

# Virginia Center on Aging Annual Update Highlights

Through exceptional education, responsive partnerships, advocacy, and research, the Virginia Center on Aging fosters resources, services and opportunities that empower us as we grow older.

Following are the highlights from our 2025 Annual Update, under the themes Connection, Communication, and Collaboration.

## Connections



### The Lifelong Learning Institute in Chesterfield

- 17 organizations providing lifelong learning to 9,800 people aged 50+ across 240 zip codes in Virginia.
- Over 3,000 courses were offered.



### The Safety Connector on Virginia Easy Access

An online tool to find information about elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, and connect to local, state, and national services and supports.



### Greater Richmond Elder Justice Shelter Initiative

A decentralized elder shelter model that will include strategies for emergency and transitional housing needs with wrap-around services for adults ages 60+, including those with disabilities, who have experienced mistreatment.



### Virginia Geriatric Education Center (VGEC)

VGEC is involved in a number of initiatives and education programs across the state through the Health Resources and Services Agency (HRSA) funded Geriatric Workforce Education Program (GWEP).



## Communication



### Alter

A dementia caregiving education program in African American faith communities to provide a supportive environment for families affected by dementia.



### Aging for All Podcast

Covers engaging and informative topics. Our accompanying blog space provides past episodes, further information about our special guests, and additional resources.



### Ageism Awareness Day Campaign: My Age My Power

We worked with the Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) in collaboration with the American Society on Aging (ASA) and used 45 social media posts to reach 4,053 social media users.



### RRF Expanding Age Advocacy

We collaborated with Old School, a hub for age equity and age advocacy awareness, to conduct focus groups all over the country (and in the UK). We will continue this community based participatory research early this year.



### Issue & Research Briefs

This year we have released four issue briefs about housing and homelessness that cover: trends and causes, strategies for service providers, strategies for policy makers, and the small household model.



### Home is Everything

We led the *Home is Everything* project where we gathered Oral Housing Histories From Centenarians. The photo-narrative exhibit is on permanent display at The Span Center.



## Collaboration



### Virginia Memory Project (VMP)

The VMP is Virginia's only statewide epidemiological registry and was codified with language encompassing caregivers, the provision of resources, and the cataloging of diverse neurodegenerative disorders.



### Alzheimer's and Related Diseases Research Award Fund

The size of awards has increased to up to **\$75,000 each**. Letters of Intent were due December 1, 2024. Applications are due March 1, 2024.



### Trauma-Informed Care Toolkit

The Trauma-Informed Care (TIC) toolkit promotes wellness among nursing facility residents, the workforce, and within organizations.



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VCOA Annual Update 2025  
[www.vcoa.chp.vcu.edu](http://www.vcoa.chp.vcu.edu)

Access Annual Update Slides



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