

Press Release

November is National Family Caregivers Month!

Virginia Department for the Aging
1610 Forest Avenue Suite 100
Richmond, Virginia 23229

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Governor Timothy M. Kaine Honors the Commonwealth's Caregivers

In recognition of the extraordinary efforts by Virginia's Caregivers, Governor Timothy M. Kaine proclaimed November, 2007 as National Family Caregivers Month in the Commonwealth. Statistics published by the National Family Caregivers Association and the Family Caregiver Alliance indicate that, in 2004, Virginia ranked twelfth among the fifty states with an estimated 740,402 caregivers providing 793 million hours of caregiving with an annual market value of \$7, 868 million dollars. Linda Nablo, Commissioner of the Virginia Department for the Aging notes that, "Without family caregivers, Virginia's public and private human service agencies would be overwhelmed, and the public cost of caring for these individuals would rise sharply."

President Bush has thanked and recognized the nation's over 50 million family caregivers and designated November, 2007, as National Family Caregiver Support Month. It is estimated that \$306 billion in "free" caregiving services are provided by the nation's family caregivers.

On November 13, 2007, the Virginia Caregiver Coalition will host training sessions via video conferencing for Virginia caregivers at a variety of sites throughout the Commonwealth. Seating is limited for this free training. For further information, contact Ellen Nau at the Virginia Department for the Aging at 804-662-9340 or Ellen.Nau@vda.virginia.gov.