

Virginia Center on Aging (VCoA)
School of Allied Health Professions
Virginia Commonwealth University
Annual Report: Fiscal Year 2007-2008
July 2008

1. Progress on Objectives for Fiscal Year 2007-2008

VCoA listed seven objectives for 2007-2008, listed below and organized according to our legislated mandates of interdisciplinary studies, research, and information and resource sharing. We have met each objective.

Interdisciplinary Studies

1. VCoA intended to continue its position in addressing domestic violence against older women. VCoA was re-funded to continue its V-STOP (Virginia Services, Training, Officers, Prosecution) regional project with the Department of Justice Services to address domestic violence and sexual assault in later life, and re-funded from the Domestic Violence Victim Fund to work statewide against family violence; we have excelled in our multi-year grant award from the U.S. Department of Justice on elder abuse, having been consulted by the funder regarding training materials, and have submitted a grant proposal for additional federal support.
2. VCoA intended to continue leadership within the Area Planning and Services Committee (APSC), its model project for regional cooperation to address emerging challenges and opportunities associated with the unprecedented aging of adults with lifelong, developmental disabilities. The APSC developed two community-focused workshops (on diabetes and on arthritis) and conducted a successful fourth statewide conference.

Research

3. VCoA continued its administration of, and advocacy for, the Alzheimer's and Related Diseases Research Award Fund (ARDRAF), the most efficient and effective state-based program in the nation to stimulate promising lines of inquiry into the causes, consequences, and treatments of dementing illnesses, and conducted a comprehensive follow-up survey of past awardees to document subsequent awards and publications.
4. VCoA evaluated the impact of Workplace Partners for Eldercare, its partnered project to assist employers in central Virginia, including the VCU Health System, who wish to help their employees who are family caregivers. VCoA assisted in securing re-funding for the project.

5. VCoA's Associate Director of Research, a gubernatorial appointee to the Alzheimer's and Related Disorders Commission, continued her work in the Commission to leverage the Commonwealth's diverse expertise in dementia-related issues in order to benefit researchers, practitioners, service providers, educators, and families, through development of a virtual center on Alzheimer's. This work goes on.

Information and Resource Sharing

6. VCoA maintained, and actually expanded, its extensive involvement in community partnerships on the boards and task forces of several non-profit aging-related groups and organizations, offering *pro bono* gerontological expertise and technical assistance to the benefit of the elders and families that they serve.
7. VCoA partnered with more statewide aging-related organizations this fiscal year than the previous year, in order to disseminate research findings and to expand training for professionals across Virginia. VCoA co-developed and co-sponsored seven annual conferences in 2007-2008.

2. Contributions to the University, Fiscal 2007-2008

Initiatives supporting the VCU 2020 Strategic Planning:

- "Taking our position among the top research institutions"
 - VCoA has successfully helped secure two grant projects this year, and is directing all of the research evaluation, and submitted two other grants proposals that await decisions.
- "Serving VCU's many communities"
 - VCoA's work is addressing statewide both the aging and disabilities communities. Initiatives during this fiscal year focused on lifelong learning, employed workers who are family caregivers, training of professionals in geriatrics, aging with lifelong disabilities, and domestic violence against older women.
- "Developing a global presence"
 - VCoA is representing VCU in a continuing pioneering effort to introduce applied educational gerontology in Japan and Southeast Asia. After launching a successful international gerontology synthesis conference in Okinawa in March 2007, we are working with colleagues from universities in the U.S., Japan, China, India, the World Health Organization, and others to conduct an international invitational gerontology conference in March 2009 at

Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, India. See <http://www.andhrauniversity.info/home.html>.

- “Leveraging our strengths and building bridges through interdisciplinary activities”
 - VCoA partnered with 39 units of VCU and with 44 statewide departments, businesses, coalitions, and non-profits in calendar 2007 in interdisciplinary training, research, and information sharing.
- “Maintaining VCU as a Model for University/Community Partnerships”
 - 1) VCoA co-maintains the Lifelong Learning Institute in Chesterfield through a partnership with the Chesterfield County Public Schools, and the support of the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors.
 - 2) VCoA directs the multi-jurisdictional Area Planning and Services Committee (APSC) as a model project to address the needs of aging adults with lifelong disabilities and their family caregivers. APSC membership covers Richmond City, Chesterfield, Hanover, and Henrico counties and includes representatives from VCU, agencies in mental retardation, healthcare, parks and recreation, aging services, banking, communities of faith, and other sectors, as well as family caregivers.
 - 3) VCoA and Senior Connections: The Capital Area Agency on Aging partnered to complete and extend work on Workplace Partners for Eldercare, a project funded by the Richmond Memorial Health Foundation, to assist caregiving employees of some 20 employers in central Virginia. VCoA developed and collected data from on-line survey and in-person interviews with human resources managers and work/life coordinators to determine extant elder care programs or services and potential initiatives.

3. Highlights of Accomplishments

Listed according to our three primary mandates in the Code of Virginia:

Interdisciplinary Studies

Geriatric Training and Education (GTE)

VCoA administers an annual appropriation (\$356,250 this fiscal year) from the General Assembly to help build up the Commonwealth’s capacity to respond to the health and wellness needs of older Virginians and their families. Called the Geriatric Training and Education (GTE) initiative, it supported 15 different

projects in the current fiscal year that are affecting Virginians in each geographic region. These included:

- Support for 50 non-geriatricians to receive three days of training as participants in the April 2008 annual conference of the Virginia Geriatric Society in Williamsburg;
- Training by CD and Internet of community physicians in the Tidewater area on recognizing at-risk older drivers, and of certified nursing assistants (CNAs) statewide on medications and alcohol; and
- Community-based training of family caregivers of relatives with dementia in Southwest Virginia; geriatric nurses statewide helping elders at the end of life; family caregivers and agency staff in Central Virginia on diabetes and arthritis with lifelong disabilities; rural pharmacists in Danville, Emporia, Northern Neck, and on the Eastern Shore in advanced medication therapy management for geriatric populations; and more.

Central Virginia Training Alliance to Stop Elder Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation

VCoA and a coalition of Richmond area law enforcement agencies, Commonwealth's Attorneys' Offices, and service providers were awarded one of 10 competitive grants in October 2006 to pilot a three-year training project for criminal justice professionals on elder abuse, neglect and exploitation. The project, funded by the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), U.S. Department of Justice, focused during this fiscal year on building cross-sector collaboration (investigation to prosecution) and launching the two-day training for law enforcement that will henceforth be offered locally each quarter. Accomplishments include the following:

- Our project tailored the federal law enforcement curriculum developed by OVW, the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life, and the National Sheriffs Association so that it is now applicable across the country, referencing state statutes and state and local resources.
- Our project assembled a top-notch team of instructors (three law enforcement officers, two police department domestic violence coordinators, two prosecutors, two victim service advocates, two APS investigators, and an area agency on aging care coordination manager) to conduct our trainings, and tested the training on September 24-25, 2007 with an audience of law enforcement and community stakeholders, who provided crucial feedback.

- Our project successfully recruited participants and launched the law enforcement trainings on November 13-14, 2007 at the Chesterfield Police Academy. Evaluations were overwhelmingly positive. Subsequent trainings were held on February 19-20, 2008 at the Henrico Training Center and on April 15-16, 2008 at the Richmond Police Academy with equally positive results.
- Our project developed and submitted through our partner, Senior Connections a two-year, \$150,000 continuation funding request to OVW in February 2008 to provide additional trainings, conduct a community needs assessment, and plan for and implement outreach and service delivery to older victims. Pending.
- Our project is nearing completion of a legal remedies booklet for training participants, project collaborators, and other community stakeholders.

Alcohol and Aging Awareness Group (AAAG)

Responding to an Act of the General Assembly requiring all state agencies to plan for the aging of Virginia, VCoA collaborated with the Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to form the Alcohol and Aging Awareness Group (AAAG). The group this fiscal year has:

- Created a website, and disseminated both an informational brochure on alcohol and medications through all ABC stores, and the booklet, *Messages of Concern*, created through a previous collaboration between VCoA and the Department of Gerontology.
- Conducted a very successful statewide conference in April 2008 for 300 social workers, nurses, and other service providers on the signs and symptoms of alcohol misuse in older adults and the potential risk of alcohol and medication interactions in older adults.

Elderhostel and Lifelong Learning

VCoA has offered Elderhostel learning programs for older adults since 1979, and is among the top 20 of some 1,000 providers in the United States. VCoA is also founding co-sponsor (2003) of the Lifelong Learning Institute of Chesterfield, whose growing operations are discussed separately under "Community Partnerships." Dr. Jane Stephan directs VCoA's Elderhostel and lifelong learning programs, while Catherine Dodson coordinates Richmond Elderhostel. Noteworthy Elderhostel achievements in this fiscal year include:

- **Enrollments Strong**
VCoA Elderhostel programs in Richmond, Natural Bridge, and Staunton drew some 1,261 older learners for short, weekend, and traditional

weeklong courses. The Staunton programs are in partnership with the American Shakespeare Center.

- **New Elderhostel Programs and Special Recognition**
VCoA is one of the largest providers of Elderhostel programs in the United States. It remains so because of never-ending initiatives. VCoA submits prospective programs to Elderhostel, Inc. for approval eight times annually. In the 2007-2008 fiscal year VCoA created nine new Elderhostel programs: six for Natural Bridge and three for Richmond.
- One of VCoA's Natural Bridge programs, *A 21st Century Chautauqua*, received special recognition by the office of the president at Elderhostel, Inc., for its intriguing concept and creative design reminiscent of its namesake 19th century learning camp in upstate New York. This program is designed to showcase 12 of our best instructors from all four of our Elderhostel locations – Natural Bridge, Richmond, Staunton, and Hampton Roads. As conceived, this program had the ability to expand enrollment from the usual 44 people (one program) to 120 people (three programs); although this program does not take place until August 2008, it has filled to maximum capacity, and there is a substantial wait-list.
- **Elderhostel Community Outreach**
VCoA provided “ambassador” presentations about Elderhostel, VCoA, and the Lifelong Learning Institute to four audiences (Covenant Woods, July 2007; Highland Springs, October 2007; Swift Creek Baptist Church, March 2008; Woodlake Retirement, May 2008) for a total attendance 195 people; as well as a presentation about Elderhostel and VCoA to 60 members of the Lifelong Learning Institute in Chesterfield (September 2007)..
- VCoA conducted community-oriented “10 Days of Discovery” programs to enliven interest in lifelong learning, offering four programs in July and August 2007 at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, four programs in February and March 2008 at the Museum of the Confederacy, and two programs at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in April 2008. Total attendance at these programs was over 300.

Domestic Violence in Later Life Grant Projects

VCoA is the leading agency in the Central Virginia Task Force on Domestic Violence in Later Life, a regional collaboration of aging services, criminal justice professionals, domestic and sexual violence programs, and allied professionals working to raise awareness and improve the community response to older women who experience domestic and sexual violence. VCoA administered two grant projects on behalf of the Task Force in 2007-2008, with VCoA's Dr. Paula Kupstas as Project Director:

- Central Virginia Task Force on Domestic Violence in Later Life Project:** VCoA, as leading agency, was awarded \$31,467 in continuation funding annually for this regional project in both 2007 and 2008. Funding is through the Virginia Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecution (V-STOP) Violence Against Women federal grant program, administered by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services. The goal of the project is to develop a comprehensive, coordinated, and cross-trained community response to domestic violence and sexual assault in later life by increasing awareness, education, and specialized resources for law enforcement, criminal justice professionals, aging service providers, domestic violence advocates, and allied service professionals. During this fiscal year, the project trained 352 persons, including 96 health professionals and 62 domestic violence/sexual violence agency staff.
- Family Violence Project:** The Virginia Center on Aging, as lead agency, was awarded \$9,808 in continuation funding annually for this statewide project in 2007 and 2008, from the Virginia Domestic Violence Victim Fund, Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services. The goal of the project is to develop a comprehensive, coordinated, and cross-trained community response to family violence in later life. During this fiscal year the project coordinator provided consultations and representation at meetings of statewide organizations, assisted the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (The Action Alliance) with the Rural Outreach and Education for Sexual Abuse Services initiatives, and began work with the Women's Resource Center of New River Valley to plan a conference in October 2008. VCoA's Lisa Furr, the project coordinator, also offered a roundtable presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society in Atlanta in April 2008.

Older Dominion Project:

VCoA was involved in the conceptualization and launching of the Older Dominion Project, a broad undertaking by businesses, government, and non-profits, led by the Southeastern Institute of Research, to understand the aging of Virginia, create appropriate business opportunities, and increase public awareness of the implications for Baby Boomers and other generations. VCoA's Paula Kupstas and Ed Ansello are currently serving on the Statewide Database Work Group.

Virginia Victim Assistance Academy (VVAA)

VCoA is partnering with the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services, which is leading development of a continuing residential academy for law enforcement and victim/witness personnel, which will be launched as a weeklong training in July 2008 at the University of Richmond campus. VVAA is a multi-year project funded by the U.S. Department of Justice. This fiscal year VCoA has worked on curriculum development, training, and sustainability aspects of the Academy. Other partners include staff from other units of VCU (Internal Medicine

and Psychiatry, Social Work, Sociology, Wilder School of Public Policy, etc.); the Virginia Departments of Corrections and Social Services; the Office of the Attorney General; and several other public and private organizations. VCoA's Lisa Furr will serve as faculty at the training.

Additional Grant Proposals Submitted:

VCoA collaborated with SeniorNavigator, a celebrated Internet information and referral resource, on two funding proposals to provide training to Petersburg faith communities on preventing and responding to elder abuse and domestic violence in later life. Proposals, which were submitted by SeniorNavigator in February and March 2008 to foundations, total approximately \$200,000 overall including \$50,000 for VCoA. Pending.

Research

Alzheimer's and Related Diseases Research Award Fund (ARDRAF)

- VCoA, has administered since 1982 the Alzheimer's and Related Diseases Research Award Fund (known as ARDRAF), the Commonwealth's seed grant stimulant for Virginia-based researchers to investigate lines of inquiry into the causes, consequences, and treatments of dementing illnesses. This fiscal year ARDRAF Administrator, Dr. Connie Coogle, conducted follow-up surveys of previous awardees to document subsequent funding and publications made possible by their ARDRAF seed grants: Since 1982, VCoA has awarded 111 small grants, averaging \$16,700 and totaling \$1.8 million, which have produced over 242 scientific research publications and a documented \$17.9 million from non-state sources, such as the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health; this return on investment is approximately \$10 for every \$1 in General Fund appropriation.
- VCoA's Bert Waters is assisting with data analysis, dissemination, and publications related to the grant project "Financial Outcomes for VCU Palliative Care Program," funded by the Massey Cancer Center and directed by Principal Investigator: J. Brian Cassel.

Information and Resource Sharing

Sexual Violence and Domestic Violence Prevention

- VCoA's Bill Lightfoot is part of the Virginia Department of Health's Sexual Violence Prevention Planning Team, which includes disciplines from VCU, the Health Department, Sexual Assault Centers, and others. This team is nearing completion of a sexual violence prevention program for 2007 through 2012, which will for the first time include prevention planning for underserved populations including elders. This program is funded by a

grant from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). At the same time, VCoA's Lisa Furr is serving on the Statewide Domestic Violence Committee of the Virginia Department of Social Services.

Protection of Adults with Disabilities

- VCoA is also a partner in the I-CAN Project, which was organized by the VCU School of Social Work, the Partnership for People with Disabilities, and the Resources for Independent Living. I-CAN will provide easier access through the Internet and other means to obtain information about protective orders and other court functions for people with disabilities. This program is supported by the Supreme Court of Virginia.

Professional Training Conferences Sponsored

VCoA co-sponsored seven statewide conferences this fiscal year:

- the *Second Annual VCU Long Term Care Conference: Transitions to Post-Acute Care*, in Richmond (September 14th);
- the *Annual Conference of the Virginia Coalition on Aging*, in Richmond (October 19th);
- the *First Annual Conference on Geriatric Care*, in Charlottesville (February 26-27th);
- The *Virginia Geriatrics Society Conference*, in Williamsburg (April 11-13th);
- *The Hidden Epidemic Conference* on alcohol and aging, in Richmond (April 29th);
- the *14th Annual Conference of the Virginia Coalition for the Prevention of Elder Abuse*, in Virginia Beach (May 29th-30th); and
- *Choices: The Future Is Now* on aging with lifelong disabilities, in Richmond (June 9th).

4. Research and Scholarly Activities

Eight (8) journal articles, special issues, and book chapters:

Ansello, E.F. (2007). Building intersystem partnerships at the intersection of aging and developmental disabilities. In M. Putnam (Ed.), *Aging and disability: Crossing network lines* (pp. 161-186). New York: Springer Publishing Company.

Ansello, E.F. & C.J. Rosenthal (Guest Editors) (2007). Hidden costs/ invisible contributions of caregiving, *Canadian Journal on Aging*, 26 (Supplement 1), 1-160.

Ansello, E.F. (2007). In the beginning: On the 30th anniversary of the Committee on Humanities and the Arts, The Gerontological Society of America, *Journal of Aging, Humanities, and the Arts*, 1 (3-4), 267-276.

Coogle, C. L., Jablonski, R., & Rachel, J. A., & Parham, I. A. (2008). Skills enhancement training program for home care providers: Implications for redefining quality care. *Home Health Care Management and Practice, 20*(4), 312-322.

Coogle, C. L., & Parham, I. A. (2007). The value of geriatric care enhancement training for direct service workers. *Gerontology and Geriatrics Education, 28*(2), 109-131.

Coogle, C. L., Parham, I. A., Jablonski, R., & Rachel, J. A. (2007). Guest Editorial. *Gerontology and Geriatrics Education, 28*(2), 1-3.

Coogle, C. L., Parham, I. A., & Young, K. A. (2007). Job satisfaction and career commitment among nursing assistants providing Alzheimer's care. *American Journal of Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias, 22*(4), 251-260.

Leisey, M., Kupstas, P., & Cooper, A. (accepted for publication, 2008). Domestic Violence in the Second Half of Life. *Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect*.

Ten (10) professional conference papers and presentations:

Ansello, E.F. Teaching primary grade children about aging and older adults: A unit on the gift of time. 60th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, San Francisco, CA, November 2007.

Ansello, E.F. et al. Past presidents' symposium: A 30 year perspective on the AGHE book. 34th Annual Meeting and Educational Leadership Conference, Baltimore, MD, February 2008.

Ansello, E.F., Takahashi, R. & Sterns, H.L. Re-imagining the experience and study of aging. 34th Annual Meeting and Educational Leadership Conference, Baltimore, MD, February 2008.

Ansello, E.F. Help stamp out death in our lifetime. 29th Annual Meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society, Atlanta, GA, April 2008.

Coogle, C. L., & Whitsett, R. Alcohol and Aging Awareness Group: Virginia responds positively to the impact of alcohol and other drug use among an aging population. 29th Annual Meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society; Atlanta, GA; April, 2008.

Heller, T., Janicki, M.P., Ansello, E.F., et al. Outcomes of the UIC RRTC's state of science conference: Aging and neurodevelopmental conditions and family support and intergenerational caregiving. 60th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, San Francisco, CA, November 2007.

Kupstas, P., & Bonniwell, B. Crimes against the Elderly: Investigating Abuse and Financial Exploitation. Workshop presented at the Annual Conference of the National Center for Victims of Crime, Portland, OR, June 2008.

Kupstas, P., & Lightfoot, W. Financial Exploitation: Lessons for Law Enforcement, Attorneys, and Service Providers. Workshop presented at the 14th Annual Conference of the Virginia Coalition for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, Virginia Beach, VA, May 2008.

Takahashi, R. & Ansello, E.F. Reinventing gerontology: Curriculum innovations emerging from a Southeast Asia-U.S. collaboration. 60th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, San Francisco, CA, November 2007.

Waters, L., Partnering to provide statewide end-of-life geriatric nursing training. 29th Annual Meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society, Atlanta, GA, April 2008.

One (1) booklet for general distribution:

Guardianship and Conservatorship in Virginia (Revised March 2008), published in jointly by the Virginia Guardianship Association, the Virginia Center on Aging, the Virginia Coalition for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, and the Virginia Department for the Aging.

5. Public/Community Service Activities (Community Partnerships)

Lifelong Learning Institute of Chesterfield

VCoA is a founding sponsor of the Lifelong Learning Institute (LLI), which is housed in Midlothian, VA. Conceived and operated in partnership with the Chesterfield Board of Supervisors and Chesterfield County Public Schools since 2003, the LLI membership has now reached 400 adults ages 50 and better. The LLI is based on the Elderhostel Institute model, which emphasizes and operates on member-driven administration and instruction. During this fiscal year, the LLI offered about 150 learning experiences (courses, special events, guest lectures) in each of the fall and spring semesters, and over 50 in the summer. SAHP active and retired faculty members are valued instructors.

Area Planning and Services Committee for Aging with Lifelong Disabilities (APSC)

VCoA maintained its fifth consecutive year of community partnership in the APSC, a broad coalition of family caregivers and leaders across metropolitan Richmond in disabilities, health care, aging services, parks and recreation, communities of faith, and more. The APSC membership assesses needs and designs strategies to assist both those who age with lifelong disabilities, such as mental retardation and cerebral palsy, and their family caregivers. During fiscal

year 2007-2008, the APSC offered community workshops on diabetes with lifelong disabilities and on arthritis with lifelong disabilities, distributed a CD widely that it developed on Healthy Cooking, and held its annual conference, this year entitled *Choices: The Future Is Now*, which addressed self-advocacy, lifetime estate planning, human rights, hospice, mental illness, home modifications, and other topics.

Senior Connections: The Capital Area Agency on Aging

VCoA continues its partnership *Senior Connections: The Capital Area Agency on Aging* on two projects: *Workplace Partners for Eldercare* and the *Virginia Respite Care Grant*, both of which continue our collaboration with and technical assistance to this multi-jurisdictional agency serving the needs of older Virginians, as well as offering opportunities for field research on working caregivers. In the first project, VCoA assisted Senior Connections in receiving its second \$50,000.00 grant funded by the Richmond Memorial Health Foundation to improve workplace supports for caregiving employees in more than two dozen places of employment. The second project is newly funded for two years through the Virginia Department for the Aging and supports respite service scholarships to help family caregivers use adult daycare, in-home personal care, and transportation services. VCoA is developing an on-line survey and interview instrument in the first project and conducting the evaluation in both of these projects, receiving \$10,000 for the first and \$3,500 for the second, with Dr. Coogle overseeing the processes, assisted by Bert Waters.

City of Richmond Needs Assessment Survey of Older Adults

We have contracted with the City of Richmond, Office of the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Human services, to produce a report examining the results of a needs assessment survey focused upon older adults and suggesting policy-related recommendations for the City. Dr. Coogle is directing this evaluation, with VCoA receiving \$5,000 for this work.

Professional Assistance to Community Partnerships

VCoA staff (noted in parentheses) contributed technical assistance, knowledge transfer, and other professional assistance in response to community need by working with many groups, including the following 18 organizations and groups:

- Area Planning and Services Committee (APSC) (Ansello)
- Central State Hospital in Petersburg, Human Rights Commission (Lightfoot)
- Central Virginia Task on Domestic Violence in Later Life (Kupstas, Furr, Ansello)
- Chesterfield Council on Aging (Ansello)
- Equality Virginia's Anti Violence Project (Furr)
- I-CAN Advisory Board of the VCU Partnership for People with Disabilities (Lightfoot)

- Lifelong Learning Institute of Chesterfield (Board of Directors) (Stephan, Ansello)
- Metropolitan Domestic and Sexual Violence Coordinating Committee (Chairman) (Lightfoot)
- National Association on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Central Virginia (Kupstas)
- Petersburg Domestic Violence Task Force (Lightfoot)
- Richmond Peace Education Center (Furr)
- Shepherd's Center of Richmond (Ansello)
- Virginia Adult Fatality Review Board (Lightfoot)
- Virginia Arthritis Action Coalition (Executive Committee) (Ansello)
- Virginia Coalition for the Aging (Board of Directors) (Kupstas)
- Virginia Coalition for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (Board of Directors) (Ansello, Furr)
- Virginia Culture Change Coalition (long-term care reform) (Steering Committee) (Waters)
- Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (Governing Board) and its Wild Women of Wisdom Task Force (Furr, Lightfoot)

6. International Activities

VCoA has been collaborating with colleagues within the Nippon Care-Fit Service Association (a Japanese non-profit), the World Health Organization (WHO) of the United Nations, several universities in the United States, Japan, India, Asia, and Europe, the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education, and others in a continuing initiative to introduce gerontology curricula into higher education across Southeast Asia. VCoA was involved centrally in international gerontology synthesis conferences in Tokyo in 2004 and Okinawa in 2007 which brought together researchers, educators, policy makers, clinicians and others in order to help establish gerontology in Asian nations. VCoA is engaged in efforts to introduce a re-envisioned, culturally sensitive gerontology curriculum into India in 2009.

7. Important Challenges in Fiscal Year 2008-2009

- One of VCoA's greatest challenges will be maintaining enrollments in our Elderhostel programs, in the face of a nationwide decline in travel and substantial decreases in all aspects of the travel industry. The higher cost of living, higher gas prices and plane fares, and fiscal prudence by those on fixed incomes have contributed to noticeable decreases in program enrollments in Elderhostel across the country. Our programs must be cost-effective for us, but they must also be attractive and attractively priced, and we must find new ways or, at least, additional ways to enhance our marketing.

- Another Elderhostel-related challenge involves securing attractive lodging with affordable rates for our programs. Hotels have responded to the current economic downturn by increasing rates and providing less service and amenities. Our greatest challenge is in Richmond, where we can no longer afford to conduct programs at downtown hotels but must nevertheless focus the content of many programs on the historic core of downtown.

8. Objectives for Fiscal Year 2008-2009

The following outline of seven objectives for 2008-2009 is organized according to our legislated mandates of interdisciplinary studies, research, and information and resource sharing.

Interdisciplinary Studies

1. VCoA intends to address critical challenges to Elderhostel enrollments and lodging as best as it can, given a deteriorating economy. Our options are limited but do include marketing initiatives and searching for suitable hotels within reach of the attractions and themes that our programs feature.
2. VCoA intends to capitalize upon its growing reputation in the matters of domestic and family violence in later life, due largely to the leadership of the project director and coordinator of our collaborative projects. We will seek greater engagement of prosecutors and judges in our federal OVW project and continued collaboration with other agencies in our DCJS projects; these actions will help ensure that violence against and exploitation of older adults will be better recognized, appropriately investigated and prosecuted, and ultimately lessened because of this work. We also intend to participate in at least two state or national conferences during the 2008-2009 year to disseminate our practices.
3. VCoA intends to continue leadership within the Area Planning and Services Committee (APSC), to expand the membership of the APSC, and to co-sponsor at least one regional workshop and one statewide conference on matters of aging with lifelong, developmental disabilities.

Research

4. VCoA will continue its administration of and advocacy for, the Alzheimer's and Related Diseases Research Award Fund (ARDRAF), to stimulate promising lines of inquiry into the causes, consequences, and treatments of dementing illnesses. During this year VCoA will examine and clarify the eligibility and application process.

5. VCoA will continue its evaluation of an evolving, partnered project to assist employers in central Virginia, including the VCU Health System, who wish to help their employees who are family caregivers. The project, Workplace Partners for Eldercare, has been re-funded.

Information and Resource Sharing

6. VCoA intends to maintain its extensive community partnerships on the boards and task forces of at least a dozen non-profit aging-related organizations, offering *pro bono* gerontological expertise and technical assistance to the benefit of the elders and families that they serve.
7. VCoA intends to continue to partner with statewide aging-related organizations in order to disseminate research findings and to expand training for professionals across Virginia. VCoA will co-develop and co-sponsor at least six annual conferences throughout the year as a commitment to research translation and knowledge transfer.

Virginia Center on Aging at Virginia Commonwealth University

Partnerships with Businesses and Agencies in 2008 by Geographic Region

Central Virginia

Agecroft Associates, Richmond
A Grace Place Adult Care Center, Richmond
Agecroft Hall, Richmond
Alzheimer's Association-Greater Richmond
American Red Cross, Richmond Chapter
A Movable Feast, Richmond
Ashland Police Department
Berkeley Plantation, Charles City
Bon Secours Richmond Health System
 Faith Community Nursing
Brighton Gardens Assisted Living, Richmond
Bunkie Trinite Trophies, Richmond
Capitol Tours, Richmond
Capitol Square Preservation Council, Richmond
Cateraide, Richmond
Catering by Jill, Richmond
Catholic Diocese of Richmond
 Housing Corporation
 Women's Commission
Central Virginia Coalition for Quality End-of-Life Care, Richmond
Central Virginia Legal Aid Society, Richmond
Central Virginia Task Force on Domestic Violence in Later Life,
Richmond
Chesterfield/Colonial Heights Department of Social Services
Chesterfield Council on Aging
Chesterfield County
 Adult Services Task Force
 Board of Supervisors
 Commonwealth Attorney's Office
 Community Services Board
 Domestic Violence Task Force
 Hispanic-Latino Immigrant Task Force
 Parks & Recreation

Police Department
Public Schools
Senior Advocate
Sexual and Domestic Violence Resource Center
City of Richmond
Behavioral Health Authority
Commonwealth Attorney's Office
Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team
Human Services Commission, Elderly and Disabled Committee
Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court
Office of the Deputy Chief Administrative for Human Services
Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities
Police Department
Public Schools, Adult Career Development Center
Sheriff's Office
Social Services
Colonial Printing, Richmond
Comfort Inn Conference Center, Richmond
Commonwealth Catholic Charities
Congregational Health Ministries Consortium, Richmond
Crater District Area Agency on Aging, Petersburg
Digital Banana, Richmond
Dominion Virginia Power, Richmond
Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Richmond
Fan Free Clinic, Richmond
Federal Bureau of Investigation, Richmond Division
Garden Café, Richmond
Greater Richmond Chamber of Commerce
Great Foods to Go
Groome Transportation
Hanover Adult Center, Mechanicsville
Hanover County
Adult Protective Services
Commonwealth Attorney's Office
Mental Retardation Services
Parks and Recreation
Sheriff's Office
Social Services
Hanover Safe Place
Henrico County
Council on Aging
Commonwealth Attorney's Office
Division of Police
Health Department

Mental Health and Retardation Services
Recreation and Parks
Sheriff's Office
Social Services
TEAM (Together Every Adult Matters) Henrico
Victim/Witness
Holiday Inn Express, Downtown Richmond
Holiday Inn Select Koger Center, Midlothian
Hollywood Cemetery Foundation, Richmond
Home Care Delivered, Inc., Richmond
Hospice of Central Virginia, Richmond
Hunter Holmes McGuire Veterans Administration Medical Center
Division of Geriatrics, Richmond
Ikon Office Solutions, Richmond
Incredible Edibles, Richmond
Instructive Visiting Nurse Association, Richmond
It Must Be a Taste of Heaven Ice Creamery, Richmond
James River Bus Lines, Richmond
Jefferson Hotel, Richmond
John Marshall House, Richmond
Johnston-Willis Hospital, Richmond
Kinko's, Richmond
Lavender Fields Farm, Glen Allen
Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Richmond
Library of Virginia, Richmond
Lifelong Learning Institute of Chesterfield County, Inc.
Maggie L. Walker House, Richmond
Maymont Foundation, Richmond
Meals on Wheels, Richmond
Media General, Richmond
Metro Richmond Convention and Visitors Bureau, Richmond
Metro Richmond Sexual and Domestic Violence Coordinating
Committee
Museum of the Confederacy, Richmond
Office Depot, Richmond
Retail Merchants Association of Greater Richmond
Richmond Marriott
Richmond Memorial Health Foundation
Richmond National Battlefield Park at Tredegar Ironworks
Richmond Residential Services, Inc.
Safe Harbor-Henrico
Saint John's Church, Richmond
Saint Joseph's Home for the Aged, Richmond
Saint Mary's Catholic Church, Richmond

Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, Richmond
Second Presbyterian Church, Richmond
Senior Center of Richmond, Richmond
Senior Connections, The Capital Area Agency on Aging, Richmond
Shepherd's Center of Chesterfield, Chester
Shepherd's Center of Richmond
Sheraton Park West Hotel, Richmond
Shirley Plantation, Charles City
Southeastern Institute of Research, Richmond
Supply Room Companies, Richmond
Style Weekly Magazine, Richmond
Thompson & McMullan, P.C., Elder Law Section
Tuckahoe Plantation, Goochland
Tuckahoe YMCA, Richmond
2300 Club, Richmond
Ukrop's Supermarkets, Richmond
United Way of Greater Richmond and Petersburg
University of Richmond
 Department of Biology
 Department of Chemistry
Valentine Museum, Richmond
Virginia Crossings Resort, Glen Allen
Virginia Historical Society, Richmond
Virginia House, Richmond
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond
Virginia Patriots, Inc.
Virginia State University, Petersburg
W. Thomas Hudson and Associates, Inc.
White House and Museum of the Confederacy, Richmond
Wilton House, Richmond
Woman's Club of Virginia, Richmond
YWCA of Richmond, Virginia

Eastern Virginia

Alzheimer's Association-Southeastern Virginia, Hampton
Boise Cascade Office Products, Norfolk
Charles City Tavern
Christopher Newport University, Newport News, Lifelong Learning
Institute

College of William and Mary, Williamsburg
Schroeder Center for Healthcare Policy
Elderhostel
Colonial Services Board, Williamsburg
Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Williamsburg
Colonial Williamsburg, Williamsburg
Dominion Village of Poquoson, Poquoson
Eastern Virginia Medical School, Norfolk
Department of Pathology and Anatomy
Internal Medicine, Division of Geriatrics
Glennan Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology
Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board
Hampton University, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, School of
Pharmacy
Hampton Veterans Administration Medical Center, Department of
Geriatrics and Extended Care
Jamestown National Park, Jamestown
Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Jamestown
Norfolk Convention and Visitors Bureau
Norfolk Healthcare Center
Old Dominion University, Norfolk
Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice
Lifelong Learning Institute
School of Medical Laboratory and Radiation Sciences
Samaritan House, Virginia Beach
Sentara Williamsburg Community Hospital
Virginia Retired Teachers Association-District D, Prince George
Virginia War Museum, Newport News
Virginia Wesleyan College, Health and Human Services Department,
Norfolk
Walsh Family Chiropractic, Williamsburg
Westminster-Canterbury, Virginia Beach
Williamsburg Community Hospital

Northern Virginia

Alzheimer's Association - National Capital Area, Fairfax
Arlington County Department of Human Services and Aging
Burke Healthcare Center
Caroline County Historical Society
Consumer Consortium on Assisted Living, Falls Church
Fredericksburg Chateau, Fredericksburg

Fredericksburg/Spotsylvania National Park Service, Fredericksburg
George Mason University, Fairfax
Center for Biomedical Genomics and Informatics, Department of
Molecular and Microbiology
Department of Social Work
Krasnow Institute for Advanced Study
Lifelong Learning Institute
George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens
Gerontological Society of America, Washington DC
INOVA Health Systems, Falls Church
Loudoun County Area Agency on Aging, Leesburg
Marymount University, Department of Information Systems
and Management Science
Mount Vernon Inn
Northern Virginia Aging Network, Arlington
Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale
Oak Springs of Warrington, Warrington
Prince William/Manassas Conference & Visitor Bureau, Manassas
Rappahannock Rapidan Community Services Board, Hartwood
Senior Services of Alexandria
Spotsylvania Visitors Center
Summerville at Prince William, Woodbridge

Northwest Virginia

Albemarle County Historical Society
American Hotel, Staunton
American Shakespeare Center, Staunton
Augusta Medical Center, Fishersville
Blackfriars Playhouse, Staunton
Blue Ridge Legal Services, Harrisonburg
Cedars, Beverly Healthcare, Waynesboro
City of Staunton
Cranberry's Grocery, Staunton
Eric Stamer Catering, Staunton
Frederick House, Staunton
Frontier Culture Museum, Staunton
Hall of Valor Civil War Museum, New Market
Harrisonburg-Rockingham Convention and Visitors Bureau, Harrisonburg
Harrisonburg-Rockingham Social Services District, Harrisonburg
Howard Johnson Motel, Staunton

James Madison University, Harrisonburg
Lifelong Learning Institute
Jefferson Area Board for the Aging, Charlottesville
Jefferson Visitor Center, Charlottesville
L'Italia Restaurant, Staunton
Mary Baldwin College, Department of Psychology, Staunton
Michie Tavern, Charlottesville
Monticello, Charlottesville
Monticello Foundation, Charlottesville
New Market Battlefield and Museum
New Market Battlefield Military Museum
New Market Battlefield State Historical Park
Orange County Nursing Home, Orange
P. Buckley Moss Museum, Waynesboro
Rockbridge Vineyard and Winery, Raphine
Sexual Assault Resource Agency, Charlottesville
Shenandoah Social Services, Verona
Shenandoah University, Winchester
 School of Health Professions, Division of Occupational Therapy
 Bernard J. Dunn School of Pharmacy
Summit Hill, Waynesboro
The Dining Room, Staunton
The Pampered Palate, Staunton
Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation, Charlottesville
Turner Ashby House, Port Republic
University of Virginia, Charlottesville
University of Virginia Health System, Charlottesville
 Department of Psychology
 School of Medicine
 Department of Anesthesiology
 Department of Neurology
 Department of Pathology
 Department of Pharmacology
 School of Nursing
University of Virginia Senior Services, Charlottesville
Valley Program on Aging Services, Waynesboro
Visitor Center, Staunton
Visitors Bureau, Staunton
Westminster-Canterbury of the Blue Ridge, Charlottesville
Woodrow Wilson Birthplace, Staunton

Southwest Virginia

Abbott Bus Lines, Roanoke
Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens, Inc., Cedar Bluff
Blacksburg Electronic Village, Blacksburg
Blue Ridge Parkway Ranger Station and Visitor Center, Stuart's Draft
Carillon Health System, Roanoke
College of Health Services, Roanoke
Days Inn, Lynchburg
Duffield Nursing Facility, Duffield
Edward Via Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Blacksburg
Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Lexington and Salem
George C. Marshall Museum, Lexington
George C. Marshall Foundation, Lexington
Hamilton Haven, Roanoke
Holiday Inn Select, Lynchburg
Kendal of Lexington
Lakeview Assisted Living, Roanoke
Lee Chapel and Museum, Lexington
Lexington-Rockbridge County Visitors Center, Lexington
LOA-Area Agency on Aging, Inc., Roanoke
Lynchburg College, Belle Boone Center on Aging and the Life Course
Lynchburg Visitor Center, Lynchburg
MacArthur House, Narrows
Mayfair House Assisted Living, Roanoke
Monacan Indian Nation, Inc, Madison Heights
Mountain Empire Older Citizens, Inc., Big Stone Gap
Natural Bridge Caverns
Natural Bridge Inn & Conference Center
Natural Bridge Wax Museum
New River Valley Task Force on Domestic Violence among Older Adults
Peaks of Otter Restaurant, Bedford County
Peaks of Otter Visitor Center, Bedford County
Piedmont Adult Care Residence, Danville
Poplar Forest, Lynchburg
Quality Quick Print, Lexington
Rockbridge Historical Society, Lexington
Safe Homes, Craig County
Southern Area Agency on Aging, Martinsville
Stonewall Jackson House, Lexington
Stonewall Jackson Memorial Cemetery, Lexington
Via College of Osteopathic Medicine
Virginia Military Institute Museum, Lexington

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg
Center for Gerontology
Department of Biochemistry
Department of Chemical Engineering
Department of Chemistry
Washington and Lee University, Lexington
Western State Hospital, Neuropsychology Laboratory, Staunton
World War II Memorial, Bedford
Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley, Task Force on
Domestic Violence in Later Life

Statewide

AARP Virginia
Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Commission
Commonwealth Council on Aging
Equality Virginia, Anti-Violence Project
Medical Society of Virginia
National Association of Retired Federal Employees
Office of the Attorney General
Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman
Old Dominion Electric Cooperative
Older Dominion Partnership
Prevent Blindness Virginia
SeniorNavigator.com
Supreme Court of Virginia
Virginia Alliance of Social Work Practitioners
Virginia Arthritis Action Coalition
Virginia Association for Home Care and Hospice
Virginia Association of Area Agencies on Aging
Virginia Association of Community Services Boards
Virginia Association of Nonprofit Homes for the Aging
Virginia Caregiver Coalition
Virginia Culture Change Coalition
Virginia Coalition for the Aging
Virginia Coalition for the Prevention of Elder Abuse
Virginia Department for the Aging
Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control
Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services
Virginia Department of Emergency Management
Virginia Department of Health
Virginia Department of Health Professions

Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services
Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services
Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Services
Virginia Department of Social Services
Virginia Elder Rights Coalition
Virginia Geriatrics Society
Virginia Guardianship Association
Virginia Health Care Association
Virginia Health Quality Center
Virginia Hospital and Health Care Association
Virginia Poverty Law Center
Virginia Quality Healthcare Network
Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance
 Governing Body
 Social Justice Task Force
 Training Committee
 Wild Women of Wisdom Task Force
Virginia State TRIAD

Collaboration with Units of Virginia Commonwealth University

Center for Public Policy
Department of Adult Health Nursing
Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology
Department of Chemistry
Department of Computer Sciences
Department of Epidemiology and Community Health
Department of Human Genetics
Department of Gerontology
Department of Health Administration
Department of Internal Medicine
Department of Occupational Therapy
Department of Pastoral Care, Program in Patient Counseling
Department of Pathology
Department of Psychology
Health System Forensic Nurse Examiners Program
Institute for Women's Health
Office of the Vice President for Health Sciences
Partnership for People with Disabilities
Police Department

School of Allied Health Professions
School of Chemical and Life Science Engineering
School of Dentistry
 Division of Dental Hygiene
School of Mass Communications
School of Medicine
 Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology
 Department of Epidemiology and Community Health
 Department of Internal Medicine
 Division of General Medicine and Primary Care
 Geriatric Medicine Section
School of Pharmacy
 Department of Medicinal Chemistry
 Department of Pharmacy
 Department of Pharmaceutics
 Geriatrics Pharmacy Program
School of Social Work
Survey and Evaluation Research Laboratory