



FROM OUR READERS

Aging Together recognizes community partnerships

Contributed Report

Aging Together is a strong and effective collaboration only because of the support and action of our more than 100 community partners. As we reflect on the activities and successes of the past year, Aging Together would like to take this opportunity to thank the partnership leaders working within our communities to assure people have the supports they need as they age.

Many individuals take time from busy work and personal lives to dedicate themselves to leading Aging Together's county-based teams and regional workgroups. This large and complex effort happens through the work of many talented and committed partnership members. The task of committee leaders is to harness this enormous energy as they guide their groups to accomplish the partnership's goals.

In Culpeper County the Healthy Culpeper Senior/Adult Committee has been led for two years by Carroll Glasker of the Rappahannock Rapidan Community Services Board. This month two new Chairpersons take the reins — Valarie Diamond of Hospice of the Rapidan and Sarah Berry of Culpeper Human Services.

The Aging Together Culpeper team has hosted the annual Community Conversations on Aging for three years, has had an ongoing monthly column in the paper for over a year, held a series of trainings for family caregivers and is currently at work on several new ways to assure resource information is available to seniors and their families.

Aging Together's Regional Workgroup Leaders guide efforts to address overarching issues shared by all counties in the planning district. The Workforce Development Workgroup is led by Essi Rossi of Hospice of the Rapidan. Nancy Wells of FamilyCare Home Health and Hospice guides the work of the Caregiver Support and Education Workgroup. Toni Browning with the Rappahannock Rapidan Community Services Board and Area Agency on Aging leads the Prescription Assistance Workgroup. The Health and Wellness Workgroup is led by co-chairs Barbara Crierie of Fauquier Hospital and Monica Creel of the Piedmont United Way. Sallie Morgan and Lynnette Scott of the Rappahannock Rapidan CSB and Area Agency on Aging lead the work of the Adult Day Healthcare Workgroup.

Thanks to the efforts of these regional groups there is now increased access to prescription medications, information and referral systems, family caregiver training, volunteerism, support for the local healthcare workforce, and senior safety programs.

Aging Together's expert and dedicated leadership is helping us realize our vision for aging in our community, one that values seniors and respects and responds to their needs and preferences. Many thanks to all who have supported our efforts and especially to these community leaders and their contributions.

The Aging Together partnership is part of the national Community Partnerships for Older Adults (CPFOA) initiative. CPFOA is a national program funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to help communities develop leadership, innovative solutions and options to meet the needs of older adults over the long term.

To learn more or to join the Aging Together partnership, call 540-829-6405, email info@agingtogether.org or visit the website at www.agingtogether.org.