



The Greater Richmond Age Wave Plan: Building Ready Communities

General Description of Planning Effort

Community need: The aging of our population will bring significant increases in the number of capable persons committed to the health of the Greater Richmond area. It will also bring significant increases in demand for community services for older adults. This in turn will require changing service philosophies and protocols to accommodate greater diversity among those seeking services. The community as a whole will be impacted by the aging of the population and in particular of the baby boomers: boomer retirement and workforce issues; health and wellbeing; civic engagement; affordable housing, transportation and other aspects of livable communities; financial stability and retirement. Our communities already are feeling intergenerational pressure in these areas. It is now necessary to work with all the stakeholders to focus the collective energies, strengths and resources on agreed-upon community directions and recommendations in order to be ready for the multigenerational population impacts that will include a doubling the number of our older adults by 2030.

Goals of the planning effort are:

- to create opportunities to educate the public about needs of older adults and the impacts of the coming population changes
- to seek input on a broad range of services and community livability needs and assets
- to bring together and join with other stakeholders to achieve a concentration of interest in jointly-developed community directions and goals
- to develop and prioritize recommendations and strategies to prepare the region's system of community long term care and other services for the projected growth of the region's older adult population
- to establish baselines to measure achievement of goals and drive plan updates

Description of planning activities:

- Organize a leadership committee to oversee the project
- Develop background material (synthesis of existing studies, plans, documents, etc.)
- Invite major stakeholders to participate in the process (older adults, caregivers, service providers, funding organizations, local government representatives, advocates, etc.).
- Identify current and future gaps, ranking the importance of the recommendations, and prioritizing strategies
- Prepare a draft report for input and endorsements; preparing the final plan
- Distributing final plan at a press conference, with public information materials

For more information contact:

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