



MEDIA ADVISORY

**Aging Together Highlighted at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Community Partnerships for Older Adults
National Summit on Workable Solutions to Long Term Care Challenges**

**Thursday, October 29, 2009, 9:00am-12:00pm ET
Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D.C.**

On October 29th, community, state, and federal officials—including John Wren of the federal Administration on Aging—and experts in the aging field, will examine the issues facing older adults and how community partnerships are working to identify, prioritize, and implement workable solutions in a summit hosted by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Community Partnerships for Older Adults.

Aging Together is one of only sixteen communities chosen by the Foundation to pilot its prestigious program of locally developed community partnerships building secure communities in which their citizens can age in place. This summit is the culmination of a grassroots effort that has grown throughout the counties of Culpeper, Fauquier, Madison, Orange and Rappahannock, uniting older citizens, their families, caregivers, service providers, local government, educational and faith based systems, local businesses and residents from all walks of life. To be recognized at this summit is an honor for the region as a whole.

Virginia Senator Edd Houck, Chair of the Virginia Senate Education and Health Committee, will represent Aging Together and the Commonwealth. Joining speakers from San Francisco, Houston, and Jacksonville, Senator Houck will discuss the state perspective on the challenges of long-term care and efforts by states to tackle these, including Virginia's support for Aging Together.

Madison County resident Jean Kane has been selected by the Foundation to present the personal experience of Community Partnerships for Older Adults. Ms. Kane is a founding member of Aging Together, a member of the partnership's Core Leadership, an older adult and caregiver. A retired research chemist, a field in which she remains active, Ms. Kane has been a member of Governor Kaine's Health Reform Commission, an advocate for mental health services, a Master Gardener, and is involved in numerous volunteer activities in the community. Of her experience with Aging Together she says "I have experienced Aging Together, and the Community Partnerships for Older Adults which has supported Aging Together, as keys to strengthening my life and my community simultaneously." Ms. Kane's biography and a summary of her remarks are available by request.

In its tenure, Aging Together has developed and is implementing a strategic plan for aging in the region that has resulted in increases in access to a variety of resources for seniors including transportation, volunteerism, adult day health care, free prescription medications, safety programs, social opportunities, and caregiver training and support.

Contact: Chris Miller, Aging Together, at cmiller@agingtogether.org or 540-407-0679 for more information.

To RSVP for the summit contact Hannah Fishman at Hannah.Fishman@burnesscommunications.com or 301-652-1558.