



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

[Click here to go to the Virginia Department for the Aging Home Page](#)

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**  
**AAA TUESDAY E-MAILING**  
**September 13, 2011**

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>VDA ID NUMBER</b>
<a href="#"><u>Catherine Harrison – Director of the Office of Community Integration</u></a> (James Rothrock)	11-211
<a href="#"><u>Director and Board Notes</u></a> (Tim Catherman)	11-212

**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.



11-211

*COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*  
*Department for the Aging*

**MEMORANDUM**

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

**FROM:** James Rothrock, Interim Commissioner

**DATE:** September 13, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Catherine Harrison - Director of the Office of Community Integration

It is my pleasure to announce that Catherine Harrison will be serving as our new Director of the Office of Community Integration. After a lengthy search and multiple interviews, Catherine showed that she truly has what it takes to help us realize our shared vision to be a ***Commonwealth of Opportunity*** for all, particularly Virginians with disabilities.

She most recently served as the Director of Policy for the Virginia Association of Health Plans and prior to that had a stellar career serving as a Senior Health Policy Analyst at the Virginia Joint Commission on Health Care, and a Policy Analyst at the Department of Medical Assistance Services in both the Long-Term Care and Policy and Research Divisions.

Catherine received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Health Care Administration from Mary Baldwin College and her Master's in Public Administration from Virginia Tech.

Her proven relationships, within Virginia state government and comprehensive knowledge of long term care along with a passion for those it serves, will position her well to lead our agencies in its work to assist more and more Virginians to live more independently in community based settings.

I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to thank Theresa Preda, DRS IL Director, who has been serving as an Interim Director for the OCI. Her lifelong commitment to Independent Living and knowledge of state programming has served us all very well and she will now return to her IL duties. She and Katie Roeper from the Virginia Department for the Aging will co-chair a workgroup to improve our collaboration in strengthening our Independent Living and Aging services in addition to her routine leadership duties at DRS.

I know you will all join me in thanking Theresa for her exceptional job **and** welcome Catherine to this important office which serves our Commonwealth.



11-212

*COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*  
*Department for the Aging*

**MEMORANDUM**

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

**FROM:** Tim Catherman, Director of Administrative Services

**DATE:** September 13, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Director and Board Notes

Since February, VDA has undertaken an intensive look at how monitoring is conducted. For some time the monitoring process has needed revamping. The need to review the process has been accentuated by the increasing diversity in AAA activities, greater use of technology, rising travel costs and the ability to coordinate with other agencies that review AAAs and other contractors.

This examination is timely because AoA is looking at how regions work with states. One of their attempts is to begin reviews of state agency operations. The last complete organizational review conducted is almost two decades old.

The vision of the monitoring process is that it will be both efficient and meaningful for VDA, AAAs and other contractors.

Several guiding principles were established. They are:

- Ensure program and financial accountability.
- Provide technical assistance.
- Look at the entire organization.
- Coordinate monitoring with other agencies to the greatest extent possible to avoid duplication and share monitoring best practices among other agencies.
- Identify and share best practices.
- Improve the quality of the monitoring reports
- Ensure staff has the resources, knowledge and training to conduct monitoring
- Maximize the use of technology
- Develop a Risk Assessment Approach in compliance with Auditor of Public Accounts finding.
- Ensure consistency of the monitoring process through the use of uniform monitoring tools.
- Have an eye towards a performance based approach.

I am committed to improving this process and value your input. I will start including in the Tuesday E-mailing a section on 'Director and Board Notes' as it relates to monitoring and the operations of an AAA. This section is intended to be an informative reminder of the requirements that are incumbent upon your agency, you as the CEO, and your Board. This is a prudent time to illuminate requirements that may have been lost in the volume of information that comes across your desk and an opportunity for a view from a different vantage point. If you have topics you want to see discussed, let me know.