50+ Community Action Plan: A 5-Year Overview
for Fairfax County and the Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church

Carolyn Sutterfield, Chair
Fairfax Area Commission on Aging

September 10, 2019
2014 Fairfax 50+ Community Action Plan
Initiative Snapshot

➢ Long-Range Planning
➢ Services for Older Adults and Family Caregivers
➢ Safe & Healthy Community
➢ Community Engagement
➢ Transportation
➢ Housing

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† Initiative now completed or established and self-sustaining
Long-Range Planning – central component of the planning process

●●●● 50+ Community Survey (formerly Trends Analysis of Fairfax County 50+ Residents) †
Services for Older Adults and Family Caregivers – promotes awareness of 50+ services

- Caring for the Caregiver
- 50+ Community Ambassadors (Creating a Communication Buzz + Kaleidoscope 50+)
- Optimizing the Number of Links into the County’s Older Adults Page †
- Housing for Older Homeless Adults and Those at Risk
- Home Health Care Cooperative (inactive)
“We know caregivers are often at high risk of burnout. The wonderful part of serving them is that it clearly benefits the older adults they love as well.”
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**Safe & Healthy Community** – promotes safety and wellness

- Creative Aging Festival
- Park Authority 50+ Initiative †
- Criminal Exploitation Prevention (Silver Shield)
- Project Lifesaver Expansion †
- Pre-Notification 911
- Building Community Partnerships to Enhance Behavioral Health for Seniors (inactive)
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Creative Aging Festival

Photos courtesy of Capitol Media
“Connections built among professionals helped to streamline service delivery ... I would not have known how to effectively support a resident involved in a contractor scam prior to working with Silver Shield.”
Community Engagement – connects older adults with community-based opportunities

- Fairfax 50+ Facebook (formerly Fairfax 50+ Community)
- GrandInvolve: Intergenerational Volunteering in Elementary Schools
- Venture into Volunteering
- Increase Employment Opportunities
- Neighbor to Neighbor (N2N) †
- Library Opportunities for 50+ †
"When children are introduced to new friends who care about their academic achievement, their trajectory of success improves... When our older adults live a life of passion and purpose, they experience social and health benefits."
Transportation – promotes accessible transportation and resources

- NV Rides
- Senior Mobility Fair †
- Universal Real-Time Online Transit Data Portal †
- Mobility Management Program
- Partnership to Provide Medical Transportation
“Client organizations... which are often volunteer-led or have limited resources, are able to help more older adults in need of reliable transportation in their communities.”
Housing – promotes accessible homes/communities, affordable housing, housing stability

- Accessibility Guide for Home Modifications
- Help People Stay in Their Homes with Technology
- Latitude in Land Use Cases for Affordable Older Adult Housing
- Universal Design (UD)
- Neighborhood-Based Older Adult Housing
- Home Sharing Initiative
- Home Property Management Services (inactive)
“We are very proud of the Chantilly High School Girls Team. They have received a provisional patent for a device to assist seniors or people with disabilities in opening car doors.”
Latitude in Land Use Cases

“We brought attention to that need. ‘50+’ resonates now. It’s accepted wisdom.”
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Fairfax Area Commission on Aging

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