



Introduction

Governor McAuliffe has called for the first Virginia Governor's Conference on Aging since 2003. The daylong conference is tentatively set for May 2, 2016, at the Hilton Richmond Hotel & Spa at Short Pump, 12042 W. Broad St., Richmond.

Virginia's population is becoming older and more diverse. Today, there are nearly 1.5 million adults in the Commonwealth over age 60, and this population will expand to more than 2 million by 2030 when the entire baby-boom generation will be between 66 and 84 years old. Virginia's aging population will live longer due to advances in health care and older Virginians with chronic conditions may need more assistance for longer periods of time. How will the Commonwealth and its communities respond?

Goals

1. To communicate openly and effectively the Commonwealth's public policy as well as age wave initiatives at the local and regional level for enhancing the health and well being of Virginians as the population ages.
2. To create a platform for citizens, government, business, academia, and the non-profit sector to share ideas, strategies, and resources to identify best practices that enhance the health and well-being of Virginians as they age.

Audience

The Conference is designed for professionals in the aging service network including health care professionals, government, business, academia,

non-profit sector, consumer advocates and others.

Theme

The theme for the 2016 conference is "Designing Our Future." Expanding the ability of individuals to work and save, promoting more options for later life, and creating intergenerational communities and neighborhoods helps all Virginians. Virginia's health care system, communities and public and private services can be designed to encourage people to "age in place" safely and as independently as possible through the development of "livable communities."

The three main topics to be addressed at the conference are:

1. Culture Change in Long Term Services and Supports
2. Safety and Financial Security: Older Adults in the new Virginia economy
3. Livable Communities: Overcoming Barriers and Sharing Strategies

To learn more about the Governor's Conference on Aging, visit www.vadars.org/conference or email govconf@dars.virginia.gov.