



SCIENCE MUSEUM OF VIRGINIA

May 5, 2008

Report on the Response of the Science
Museum of Virginia to the:

Impact of the Aging of Virginia's Population



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May 5, 2007

Pursuant to legislation enacted by the Virginia General Assembly of Virginia, the Science Museum of Virginia submits this report of its progress in addressing the impact of the aging of Virginia's population.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jack Parry".

May 5, 2008

Jack Parry,
Deputy Director



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Executive Summary



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Agency Description

There is hereby created and constituted an educational institution of the Commonwealth of Virginia to be known as "The Science Museum of Virginia," hereinafter in this chapter sometimes referred to as the "Museum." The Museum is hereby declared to be a public body and instrumentality for the dissemination of education. The exercise by the Museum of the powers conferred by this chapter shall be deemed and held to be the performance of an essential governmental function.

§ 23-240 Purposes

The purposes of The Science Museum of Virginia are:

- to deepen our understanding of man and his environment;
- to promote a knowledge of the scientific method and thus encourage objectivity in the everyday affairs of man;
- to engage in instruction and research in the sciences in order to educate citizens of all ages in the concepts and principles of science and how these concepts and principles form the foundation upon which rests our technological society and its economy;
- to use, subject to approval of the accredited educational affiliates concerned, Museum personnel in educational programs;
- to motivate and stimulate young people to seek careers in science; to encourage an understanding of the history of scientific endeavor;
- to provide special facilities and collections for the study of Virginia's natural resources; and to foster a love of nature and concern for its preservation.



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1. Approximately 4,430 individuals over age 65 visited the Science Museum of Virginia during the fiscal year 2007.
2. none – the museum is not a service oriented institution.
3. Education –
Many seniors take advantage of the following programs held at the Science Museum:
 - **How to Buy a Telescope**
 - **Funsten Science Lecture Series** – covers a range of topics from how we learn about science to science in art. This program is free and open to the public
 - **Mini Medical School School** provides the Richmond Community with relevant, cutting edge medical research in easy to understand language. This program is sponsored by the Science Museum and Virginia Commonwealth University and charges a minimal fee.
 - **Mini-School of Marine Science** - These special- topics series offer an in-depth look at current issues affecting Virginia's coastal region and the world's oceans. This program is sponsored by the Science Museum and Virginia Commonwealth University and charges a minimal fee.
 - **Lunch Break Science** - The Science Museum of Virginia scientists and others share easy to understand information on a wide range of fascinating science topics. Discussions follow presentations
 - **Memberships** - Over 5,500 seniors take advantage of the museum's senior discount membership to the museum

- **Volunteer program** - approximately 35% of the museum's 1100 volunteer force is over age 65.

The Virginia Aviation Museum offers the following one hour programs to retirement communities:

- From Earth to the Moon
 - History of Aircraft Carriers
 - History of Helicopters
 - American women in Aviation
4. All publications and the museum's website are available to all citizens.
 5. The museum's main function is to deliver science education. Our education department continually cross trains to deliver wonderful educational programming.
 6. The museum will continue to provide adult education programs for senior citizens.