate that is charged to an Alexandria resident.

**Harrisonburg area**

Valley Program for Aging Services in the Harrisonburg area plans to distribute a binder of resource materials to larger employers to assist employers in support of employee caregivers.

**Appalachian area**

Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens, serving the counties of Buchanan, Dickenson, Russell, and Tazewell, provides presentations and written material to the HR Directors in the local Society of Human Resource Managers to assist these employers with their employee caregiving needs. Presentations are well attended by employer representatives.

**Far Southwest area**

Far southwest Virginia, including the counties of Lee, Scott, Wise and the city of Norton, does not have the typical corporate structure found in other areas of the state with mostly small businesses, union coal miners, state colleges and local school systems. Still Mountain Empire Older Citizens provides strong support programs for caregivers through a well developed, comprehensive infrastructure of services and supports to which employers may refer employed caregivers.

In addition, several other AAAs are promoting the Virginia Caregiver Coalition webinar "Innovative Caregiver Programs for Employers" to local employers.