

Fairfax 50+ Community Action Plan

Approved by the Fairfax County BOS September 2014

1st Annual Progress Report, June 2016

CONTENTS	1
LONG-RANGE PLANNING	
Trends Analysis of Fairfax County 50+ Residents.....	4
SERVICES FOR OLDER ADULTS AND FAMILY CAREGIVERS	
Caring for the Caregiver	4
Creating a Communication Buzz	5
Home Health Care Cooperative.....	6
Housing for Older Homeless Adults and Those at Risk of Becoming Homeless	6
Optimizing the Number of Links into the County’s Older Adults Page.....	7
SAFE & HEALTHY COMMUNITY	
Project Lifesaver Expansion	7
Criminal Exploitation Prevention	8
Building Community Partnerships to Enhance Behavioral Health for Senior ...	9
Park Authority 50+ Initiatives	10
Pre-Notification 911	11
Arts Initiative	11

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Increase Employment and Entrepreneurship Opportunities	12
Fairfax 50+ Community	13
GrandInvolve Program: Intergenerational Volunteering in Elementary School ...	14
Kaleidoscope 50+: Perspectives on Culture	15
Library Opportunities for 50+	16
Neighbor to Neighbor	17
Venture into Volunteering	17

TRANSPORTATION

Senior Mobility Fair	18
Partnership to Provide Medical Transportation	19
Mobility Management Program	19
Northern Virginia Rides (<i>NVRides</i>)	20
Universal Real-Time Online Transit Data Portal	21

HOUSING

Accessibility Guide for Home Modifications	22
Latitude in Land Use Cases for Affordable Older Adult Housing	23
Neighborhood-Based Older Adult Housing	24
Home Property Management Services	25
Home Sharing Initiative	25
Help People Stay in their Homes with Technology	26
Universal Design (UD)	27

Scoring Key

●●●●: Initiative has been achieved or is now an established operation.

●●●○: Initiative has made good progress and accomplished more than half of its initial goals.

●●○○: Initiative has made some progress and is moving forward.

●○○○: Initiative has made little progress, due to limited resources or obstacles.

SOME KEY FACTS ABOUT FAIRFAX COUNTY

According to the 2014 American Community Survey:

- 23.2% of households in Fairfax County include adults 65+
- Individuals age 65+ represent 11.5% of the total Fairfax County population.
- 27.7% of adults 65+ report having a disability.
- 30.9% of Fairfax County's population is foreign-born.
- 30.5% of people aged 75+ live alone (2010 U.S. Census).
- 47.5 % of Fairfax County residents age 80+ have one or more of the following: serious difficulty with walking and/or climbing stairs, difficulty dressing and/or bathing, or a cognitive disability (2010 U.S. Census, 2011 American Community Survey).
- There is a net in-migration to Fairfax County of persons age 85+ (U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey).

LONG-RANGE PLANNING

●● Trends Analysis of Fairfax County 50+ Residents

Champions: George Mason University, Dr. Catherine Tompkins & Dr. Emily Ihara

COA Advocate: Richard Chobot, Chair, Commission on Aging, Braddock District

County Liaisons: Jacquie Woodruff, Area Agency on Aging (AAA)/Dept. of Family Services and Evan Braff, Dept. of Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS)

Goals: Conduct a study of federal, state, and local economic and demographic data related to the 50+ population in Fairfax County. The analysis will identify population trends and the resulting needs and will become the foundation for framing future 50+ strategic planning efforts.

Update: See attached report. (**Appendix A**)

SERVICES FOR OLDER ADULTS AND FAMILY CAREGIVERS

● Caring for the Caregiver

Champion/COA Advocate: Richard Chobot, Chair, Commission on Aging, Braddock District

County Liaison: Family Caregiver Support Team and Jacquie Woodruff, AAA/Dept. of Family Services

See attached complete report (**Appendix B**)

Goals: This initiative seeks to answer three questions: (1) What are the current needs of caregivers in Fairfax County? (2) What are the perceived gaps in meeting these needs? (3) What are some potential future/longer-term needs of caregivers that the County and nonprofits must be prepared to address? The initiative is framed with the recognition that County revenue for human services, as well as pressures on individual income, impacts the ability to meet both present and projected caregiver and care recipient needs.

Update: We do not have a current count of unpaid caregivers in Fairfax County. Although an approach similar to that used in the AARP/NEC study (*Caregiving in the US*) could provide an answer, a more expeditious approach is to use the list of 2,000 individuals who receive the online caregiver materials from the Agency on Aging. These individuals will be invited to complete a survey instrument, derived from a literature review, that ranks basic caregiver needs on a scale from what “is” to what “should be” available to support caregivers. Once data from that broad survey has been analyzed to reveal any gaps between existing (IS) and desired (SHOULD BE) support, two panels of 10 members each—one comprised of professional caregivers, and the other of informal caregivers—will be chosen to identify strategies to reduce or eliminate those gaps. A report of their findings and recommendations will be prepared by December 2016.

Future: An approach to the third question regarding the future/long-term needs of caregivers will be proposed by the end of June 2017 and, if deemed feasible, implemented by the end of 2017. Two methods initially being considered for addressing this third question are scenario planning or a Delphi study.

● **Creating a Communication Buzz**

Champion: Renuka Chander, McLean Community for All Ages

COA Advocate: Kay Larmer, Vice Chair, Commission on Aging, Dranesville District

County Liaisons: Grace Lynch, AAA/Dept. of Family Services and Linda Hernandez-Giblin, AAA/Dept. of Family Services

Goals: Educate community members about services in Fairfax County available for older adults and their caregivers. 50+ Community Ambassadors will become resources in their communities and organizations. Ambassadors will bridge the gap between the community and county resources.

Update: A small work group was formed to consider how to benefit from the existing word-of-mouth (WOM) marketing expertise in the Fairfax community. Members spoke with local marketers and learned more about how WOM methods and effectiveness can effectively reach older adults through connections with family, friends, neighbors, worship centers, and community organizations.

They are now focusing on the countywide expansion of an existing multicultural outreach program, the Area Agency on Aging’s Community Ambassador Program. Volunteer community ambassadors are being recruited through multiple sources.

Future: The first orientation for 31 aspiring Ambassadors was held February 10, 2016. Participants will continue to expand their knowledge through quarterly meetings focused

on various topics such as financial crimes and exploitation, caregiver resources, health, nutrition, and care management. Orientations will be held semi-annually to train newly recruited volunteers. The trained volunteer Ambassadors become known resource people to others within their personal networks about community 50+ issues and community services. The model is a proven way to effectively reach older adults who have some connections with family, friends, neighbors, worship centers, and community organizations.

● **Home Health Care Cooperative**

Champion/COA Advocate: Richard Chobot, Chair, Commission on Aging, Braddock District

County Liaison: Barbara Antley, Adult and Aging Services/Dept. of Family Services

Goals: Encourage development of a home health care cooperative that includes caregivers, service recipients, and providers. As Fairfax area residents age and require in-home health care, they have a range of options, but they do not have control over rates charged or the problem of significant turnover among home health aides and home care aides. A cooperative may be a way to mitigate the impact of these conditions.

Update: Research recently conducted on caregiving (reported in the paper *Caregiving: Setting a Context*) suggests that, at least in the near term, the concept of a Home Health Care Cooperative is not practical. This in no way means that the need for logistical support for caregivers has ceased to exist. The champion therefore proposes the following changes to this initiative: (1) The initiative should be refocused around informal collaboration, with faith-based communities, homeowners' associations, and civic associations as potential resources. There also may be a tie-in with the Neighbor to Neighbor Initiative and the Village Movement. (2) In the process of implementing the preceding Caring for Caregivers Initiative, the champion will add collaboration to his research and collection of data and, based on findings, will likely rewrite and refocus this initiative.

● **Housing for Older Homeless Adults and Those at Risk of Becoming Homeless**

Champion: Dean Klein, Office to Prevent and End Homelessness

COA Advocate: Sharron Dreyer, Commission on Aging, Lee District

County Liaison: Barbara Antley, Adult and Aging Services/Dept. of Family Services

Goals: Increase available safe housing for people age 55+, especially those with chronic medical conditions and those who become homeless through abuse, abandonment, and other issues beyond their control.

Update: This is a long-range initiative that requires the right timing and a multi-faceted approach for implementation. The population to be served needs a continuum of housing, from supportive to secure. Work group members have met several times and are in communication regarding options.

Future: The work group will continue to seek opportunities and meet to review possibilities.

●●● Optimizing the Number of Links into the County's Older Adults Web Page

Champion: Grace Lynch, AAA/Dept. of Family Services

COA Advocate: Tom Bash, Commission on Aging, Springfield District

County Liaison: Grace Lynch, AAA/Dept. of Family Services

Goals: Post links to the County's Older Adults webpage (www.fairfaxcountv.gov/olderadults) on other County pages that older adults and caregivers are likely to visit. More links will increase visits to the site and assist visitors in finding the services they need through the Aging, Disability, and Caregiver Hotline.

Update: County web pages that logically should provide a link into the Older Adults web page, including pages controlled by Neighborhood and Community Services, Housing, and Health, were reviewed and links were added as needed. This initiative is completed.

●●● Project Lifesaver Expansion

Champion: Fairfax County Sheriff's Office

COA Advocate: Joseph Heastie, Commission on Aging, Providence District

County Liaison: Stacie Talbot, Sheriff's Office

Goals: Increase Project Lifesaver funding and support, particularly to decrease the waiting list for services. Project lifesaver is a comprehensive program designed to quickly locate and rescue individuals with cognitive disorders who are at constant risk

for wandering. The Fairfax County Sheriff's Office manages and runs the program, providing timely response and recovery of these persons, both children and adults.

Update: Program received significant outside funding to update and purchase new equipment. In December 2015 there were approximately 45 people on the wait list. Sheriff's department personnel change batteries regularly in the devices that participants wear. Volunteer help was offered but is not needed at this time.

Future: Efforts are under way to increase corporate and individual donations to cover ongoing costs and to purchase additional tracking devices.

●● Criminal Exploitation Prevention

Champion (as of 12/21/15): Steve Canner, Community Member

COA Advocate: Joseph Heastie, Commission on Aging, Providence District

County Liaison: Barbara Antley, Adult and Aging Services/Dept. of Family Services; Mary Ann Jennings, Fairfax County Police Dept.; and V. F Johnson, Dept. of Cable and Consumer Affairs

Goals: Address exploitation crimes against older adults with education campaigns and aggressive police enforcement.

Update: Progress has been made on three fronts:

In March 2015, the Area Agency on Aging communicator worked with Channel 16's *Mature Living* on a TV program, *Scams against Seniors*, that featured two Adult Protective Services supervisors and representatives from the police department and consumer affairs. The program aired for three months on Channel 16 and was posted on YouTube (531+ views). It was promoted via the *Golden Gazette*, *Fairfax 50+ E-News*, *Caregiver Corner Online*, *Newswire*, and *Facebook*. DVDs of the program were distributed to senior centers.

In late 2015, the AAA communicator again worked with Channel 16 to produce *Managing Your Money and Someone Else's*, a program in which an elder law attorney discusses the importance of establishing fiduciaries to protect incapacitated older adults. The program promotes a new publication of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, "*Managing Someone Else's Money in Virginia*," which helps readers understand how to manage another person's money and protect them from scams and fraud. Channel 16 broadcast the program in January 2016.

Also in 2015, the AAA published 6 stories or notices of community presentations about scams against seniors in *Caregiver Corner Online*; 13 in *Fairfax 50+ E-News*; and 12 in *Golden Gazette*. A discussion on avoiding scams in home repair and yard work,

featuring Wil Slaughter of Consumer Affairs, aired on *Fairfax 50+ Podcast* on September 13.

New initiative champion Steve Canner created a work group comprised of participants from the Police Department, Consumer Affairs, Adult Protective Services and community members to strategize about collaborative approaches.

Future: Champion and work group will coordinate with all county agencies involved in preventing fraud and crime, as well as members of the business community who have a vested interest in stopping and preventing scams and fraud against older adults and who may be willing to help with ongoing efforts to educate the public.

● **Building Community Partnerships to Enhance Behavioral Health for Seniors**

Champion: Kathleen Cameron, National Council on Aging

COA Advocate: Joseph Heastie, Commission on Aging, Providence District

County Liaison: Sharon Lynn, AAA/Dept. of Family Services

Goals: Convene a work group of representatives from the Community Services Board, Department of Family Services' Adult & Aging Services, the Health Department, community nonprofits, and interested community members to explore the feasibility of implementing a Senior Reach program in Fairfax County. Senior Reach, based in Jefferson County, Colorado, provides care management, mental health and substance abuse treatment and wellness services at no cost to older adults who are isolated, frail, or in need of support.

Update: The initial work group met in February 2015 to explore the feasibility of implementing "Senior Reach" or a similar program in Fairfax County. The initiative's Champion and County Liaison met with, and continue to stay in contact with, the developers of Senior Reach, who have offered to provide assistance during our planning phase. An important aspect of the program is training individuals and professionals in the community to identify and refer older adults in need. The work group includes representatives of Cornerstones, Fellowship Square Foundation, Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Boards, Fairfax County Health Department, the Korean Community Services Center of Greater Washington, Northern Virginia Family Services, and ElderLink, Inova Juniper, Inova Behavioral Health, and Easter Seals. More community partnerships are needed. A list of behavioral-health treatment providers for older adults in the Fairfax area has been compiled.

Future: The work group continues to seek a lead organization or agency to coordinate Senior Reach in the county. Funds are needed to support a pilot project.

●●● **Park Authority 50+ Initiatives**

Champion: Sara Baldwin, Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA)

County Liaison: Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director, FCPA

Goals: The Fairfax County Park Authority will use its recent Needs Assessment to better target programs and facilities for older adults. A new 50+ portal on the FCPA website is planned. Staff will include a focus on the needs of older adults when designing and planning new urban park settings.

Update: The FCPA staff has made progress on two components of the initiative.

A focus group held in November 2014 with the Commission on Aging and other members of the 50+ community contributed thoughtful ideas and perspectives on how participants are currently using parks, as well as their needs for parks in the future. Additional ideas and concerns were solicited online and by email; thousands of local residents participated. The Park Authority Needs Assessment Survey was mailed to 15,000 Fairfax County households in spring 2015. Over 4,600 households responded. Preliminary results were released on the project website (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parkscount) in late summer 2015 and covered in three local papers, including the *Washington Post*. A full survey report (including tables summarizing results by “age” and other demographic features) was published online.

Modern outdoor fitness facilities with updated and durable equipment offer a broader range of exercise opportunities than the fitness trail equipment installed in many parks in the 1970s and ‘80s. In early 2015, the Park Authority launched a cross-agency study of outdoor fitness as a possible new facility type, responding to interest from neighborhood groups and the Fairfax 50+ community. Staff conducted a research review, developed criteria for site conditions and selection, and used mapping to analyze the park system and Fairfax County demographics to identify suitable sites for outdoor fitness installations. The team also conducted outreach to stakeholder groups, including the Health Department, Neighborhood and Community Services, Area Agency on Aging, the Commission on Aging, and the Friends of Royal Lake. In June 2016 two outdoor fitness gyms were opened to the public at Lincolnia Park and Gum Springs Park.

Future: FCPA staff is on track to initiate follow-on analysis of 50+ needs and usage, using data from the Needs Assessment and from Health & Human Services, to examine if and how 50+ adults are accessing parks. The goal is to install additional outdoor

fitness parks. The final initiative component, a 50+ Portal on the FCPA website, is likely to occur at end of 2016, with full build-out in early 2017.

●● Pre-Notification 911

Champion/COA Advocate: Tom Bash, Commission on Aging, Springfield District
County Liaison: Steve Souder, Dept. of Public Safety Communication

Goals: Investigate the adoption of Pre-Notification 911 as a significant safety enhancement to Fairfax County's emergency response system for residents of all ages with chronic medical conditions, physical disabilities, or limitations. The program is similar to Smart911, a national data base that provides call takers and first responders with supplemental critical care and rescue information that may be useful during an emergency. Smart911 now serves 41 states and more than 1,500 communities, including Atlanta, Chicago, Denver, Seattle, Nashville, Charleston, Honolulu, the Long Island suburbs of New York City, and Washington, D.C. Details provided voluntarily by residents are entered on the Smart911 website in the form of a Safety Profile. If a participant then contacts 911, his or her Safety Profile is automatically displayed to the nearest dispatcher. There is no cost to the user.

Update: The Board of Supervisors did not approve funding (\$125K recurring, \$130K non-recurring) for this initiative in FY2016 or F&2017 budgets.

Future: This initiative, supported by the Long-Term Care Coordinating Council (LTCCC) and the Disability Services Board (DSB), would bring greater safety and peace of mind to older adults and people with disabilities following a call to 911. The Commission on Aging continues to advocate for funding for this initiative.

●●● Arts Initiative

Champions: Henrik Sundqvist, Arts Council of Fairfax County, and Julie Ellis, Evan Braff, and Elisa Lueck, Dept. of Neighborhood and Community Services

County Liaison: Jacquie Woodruff, AAA/Dept. of Family Services

Goals: Encourage older adults to participate in the arts through community partners such as the Arts Council of Fairfax County. Research demonstrates that older adults' participation in arts programs can positively impact general health, mental health, social bonds, overall functioning, and quality of life.

Update: The Arts Council of Fairfax County worked with Fairfax County staff (AAA/Dept. of Family Services and Dept. of Neighborhood and Community Services) and multiple county and private partners to organize an inaugural Creative Aging Festival in May 2015, during the national Older Americans Month. A festival launch was held May 1 at Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads. Over 100 festival programs by and for 50+ residents provided creative opportunities and a snapshot of the arts resources available to county residents. The Arts Council of Fairfax County and the Dept. of Neighborhood and Community Services, with support from the AAA, hosted a second Creative Aging Festival in May 2016. Artist-led events were held in senior centers will feature visual arts, theater, music, and dance. Events were scheduled in a different region of the county in each of the weeks in May.

Future: The two champions will continue to offer creative aging festivals for older adults in Fairfax County.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

●●● Increase Employment and Entrepreneurship Opportunities

Champion: Office of Public and Private Partnerships (OP3)

COA Advocate: Kay Larmer, Vice Chair, Commission on Aging, Dranesville District

County Liaisons: Patricia Stevens, OP3, and Evan Braff, Dept. of Neighborhood & Community Services

Goals: Ideas proposed for this initiative include creation of an online webpage for residents to find employment and entrepreneur resources; promotion of resources to Chambers of Commerce; partnership with Small Business Development Centers; identification of existing funding sources for entrepreneurs 50+; promotion of the value of older workers; and sponsorship of a 50+ Employment and Entrepreneurs Expo.

Update: This initiative sponsored three employment expos, a workshop for human resources managers, and a competition in which young entrepreneurs develop products aimed at increasing quality of life for older adults.

The first 50+ Employment Expo, held in May 2014, was led by a partnership of the OP3, the Jewish Council for the Aging (JCA), Skill Source, and other government agencies. Over 1,000 attendees and 33 hiring employers participated. A second Employment Expo was hosted by JCA and a variety of community partners on May 26, 2015, with

support from AAA/Volunteer Solutions and the Health Department's Long Term Care Program Development staff. Over 650 people participated in the 2015 Expo. The third 50+ Employment Expo was held in April 2016. Over 600 job seekers and guest speakers for workshops and employers gathered at the Sheraton Tysons in McLean.

In October 2015, OP3 and the Dept. of Neighborhood and Community Services, together with the Society for Human Resources Managers (SHRM), offered a workshop on Strategies for Recruiting and Retaining Workers over 50, featuring panelists from MITRE Corporation and George Mason University. More than 60 HR managers from Fairfax County area companies, as well as GMU grad students, attended the workshop and received continuing education credits. The presentation may be packaged as a webinar for possible distribution to SHRM members and cable channels.

In a "Shark Tank"-style competition, teen entrepreneurs submitted innovative solutions to assist older adults maintain quality of life in their homes and community. (See "Help People Stay in Their Homes with Technology," **page 25.**) OP3 recruited local companies INTEGRITY One Partners and Refraction to support this competition--the former by committing prize money for the winners, and the latter by providing coaching and mentoring as the students developed their product pitch videos. Winners were announced at the Living Well & Aging Well Summit in April 2016.

Future: Throughout 2016 OP3 will work with corporate and nonprofit partners to share resources about entrepreneurship for older adults at other county and community events.

● **Fairfax 50+ Community**

Champion: Senior Navigator

COA Advocate: Tom Bash, Commission on Aging, Springfield District

County Liaison: Grace Lynch, AAA/Dept. of Family Services

Goals: Support the continued development of the Fairfax 50+ Community, an online social media communications hub that integrates County and non-County service information and offers free interactive web space to individuals and 50+ groups.

Update: To create the online hub, organizers chose the Ning platform, which features a main community page that acts as a gateway page to smaller, autonomous community organization pages (clubs, sports teams, advocacy groups, volunteer groups, civic organizations, churches, etc.). Through thumbnails of all the community organization pages, visitors are exposed to a multitude of community engagement opportunities. The

AAA communicator worked with Senior Navigator to test the platform to determine whether its main page would be easy to customize and manage. The platform, now named Fairfax 50+ Community, was then presented to a variety of community groups. The early response was enthusiastic, and several community groups customized (with county assistance) and posted their respective pages. The final test was whether the platform would prove useful in managing a community project. A community organization page was created for the planning committee of the Creative Aging Festival (May 2015). The page was intended to be the central business communication tool for the project. But although the platform functioned well, it was not accessed by most festival organizers, despite repeated demonstrations. Emails with attachments were clearly the group's preferred communication channel. Because of the platform's poor adoption performance, the Division of Aging and Adult Services, together with Senior Navigator, decided against renewing the Fairfax 50+ Community's Ning license when it came up for renewal in September 2015.

Future: The communicator is in the process of establishing and managing has also a Fairfax 50+ Facebook page. While Facebook will not provide the structure or functionality of the Ning platform, it will allow marketing of county and partner messages targeted at older adults through the social media platform that, according to Pew Research, is increasingly popular among older adults. The Fairfax 50+ Community Initiative will not be continued.

●●● **GrandInvolve Program: Intergenerational Volunteering in Elementary Schools**

Champion: Dorothy Keenan, Positive Aging Coalition

COA Advocate: Kay Larmer, Vice Chair, Commission on Aging, Dranesville District

County Liaison: Evan Braff, Dept. of Neighborhood and Community Services

Goals: Recruit older adult volunteers to work in Fairfax County Public Schools that have low achievement levels and high poverty and minority enrollment.

Update: GrandInvolve Action Teams began meeting in June 2014, and a pilot program was initiated at Crestwood Elementary School, a Title 1 school in Springfield, in the 2014/2015 school year. In the 2015/16 school year, the program expanded to include two additional Title 1 schools: Parklawn Elementary, in the Lincolnia area of Alexandria, and Mt Vernon Woods Elementary, in the Rt.1 area of Alexandria. Action Teams are self-directed; each member has equal responsibility toward the success of the team, and decisions are made democratically by the group. Volunteer hours are being tracked. As of December 2015, GrandInvolve has 61 volunteers, 52 of whom work directly with children in the schools. (Eleven of the 52 come from Springfield's

Greenspring retirement community.) At each school site, a school counselor or Parent Liaison arranges volunteer match-ups, teacher requests, and background checks. Members of the three Action Teams also meet as a fourth Action Team to coordinate efforts among schools.

Although the primary goal of GrandInvolve is to recruit older volunteers into Title 1 classrooms, it soon became apparent that the schools needed more than classroom help. When Crestwood staff revealed that most families did not attend school functions, and most children did not own books or participate in after-school or evening events, the Crestwood Action Team decided to expand their efforts. With \$500 solicited from the Springfield Civic Association, they purchased 885 books from the Friends of the Richard Boyd Library for distribution at evening events. Action Team members attended the events and helped to plan activities. In addition, a small stitchery club established at Crestwood became an after-school knitting club for 3rd through 6th grade students, with supplies purchased through another Civic Association grant.

In addition to classroom volunteers, Action Team members now partner with community groups to obtain resources for the schools or help with evening activities planned by the staff and/or the PTA. Besides the Springfield Civic Association and Friends of the Richard Boyd Public Library, community partners include Volunteer Fairfax's RSVP Program, the Positive Aging Coalition, PCPS's Office of Business and Community Partnerships, the Crestwood School PTA, Grace Presbyterian Church, and the Long Term Care Coordinating Council.

Future: Since many more administrators would like the program at their schools, a fifth Action Team, the Future Planning Team (coordinated through LTCCC), is now researching and planning how to expand GrandInvolve quickly throughout the County. Team members have completed a business plan which is being used by the new schools' Action Teams. The GrandInvolve program continues to grow. The goal is to establish the GrandInvolve program in every Title I school in Fairfax County.

●● **Kaleidoscope 50+**

Champion: Dorothy Keenan, Positive Aging Coalition

COA Advocate: Sharron Dreyer, Commission on Aging, Lee District

County Liaison: Linda Hernandez-Giblin, AAA/Dept. of Family Services

Goals: Assist multicultural groups to understand county services available to them and enhance cross-cultural understanding. The Kaleidoscope initiative can meet both needs with Supervisor Penny Gross's Kaleidoscope program and Sandy Chisholm's

Faith Communities in Action program as models. The initiative will build upon the AAA's Community Ambassador Program, established in Korean and Vietnamese communities.

Update: Multiple presentations were made to the Sikh, Arabic-speaking, and Chinese communities by the AAA's Multicultural and Community Planner. A list of topics that would benefit older adults in each community was developed. In February 2016 an expanded 50+ Community Ambassadors Program was launched, expanding the program from 15 to 46 ambassadors. These volunteers are active in their own community organizations and will link community members to County services for older adults and caregivers. At the same time, the quarterly in-service meetings for the ambassadors will bring together volunteers from different cultural backgrounds. At the Living Well, Aging Well Summit in April 2016, volunteers and staff offered individualized and group language-assistance services to attendees who do not speak fluent English. Marketing materials were made available to multicultural groups in their own language.

Future: The Champion will work with the Multicultural and Community Planner to establish Kaleidoscope groups.

●● **Library Opportunities for 50+**

Champion/County Liaison: Linda Schlekau, Fairfax County Public Library

COA Advocate: Carolyn Sutterfield, Commission on Aging, City of Fairfax

Goals: The Fairfax County Public Library will conduct an analysis of its programs and services to meet growing demands of the 50+ population. Part of this analysis will include alternative use of Library space to provide more meeting spaces and services for this population. The Library will also create a 50+ Adults link on its webpage.

Update: The Library's Janice Kuch has worked closely with the County's Adult & Aging Services (AS, AAA, APS) to establish a partnership between Meals on Wheels and the Home Delivered Books and Talking Books programs. The Library has also created a *Fifty and Better* webpage, linked to the Library home page (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/fifty-and-better/), which focuses on reading recommendations, technology assistance, special events, research help, retirement planning resources, and more--all geared to adults aged 50 and up. The page also links to the County's Older Adults page (www.fairfaxva.gov/olderadults), providing access to information about many Fairfax County services for seniors.

Future: In January 2016, the Library began its Community Survey and Outreach project, conducting surveys with focus groups at various sites, by phone with

individuals, and online. Data from older respondents will be drawn from the community project. A focus group of 50+ residents was specifically convened to ask about the particular needs and interests of that growing segment of our population.

●●● Neighbor to Neighbor

Champion: Cherie Lejeune, The Fairfax County Federation

County Liaisons: Patricia Rohrer, Health Department; Evan Braff, Dept. of Neighborhood and Community Services; and Sharon Lynn, AAA/Dept. of Family Services

Goals: Increase awareness of neighborhood models, such as the Villages, as well as online tools that facilitate neighborhood interaction and support. Outreach will be targeted to homeowner associations, neighborhood associations, faith communities, and ethnic community groups.

Update: The committee developed a Neighbor to Neighbor PowerPoint that contains easy-to-read notes so that homeowners, civic, and community associations and other neighborhood groups can use it without needing a committee member or county staff person present. It provides contact information for the county's neighbor-helping-neighbor/village liaison for additional guidance. One-page companion handouts were also created on the following topics: *Tips for Volunteer Management, Virtual Connections, and Neighborhood Connectors*. Using the new power point and handouts, four N2N presentations were made to community groups. More presentations will be done as the promotion listed below in the futures section moves forward.

Future: The presentation has been piloted, and the next step, starting with one district, is to promote it to all neighborhood associations in that district. Ultimately, the plan is to reach all districts. And because getting to know one's neighbor is often the first step to connecting and helping, the committee has also piloted a Neighborhood Knock program, where specific days are set aside to knock on neighbors' doors and meet them. This could be encouraged on an annual or semi-annual basis in targeted neighborhoods throughout the Fairfax area.

●●●● Venture into Volunteering

Champion: Taryn Anthony, Volunteer Fairfax

County Liaison: Trina Mayhan-Webb, Volunteer Solutions, AAA/Dept. of Family Services

Goals: Expand "Venture into Volunteering," a marketing effort to recruit volunteers age 50+. This successful program sponsors recruitment fairs that offer volunteer opportunities with County and nonprofit agencies. The planning committee consists of Fairfax County's Volunteer Solutions, AARP-Northern Virginia, Fairfax County Park Authority, RSVP- Northern Virginia, and the Positive Aging Coalition. Specific goals are to grow partnership involvement, create leadership opportunities for volunteers, and to plan more frequent Venture events.

Update: The 9th Annual Venture into Volunteering event was held in October 2015 at the Lorton Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton, VA. Over 100 individuals attended and thirty-four community partners participated. The goal to increase partnership involvement was met (new community groups participated in the event); the goal to provide leadership opportunities for older adults was met (host organizations provided volunteer roles for older adults to serve the day of the event); and the goal to increase the frequency of the event is continuing to be met.

The 10th Bi-annual Venture into Volunteering event was held in April 2016 at the Fairfax County Government Center in collaboration with the Living Well Aging Well Summit. Over 900 individuals visited tables to learn about volunteer opportunities across Fairfax County. Twenty-five community partners participated.

Future: The next fall event is scheduled in October 2016 at the Mott Community Center.

●●●● Senior Mobility Fair

Champions: Cherie Leporatti, Metro Access, and Jeanna Muhoro, Human Services Transportation

COA Advocate: Bob Kuhns, Commission on Aging, Mount Vernon District

County Liaison: Sharon Lynn, AAA/Dept. of Family Services

Goals: Promote safe driving and the transition from driving to volunteer and public transportation through sponsorship of an annual Senior Mobility Fair and a Channel 16 Mature Living program to educate older adults about transportation options.

Update: A Senior Mobility Fair was part of the Aging Well, Living Well Summit in April 2016. A list of transportation resources was put into a booklet form as a ready guide to transportation services in the Northern Virginia area. The following organizations provided display vehicles (MetroAccess van, a wheelchair-accessible cab, MetroBus,

Connector, a CUE bus) in front of the Government Center. Participating organizations were: Fairfax County Human Transportation, Metro, Connector, MetroAccess, Travel Training Program CUE fixed route, volunteer driver programs, the ARC of Northern Virginia, and ENDependence Center of Northern Virginia. FASTRAN shuttle bus services connected to the Summit from Fairfax County senior center and some senior housing sites.

Future: The Senior Mobility Fair work group will plan to participate with any appropriate large events in the community.

- **Partnership to Provide Medical Transportation**

Champion: Susan Shaw, Dept. of Neighborhood and Community Services

COA Advocate: Kay Larmer, Vice Chair, Commission on Aging, Dranesville District

County Liaison: Jill Clark, Fairfax Area Mobility and Transportation Committee, Disability Services Planning and Development

Goals: Ensure that older adults have access to quality and timely health care, particularly after a recent hospitalization. A work group of public, private, and nonprofit representatives, together with hospital representatives, will develop a plan to offer subsidized medical transportation to Medicare patients following a hospital discharge.

Update: Same-day transportation options for medical care are being explored. In addition, Fairfax County is researching the feasibility and legal implications of partnering with Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) for providing human services transportation.

Future: Funding is a barrier for this initiative so community-based stakeholders with financial resources to move this forward need to be recruited.

- **Mobility Management Program**

Champion: Susan Shaw, Dept. of Neighborhood and Community Services

COA Advocate: Bob Kuhns, Commission on Aging, Mount Vernon District

County Liaison: Jill Clark, Fairfax Area Mobility and Transportation Committee, Disability Services Planning and Development

Goals: Establish a mobility management program in Fairfax County to improve the coordination of human services transportation and promote access to affordable and safe public transportation for all residents.

Update: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA), through the Metropolitan Council of Governments (COG) and the Transportation Planning Board (TPB), awarded Fairfax County an Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Persons with Disabilities grant. This initiative is a joint, two-year project between Fairfax and Loudoun County to coordinate specialized transportation services in the Northern Virginia region. Grant funding supported the hiring of an additional support position; the hiring process for this position was completed in June 2016.

Future: A survey is currently underway that will assist in identifying challenges and help understand transportation barriers and mobility needs of older adults and individuals with disabilities. Success of the project will be based on three outcome areas: (1) Increased capacity within our communities to develop, link, and enhance transportation options for identified population; (2) Improved access to services and improved knowledge of available transportation services; and (3) increased service integration and coordination among staff, community, and Northern Virginia regions.

●●●● Northern Virginia Rides

Champion: Jennifer Kanarek, Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia

County Liaison: Patricia Rohrer, Health Department

Goals: Support the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia's effort to provide a volunteer driver program support hub for community-based organizations. By partnering with nonprofits across the County, this program will increase the capacity of volunteer driver programs to arrange rides for older adults who are unable to drive and help organizations set-up volunteer driver programs.

Update: NV Rides is a network of service providers of volunteer transportation throughout the region. In partnership with Fairfax County and Jewish Council for the Aging (JCA), and with additional support from Community Foundation of Northern Virginia, the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia (JCCNV) is administering this community-wide initiative so that more non-driving older adults can get where they need go at no cost and "age in place" for as long as possible.

The NV Rides initiative became operational October 1, 2014. The program provides community-based organizations, free of charge, with ride-scheduling software, background checks, marketing & recruitment support, and program-development support. The Internet-based ride scheduling system enables volunteers to accept rides

according to their own schedules. Since its inception (October 2014,) NV Rides service providers scheduled 8,547 rides. Volunteers spent 6,159 hours of their time providing the rides. Since October 2014, rides given on average has increased from around 150+/month to 600+/month- about a 70% increase.

NV Rides now has a total of nine community-based volunteer ride providers. New organizations joining the network since May 2015 include the Shepherd's Center of Western Fairfax County (SCWFC) and Ravensworth Baptist Church in Annandale, and (outside of Fairfax County) Loudoun Volunteer Caregivers and At Home in Alexandria. In addition to the support NV Rides provides listed in the paragraph above, service providers attend quarterly meetings, where they share successes and challenges and participate in workshops with outside facilitators.

NV Rides continues to do outreach and marketing in the community. Presentations have been made to the Long Term Care Coordinating Council, Faith Communities in Action (FCIA), Reston for a Lifetime, Springfield Civic Association, Washington Area Villages Network (WAVE), the Fairfax Area Commission on Aging, and Village panels at Providence Community Center and George Mason University School of Social Work. Articles about the program have appeared in area publications, and the program has an online presence on Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube, and Twitter. A 50+ Podcast highlighted the program in August 2015, and Fairfax County's Channel 16 featured NV Rides on its Mature Living program in November 2015.

Future: NV Rides is diversifying their funding so that they can continue to grow and expand.

●● Universal Real-Time Online Transit Data Portal

Champion/COA Advocate: Tom Bash, Commission on Aging, Springfield District
County Liaison: Nick Perfili, Department of Transportation

Goals: Support development of a Northern Virginia Universal Real-Time On-Line Transit Data Portal that provides information about routes, schedules, and travel conditions.

Update: Fairfax County's Department of Transportation is working with Clever Devices to implement real-time bus tracking and computer-aided dispatch on the Fairfax Connector service. The project is in the initial pilot testing phase. The project, called the Intelligent Transportation System, will also provide automatic vehicle locator service to improve safety, passenger convenience, and system operation. Fairfax Connector currently makes its schedule data available on the *fairfaxconnector.com* website in the

General Transit Feed System format administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation, so it can be integrated into local, regional, and other databases and rider tools.

Future: The Universal Real-Time Online Transit Data Portal will be established in Fairfax County.

●●●● Accessibility Guide for Home Modifications

Champion: Carl Varner, Building for All Committee (BFAC)

COA Advocate: Carolyn Sutterfield, Commission on Aging, City of Fairfax

County Liaison: Carl Varner, Disability Services Planning and Development

Goals: Partner with nonprofit, public, and private entities to educate older adults and home repair contractors about the benefits of accessible home modifications. Develop a guide to identify options for the most common improvements, such as a step-free or ramp entrance, widened doorways, and bathrooms with ample room to maneuver. Partner with nonprofits that offer accessible home modification services to help the most vulnerable and lowest-income older adults remain in their own homes as long as possible.

Update: After consultations with advisors from AARP, Rebuilding Together, Disability Services, the AAA, and the BFAC, it was agreed that an excellent guide to the most common home modifications for older adults and people with disabilities already existed in the form of the newly revised AARP HomeFit Guide. AARP's 24-page guide (with available worksheets) is currently used in the HomeFit seminars conducted in the Fairfax area. Instead of reinventing that wheel, it was decided to focus on an insert for the back of the guide, detailing Fairfax area resources for home modification. With input from the advisors, the champion and the COA advocate compiled and edited two insert pages: (1), a list of financial resources available to older owners who wish to modify their homes, and (2), a list of tips for engaging a professional advisor, such as an occupational therapist or Certified Aging in Place Specialist, and then completing the process by deciding which modifications to make, obtaining permits, and choosing and working with a contractor.

Future: The Accessibility Guide is available to social workers for their clients and will also be available for the public at resource fairs and other public events.

●● Latitude in Land Use Cases for Affordable Older Adult Housing

Champion: Regina Coyle, Dept. of Planning and Zoning

COA Advocate: Carolyn Sutterfield, City of Fairfax

County Liaisons: Charlene Fuhrman-Schulz, Dept. of Housing and Community Development, and Jacquie Woodruff, AAA/Department of Family Services

Goals: Encourage construction of older adult housing in walkable communities near transit. The County's Independent Living Special Exception currently allows construction of independent-living apartment projects in residential areas. The initiative proposes that the same exceptions in land use be extended to include Transportation-Oriented Development areas. The net effect would be to encourage such development by reducing land cost.

Update: A compendium of existing incentives pertaining to the provision of Older Adult Housing within the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan and the Zoning Ordinance was compiled by Dept. of Planning and Zoning (DPZ) staff and published in brochure format. (A pdf version has now been placed on the DPZ website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/older_adult_housing_handout_hi-res.pdf.) The DPZ staff worked with the Commission on Aging (COA) advocates and staff from the Dept. of Housing and Community Development and AAA/Dept. of Family Services to organize a September 2015 event to unveil the brochure. The event was jointly hosted by DPZ and the COA and included a nationally recognized speaker. Developers, builders, and bankers were invited, and 39 attendees were present at the event.

In November 2015, DPZ staff presented the Older Adult Housing forum information to the Northern Virginia Building Industry Association during its monthly Fairfax Chapter meeting. As a result in 2016, DPZ staff organized roundtable discussions with land use attorneys and in depth dialogue sessions with older adult housing developers to discuss the impact of existing policies and regulations and to identify potential areas of change that can aid in the development of increased older-adult housing opportunities in Fairfax County. Feedback thus far has included the following requests for consideration:

- Update terminology
- Review parking regulations
- Review minimum acreage requirements
- Review composition, timing and scope of Health Care Advisory Board involvement
- Consider administrative process for certain Accessory Dwelling Unit proposals

It should be noted that providers of independent living and assisted living facilities are actively exploring opportunities to locate new facilities in urbanizing areas of the County such as Reston and Merrifield.

An “Older Adult Housing Activity” map was developed to show [land development](#) applications approved and in process from 2014 – present.

Future: Dialogue sessions with providers will continue. Based on feedback from industry, DPZ will evaluate suggested amendments to the Zoning Ordinance and updates to the Comprehensive Plan, as applicable.

●● **Neighborhood-Based Older Adult Housing**

Champion: Regina Coyle, Dept. of Planning and Zoning

COA Advocate: Carolyn Sutterfield, Commission on Aging, City of Fairfax

County Liaisons: Charlene Fuhrman-Schulz, Dept. of Housing and Community Development, and Jacquie Woodruff, AAA/Department of Family Services

Goals: Encourage the use of the independent Living Special Exception for construction of multi-family older-adult housing in potential smart-growth locations, such as neighborhood shopping centers, faith-based properties, and public facility properties. This would allow residents to downsize and still remain in their neighborhoods.

Update: Older residents who are unable to stay in their current houses for a variety of reasons deserve an option that allows them to “age in place” in their current communities. Following on the publication of “Older Adult Housing Policies & Regulations in Fairfax County” (see preceding initiative), Fairfax area zoning officials and proponents of neighborhood older adult housing have continued to promote the development of independent living older-adult housing in the county and the cities of Fairfax and Falls Church.

Obtained approval from the Board of Zoning Appeals of a Special Permit for an accessory dwelling unit that typically retrofits an existing single family dwelling and is the current neighborhood-based older adult housing option of choice, according to the recently compiled older adult housing activity map.

Future: Continue to obtain feedback from industry representatives and providers, DPZ will continue review its processes to encourage neighborhood-based older adult housing opportunities.

● **Home Property Management Services**

Champion: Sue Richey, Richey Homes, LLC

COA Advocate: Carolyn Sutterfield, Commission on Aging, City of Fairfax

County Liaisons: Susan Jones, Consumer Affairs Cable and Consumer Services, and Jacquie Woodruff, AAA/Dept. of Family Services.

Goals: Encourage businesses and nonprofits to develop property management services for older adults living in single-family homes. Such services would conduct periodic inspections, help vet contractors when needed, serve as a point of connection with volunteer groups that may provide periodic services, and help keep the home in safe and sound condition.

Update: The Champion drafted an initial business plan detailing responsibilities of the management company, volunteers, and the county's volunteer recruitment program. The initial plan included 3 tiers for pricing. A workgroup met in December 2014 to discuss the draft implementation plan and a possible pilot project. The champion explored a potential partnership with a Village group in Reston.

Future: There is uncertainty about the future of this initiative.

●● **Home Sharing Initiative**

Champions: Dan Flavin and Patricia Williams, GraceFul Care; Jim Lindsay, ACC Family, Inc.; Long Term Care Coordinating Committee's Housing Committee

COA Advocate: Kay Larmer, Vice Chair, Commission on Aging, Dranesville District

County Liaison: Patricia Rohrer, Health Department

Goals: Develop a "how-to" guide for home sharing for older adults. Many older adults live in homes with extra bedrooms and want to remain there as long as possible. At the same time, many adults with limited income are looking for affordable rent. The guide will provide advice on how to safely share a home.

Update: The Home Sharing Guidebook Committee researched and reviewed guides that are already in use throughout the country. The review revealed the best source, published by the National Shared Housing Resource Center (NSHRC), *A Consumer's Guide to Homesharing*, could be adapted for use by Fairfax County. Permission is being sought to use portions of their copyrighted book.

Dan Flavin, president of the GraceFul Care agency, has established a new homeshare nonprofit entity, GraceFul Homeshare, incorporated in Virginia. A brochure was printed in January 2016, and Dan interviewed with Del. Ken Plum on his cable television program to help get the word out.

Future: The next step for the Homeshare nonprofit is to attract potential home seekers and home sharers through the website, e-mail, and/or phone to build up a database and begin making successful matches. The Home Sharing Guidebook Committee plans to complete its work on a Fairfax County Guide to Homesharing.

●●● Help People Stay in their Homes with Technology

Champion: Michael Behrman, The Kellar Center, George Mason University

COA Advocate: Rich Chobot, Chair, Commission on Aging, Braddock District

County Liaisons: Trina Mayhan-Webb, Volunteer Solutions, AAA/Dept. of Family Services, and Chris Scales, Dept. of Neighborhood and Community Services

Goals: This initiative is two-fold: (1) establish Technology Work Groups (with nonprofit and university partners) to evaluate technology that might help older residents stay in their homes; (2) establish a volunteer program through Volunteer Solutions and interested community nonprofits that recruits, trains, and manages tech-savvy volunteers to provide free technology assistance to residents age 60 and older.

Update: During the first year of the initiative, three primary projects have emerged from the work group led by Michael Behrman:

Volunteer IT On-Call. Now fully implemented, this program assists older adults with technology problems. Citizens call in to the Aging, Disability, and Caregiver Resource phone line asking for help with their computers or digital device, and a volunteer is assigned to visit the person and resolve his or her IT issue, all at no charge. Between May 2014 and December 2015, 161 community members called in with 25 different types of request for help with their technology; 312 particular needs were met; and 36 volunteers provided a total of 1,368 hours of service. The success of the program is entirely due to its dedicated and talented volunteers.

High School Student “Shark Tank” Assistive Technology Challenge. (See also “Increase Employment and Entrepreneurship Opportunities,” [page 10](#).) In this project, students were challenged to develop an innovative technological device or application that improves the lives of older adults and caregivers. INTEGRITY One Partners of Reston sponsored the Challenge, providing up to \$4,000 in prizes. Refraction of Reston

provided in-kind support. Finalists presented their products to a panel of judges in March 2016. The winners received their awards at the Living Well, Aging Well Summit.

Technology Fair. This project will also be part of the Living Well, Aging Well Summit. A partnership was formed with the Health Information and Systems Society (HIMSS), a national association of health technology companies, physicians, nurses and health consultants. HIMSS members will provide speakers for workshops and demonstrate their products at tables throughout the Summit. Invitations to participate in the Summit have been extended to a variety of technology companies.

Future: The Volunteer IT On-Call program will continue to meet the needs of the growing number of older adults wanting to use computers, smartphones, etc., to connect with their communities. The committee expects to continue the High School Challenge for at least another year, both as an opportunity for intergenerational communication and as a way to improve the lives of older adults through technology.

●●● Universal Design

Champions: Fairfax County Building for All Committee (BFAC), Fairfax Area Disability Services Board, Long Term Care Coordinating Council (LTCCC)

COA Advocate: Tom Bash, Commission on Aging, Springfield District

County Liaison: Matt Barkley, Disability Services Planning and Development

Goals: Incorporating Universal Design (UD) into newly constructed single-family homes is a way to ensure the strength and vitality of our community. UD features, such as zero-step entries, wider doors and hallways, and first-floor master suites, create a living environment that is free of barriers and enables everyone to flourish. UD houses are designed to be multi-generational for a lifetime, places where people can age in place independently and be less dependent on limited community services and less likely to be forced prematurely into assisted-living or nursing facilities.

Update: In 2015 Fairfax County's Building for All Committee (BFAC) conducted eight public outreach events and educated nearly 450 people about the benefits of UD. The most successful events, with about 100 participants each, were "Reinventing Your Home" workshops facilitated in partnership with AARP's "Home Fit" curriculum, at which BFAC presented resources for assistive technology and home modifications to help older adults and people with disabilities stay in their own homes.

BFAC partnered with the Universal Design Ombudsman in the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services to update and redesign Fairfax County's Universal Design brochure, and worked with the Area Agency on Aging's Public Information Officer to develop a 50+ Podcast and a YouTube post highlighting the benefits of UD.

BFAC successfully collaborated with the Department of Housing and Community Development and the Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA) to launch a registry for Fairfax-area apartments that have UD features. BFAC members continue to encourage VHDA to contact landlords of properties with UD features, requesting that these sites be included in Fairfax County's online housing inventory.

BFAC featured a number of homes that demonstrate how UD features can successfully be incorporated into a wide array of housing possibilities, ranging from affordable multi-family housing units to more lavish single family homes. In May 2016, BFAC partnered with the Foundation for Applied Technical Education (FATE) where FCPS students design and construct beautiful single family homes with UD features. This creates a wonderful opportunity for BFAC to promote how UD features enhance the functionality of the living space in an aesthetically pleasing manner, without any significant increase in costs. FATE also educates a new generation of homebuilders about the benefits of UD so they will be well prepared to incorporate UD features into future homes they design and construct in the Fairfax area.

BFAC established a successful partnership with the Fairfax County Fair Housing Taskforce, resulting in a mutually beneficial relationship with the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors (NVAR). At that meeting BFAC and NVAR agreed to collaborate to promote UD by developing language that NVAR could use in its marketing materials that portrays UD in a positive manner, writing an article for NVAR's quarterly magazine about how UD features benefit everyone, developing a collaborative training that would benefit realtors by helping them overcome the stigma attached to some aging in place characteristics and market UD in a manner more aligned with how other attractive and desirable home features are advertised, and for BFAC to be actively involved in a new consortium being formed that brings builders and realtors together thereby giving BFAC an opportunity to educate builders about the benefits of UD so they can begin incorporating these features into the homes they construct.

Finally, as BFAC continues to encourage the adoption of a Continuing Education Unit (CEU) for real estate brokers that would acquaint them with Universal Design concepts, BFAC has inventoried all of the relevant trainings currently being offered by the Virginia Real Estate Board's Department of Professional And Occupational Regulation in order to understand what type of training real estate brokers are currently receiving in relation to UD. This strategy allows BFAC to offer suggestions to improve upon existing CEU trainings rather than duplicating efforts by creating entirely new trainings and going through the cumbersome process of having them approved by the Virginia Real Estate Board.

Future: In 2016 and beyond, BFAC and other proponents of this initiative will -seek new venues and audiences for additional Universal Design demonstration homes, as well as AARP HomeFit, Reinventing Your Home and Universal Design workshops to educate older adults on ways to retrofit their homes for safety and comfort, and how anyone can make their home more welcoming for people of all ages and abilities.

-Encourage adoption of a Continuing Education Unit (CEU) for real estate brokers that would acquaint them with Universal Design concepts in a positive manner.

-Ask Fairfax County to recognize builders who adopt UD concepts in construction by publicly showcasing new homes in all price ranges that demonstrate how UD can be both functional and aesthetically pleasing.

-Foster partnerships with realtors, builders and housing providers to promote UD, especially by growing BFAC's existing collaboration with the Fair Housing Taskforce and the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors to create magazine articles and marketing language, develop a training curriculum for realtors that highlights the marketing potential of UD after a comprehensive review of what CEU's are currently available, and by enhancing our partnership with builders in order to persuade them to build more homes with UD features.