



VDA WEEKLY E-MAILING

January 22, 2014

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ACL Weekly Update

Here is a link to the weekly Administration for Community Living (ACL) update:

<http://www.acl.gov/NewsRoom/eNewsletter/CurrentNewsLetter.pdf>

NASUAD Weekly Update

Here is a link to the weekly National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD) update where you can sign up or view the current and archived editions:

http://www.nasud.org/newsroom/friday_updates/friday_updates.html

Note: The web links in this document may change over time. DARS-VDA does not attempt to refresh the links once the week has passed. However, this document is maintained on the web for a period of time as a reference. Some links may require registration.

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House Joint Resolution No. 184 Commending Terri Lynch

James A. Rothrock, Commissioner

Several members of the General Assembly have offered House Joint Resolution No. 184 commending former Executive Director of the Arlington Agency on Aging, Terri Lynch, and her many contributions to the Arlington community. Ms. Lynch's public service began almost forty years ago. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Lynch on her outstanding career and wishing her well in her retirement.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 184

Offered January 20, 2014

Commending Terri Lynch.

Patrons-- Hope, Brink, Krupicka and Lopez; Senators: Ebbin, Favola and Howell

WHEREAS, Terri Lynch, an innovative public servant and dedicated member of the Arlington County community, retired as the director of the Arlington Area Agency on Aging on June 28, 2013; and WHEREAS, in 1976, Terri Lynch began almost 40 years of outstanding service to Arlington County as an employment program manager in Arlington County Human Resources; and WHEREAS, Terri Lynch earned a great deal of recognition and respect by helping members of the community find jobs through employment counseling and job development and placement services; and WHEREAS, after becoming the director of the Arlington Area Agency on Aging in 1982, Terri Lynch shared her expertise and vision with the Arlington County Commissions on Aging and Long-Term Care Residences; and WHEREAS, caring deeply for her fellow members of the community, Terri Lynch used her knowledge and creativity to establish the many programs and networks designed to ensure a high quality of life for the older residents of Arlington County; and WHEREAS, Terri Lynch has received more than 20 awards, accolades, and letters of appreciation for her work, including an Elder Service Award and the prestigious Winston Award; now, therefore, be it RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Terri Lynch, a faithful and enthusiastic public servant in Arlington County, on the occasion of her retirement; and, be it RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Terri Lynch as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her many contributions to Arlington County.

Nominate an Outstanding Volunteer or Group for Governor's Award

James A. Rothrock, On behalf of VA Dept. of Social Services, Office on Volunteerism & Community Svc.



Nominations are now being accepted for the 2014 Governor's Volunteerism and Community Service Awards. The nomination period begins on Wednesday, January 8 and ends at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 19. Honors will be presented in individual and group categories including youth, senior and adult volunteers, faith-based organizations, families that volunteer together, community organizations, small businesses and corporations.

The awards recognize the outstanding efforts of Virginia's volunteers. Nominations are open to small businesses, corporations, community groups, individuals and families that exemplify extraordinary volunteerism and community service.

This year's winners will be honored this spring during an awards ceremony in Richmond. For more information or to nominate a person or group, [click here](#), call (804) 726-7918, 1-800-638-3839 or email info@vaservice.org. The deadline for nominations is February 19 by 5:30 p.m.

Nomination forms can be submitted [online](#) or [downloaded](#) and mailed to the Virginia Department of Social Services, Office on Volunteerism and Community Service, 801 East Main Street, 15th Floor, Richmond, VA 23219.

Please help us spread the word!

Catherine M. Walker, Resource & Event Specialist
Office on Volunteerism & Community Services
VA Dept. of Social Services

National Institute on Aging IDEAL Study Seeking Volunteers

Cecily Slasor, for Gerri Kochan, Recruitment Coordinator IDEAL Study

The National Institutes of Health, National Institute on Aging is seeking volunteers age 80 and older to participate in a study on exceptional aging. Please see the invitation below from Gerri Kochan, Recruitment Coordinator for the study.

Hi There:

I am the Recruitment Coordinator for the IDEAL Study *(www.nia.nih.gov/ideal) being conducted by the National Institutes of Health, National Institute on Aging, and we are looking for volunteers who are 80 years of age and older for a study on exceptional aging. We are recruiting these exceptional agers who live within 150 miles of Baltimore, MD. For this reason, I am contacting you to ask your assistance in identifying any aging expos that

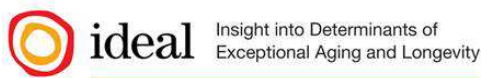


you have in your state so that we can spread the word about the study. Currently, the IDEAL study recruitment team exhibits at all the county aging expos in the state of MD.

If VA Department of Aging does not currently sponsor such expos, I would appreciate any assistance you can give us on spreading the word about IDEAL.

I have attached some information on our study. (*See link)

Thank you.



Gerri Kochan, MAA
Recruitment Coordinator, IDEAL Study

www.nia.nih.gov/ideal

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Commonwealth Community Trust Announces 2014 Charitable Fund Award to Benefit Virginia Residents Living with a Disability

Kathy B. Miller, MS, RN, MSHA, Director of Long-Term Care

If you have clients who live in Virginia whose quality of life could be improved if they had access to additional funds, please consider applying for a Charitable Fund Award on their behalf. The Charitable Fund Award, a program of CCT, provides individuals with disabilities* who demonstrate a financial need with funds to be used for equipment, medication, or services.

Examples of past awards include (but are not limited to) funding for eyeglasses, dental work, assistive technology, therapies, medical supplies, bus passes, camp, and recreation center membership.

Applications must be completed and submitted on behalf of the recipient by a public agency or nonprofit organization that serves people with special needs in Virginia. Up to ten applications will be accepted from each public agency or organization.



Click here: 2014 Charitable Fund Award Application<[**IMPORTANT:** The maximum request amount per application for 2014 is \\$1,000, payable to a single vendor.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0010sS-YYNDZgkPAJyd8fhJQMDCeYSgEL2ktSXObcEWAjJdXZ6hjm4gHPF2Pfv5Ogw24g78kllg5cpOPCITiwj0GlgNCh0kLRnqrqu_aehcMW2QbY_sEllwqMfZUSVqvSSEmQpPRS0xLeRj1DzI179cFTWWXzqWs-ejiv63Fy8lLI6dJllriJQXIUZMoiA22oe3mrD6CtcuNncjWwePApNi_C1jTYOKdf0JX9oA98cXcBN18IjY8tVt46BjpbdlILIAA-6FqeQ23kS1u-13XImz5w31zQ0ONcXOmoemLB3J1LjsVGZZ0JQPlsNWegbVGDihpceRZtkDx2Y6E5PiltNvWbzUTrzMQZJiq6WE3CljuYx0RMGFOXiVxN_fHJR_WkjHgIXMVbgrUtmZf0qdhBvWCeOI5QDOnIoerlVEwFOhkz7MyyHxcKUGgcsI4tAyKGDdBnzjzEvArWK5B7i5OSDMV523frtdrllf8PSxJ9PjsX-c8FLIHVQuaSQ==&c=96tLhW_tU0-3FWT21dbeY1HxffH7UbvIKYnWnLmTTJBoC7tMK4pvHg==&ch=0IHxpdDPZXdtkqnEoKxRxt31pJ4mY1crp-MdldCX7lCVWXfRQ_I1bA==></p></div><div data-bbox=)

Don't wait! Applications are due by 5pm on March 31, 2014.

* The recipient must meet the Social Security Administration definition of disabled and the federal poverty guidelines, or receive SSI and/or Medicaid.

For additional information about CCT's Charitable Fund Award program, email Karen Currie<<mailto:kcurrie@trustCCT.org>>, or call toll-free (888) 241-6039 or (804) 740-6930.

2014 National Healthcare Decisions Day Information

Kathy B. Miller, MS, RN, MSHA, Director of Long-Term Care

National Healthcare Decisions Day will be observed on April 16 of this year. Please see the letter below from National Healthcare Decisions Day Initiative Chair Nathan Kottkamp.

Dear National Healthcare Decisions Day Team:

Today marks three months to the 7th Annual National Healthcare Decisions Day on April 16! I hope you share my 7-year itch to make this NHDD particularly great. To be sure, there seems to be a nice buzz in the media about advance care planning issues at the moment. We've assembled several of those stories in our blog: <http://www.nhdd.org/blog/january-2014-news-roundup-1.html> I'd like to think that we're helping drive the change to make



these types of articles more common. To help keep it up, where appropriate, please comment upon and share the articles.

Now is the time to get cranked up! It's the New Year and April 16 will be here before we know it, so be sure you're planning now. To start, be sure you have NHDD event on your calendar, assembled a team, and considered reaching out to others within your community or professional circles to collaborate. Here's a short list of ideas:

- Set up a continuing education event for health or legal professionals;
- Contact your local bar association for a volunteer speaker;
- Contact your largest referral source and set up a joint program;
- Arrange to hold an event for the public at a non-healthcare venue like a library, church, or school;
- Offer advance directive forms and other information at the movies or the theatre; and
- Make NHDD personal and reach out to family and friends to encourage them to take action.

For variety of other ideas, tools, logos, template materials, and more visit:

<http://www.nhdd.org/tools/>

Help us recruit. We've lost about 100 participants because of various turn-over and attrition. Please help us regain lost ground and build further. Don't forget: NHDD remains a grassroots effort, so we depend on your help to recruit additional participants. Please spread the word about NHDD and encourage broader participation – it is the best way we can amplify our efforts and effect real change. Here's a template email. All you have to do is copy, paste, and send!

Please consider joining us in participating in National Healthcare Decisions Day on April 16. There is no cost to participate, and the goal of the event is simple: "to inspire, educate & empower the public & providers about the importance of advance care planning." While there are numerous ways in which to participate, the easiest is to draw attention to your existing resources about advance care planning on or around April 16. By joining forces with a broad range of others throughout the country, we can make a real difference in improving the lives of patients and their families. Visit www.nhdd.org for more information and to confirm your participation.



Of course, you can enhance the above draft by describing your own NHDD activities or by pointing to your resources. You may also wish to send the "Report Card" or the "Case Statement" to provide a bit more information about the event. Whatever you do, please get the word out through your existing communication channels and make a concerted effort to specifically recruit at least one more participant.

Action Items: Some other thoughts to get rolling:

- If you have not done so already, add NHDD to your organizational calendars and include a link to www.nhdd.org. If you or your organization is interested in providing embedded buttons for NHDD on your website (this is a very powerful way to amplify the reach of NHDD) please ask someone in your web services department to visit www.nhdd.org/codes for the html code to put into the back scenes of your website.
- Once again, please remind your members/staff about the importance of **leading by example** by making sure that their own advance healthcare decisions have been thoughtfully made and documented in an advance directive. Among other things, this is a great way to direct your members/staff to the materials your organization already has on the subject and to improve your compliance with applicable policies and laws on the topic.
- Please consider some internal educational events before any public events.
- Whatever you do, please consider writing it up as a blog post and submitting it [here](#).

Watch and share the video. I certainly hope you among the 7,750+ people who have seen the awesome 3 and half minute video that we've got on the NHDD homepage: www.nhdd.org. It is a great way to get the conversation about advance care planning started. And, remember, we've got a Spanish version of the video as well.

Start Your Media Push: Now is also the time to start making contact with the media. I encourage you to reach out to your media contacts and tell them what you are doing for NHDD and why you are doing it. Again, the resources on the website may be helpful.

Maintain the buzz in social media. [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) have collectively enabled us to reach millions. Please "Like" NHDD and talk up your efforts to friends and family on Facebook; tweet about NHDD using #NHDD, and start or join a discussion on LinkedIn. Need some simple messages (all of these are "tweet" sized), here you go:

- Most Americans haven't documented healthcare wishes for times they cannot speak for themselves. Do it on 4/16 [#NHDD](#) www.nhdd.org
- April 16 is National Healthcare Decisions Day. Speak Up for yourself and loved ones. [#NHDD](#) resources: www.nhdd.org
- Who would speak for you if you couldn't make health decisions? Create an advance directive on [#NHDD](#) (4/16) Free info: www.nhdd.org



- Need help to start the conversation about health care? Check out the awesome [#NHDD](#) video at www.nhdd.org Watch it today or 4/16!

Please consider a donation to support NHDD. We have done amazing things with very little, but we can do more. For example, your donation will help us post more website content, additional translations of the video, and other resources. It's easy to make a tax-deductible donation here: <http://www.nhdd.org/donate/> I ask that all participating organizations provide some donation, regardless of the level.

As always, please keep me posted on any particular news and let me know if there is anything I can do to assist your NHDD efforts. Thanks for all you do!

Nathan A. Kottkamp, Chair

National Healthcare Decisions Day Initiative

www.nhdd.org or www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org

[Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

Join us by clicking [here](#).



Commonwealth Community Trust's 2014 Charitable Fund Award

The Commonwealth Community Trust (CCT) established the CCT Charitable Fund Award to provide funds for equipment, medication, and/ or services to individuals with disabilities who demonstrate a financial need and reside in Virginia. The maximum amount of the award per individual in 2014 is \$1,000.

The application must be completed and signed by a representative from a nonprofit organization or public agency that serves people with disabilities. A maximum of 10 applications will be accepted from an organization or agency. Please identify a representative who will collect all applications and submit them together as a group.

Timeline: The deadline for applications to be received at the CCT office is March 31, 2014. The organization representative will be notified by May 30th of the award decision. For funded applications, an award check will be made payable to the vendor noted on the application. Award checks will need to be cashed by August 2014.

Evaluation criteria: A committee of CCT staff and Board Members will review applications based on how the request will impact the recipient's quality of life. Preference will also be given to those requests that:

- demonstrate a lasting impact (versus a short-term benefit),
- are for a one-time expense (versus an ongoing expense), and
- cover the entire cost of the equipment, medication, or service requested.

Before submitting an application, please check the following requirements:

- ✓ The recipient lives in Virginia and has a disability that meets the SSA definition of disabled*.
- ✓ The recipient meets Federal poverty guidelines** and/or receives SSI and/or Medicaid benefits.
- ✓ The application was completed and signed by a representative from a nonprofit organization or public agency that serves people with disabilities.
- ✓ The funds being requested are for the purchase of either equipment or medication or services (not paid for by Medicaid, private insurance, or another source of funds) that will increase the Recipient's ability to perform activities of daily living (ADL), or to perceive, control or communicate within the environment in which he or she lives.
- ✓ A price quote or estimate is attached.

* Disability for adults is defined as the inability to engage in "substantial gainful activity." There must be a physical or mental impairment that can be expected to last at least 1 year. A child must have a physical or mental condition that very seriously limits his or her activities and is expected to last at least 1 year.

** 2013 HHS Poverty Guidelines: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ohs/news/2013-hhs-poverty-guidelines>

Additional note: This program is not intended to pay off a recipient's debts, to fund services that are normally provided at no cost to the recipient, or to provide a general source of income to the recipient.

ABOUT CCT

CCT is a national nonprofit organization that administers pooled Special Needs Trusts for people with disabilities that will not jeopardize government benefits such as Medicaid and SSI.

CCT administers two types of trusts:

- **The Third-Party Special Needs Trust is for family members who want to ensure the quality of life for a loved one with a disability by leaving funds in a trust.**
- **The Self-Funded Pooled Disability Trust is for individuals who receive a personal injury award, inheritance or social security back payment.**

Information about CCT, including FAQs and trust documents, is available at: www.trustCCT.org.



2014 CCT Charitable Fund Award Application

Application submitted by (maximum of 10 applications per nonprofit or agency):

Organization: _____ (Select one:) Nonprofit Public Agency
Organization Representative Name: _____ Title: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone: _____ Email: _____
Organization Representative's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please attach additional pages if extra space is needed for any response.

1. Recipient Information and Eligibility:

Recipient Name: _____
Is the recipient disabled by the SSA definition*? Yes No
Please check if Recipient meets the federal poverty guidelines and/or receives SSI and/or Medicaid
Describe the nature of the recipient's disability: _____

2. Describe the equipment, medication, or service requested: _____

3. Cost of item or service requested: \$ _____ **Please attach a price quote or estimate.**
Amount requested (if different than cost): \$ _____ *The amount requested cannot exceed \$1,000.*
If the total cost to the Recipient for the item/service requested exceeds \$1,000, please identify the source of funds that will make up the difference: _____ N/A
If there are additional ongoing costs associated with this item/service, please identify those costs and describe how those costs will be met: _____
_____ N/A

4. How will this request, if funded, make a difference in the recipient's life? _____

5. If this request is funded, a check payable to a vendor that provides this equipment, medication, or service will be issued and sent to the applying organization representative. Please identify the vendor below, along with the vendor address:

Vendor Name: _____
Vendor Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Completed applications can be submitted via mail or fax (see above) or via email to Karen Currie at kcurrie@trustCCT.org before Friday, March 31, 2014 at 5:00pm. Please only submit this page (page 2) and supporting documentation.



NATIONAL HEALTHCARE DECISIONS DAY

★ *your decisions matter* ★

On April 16, join Americans across the country to talk to others about your future healthcare decisions and complete your advance directive!

Facts

All healthcare institutions are required to:

- Provide information about health care decision-making rights.
- Ask all patients if they have an advance directive.
- Educate their staff and community about advance directives.
- Not discriminate against patients based on an advance directive status.

.....
According to the Pew Research Center's study in 2006:

- 71% of Americans have thought about their end-of-life treatment preferences
- 95% had heard of a living will
- 29% had a living will

Problem to Solve

Despite recent gains in public awareness of the need for advance care planning, studies indicate that most Americans have not exercised their right to make decisions about their healthcare in the event that they cannot speak for themselves.

Solution

The National Healthcare Decisions Day, April 16, will help Americans understand that making future healthcare decisions includes much more than deciding what care they would or would not want; it starts with expressing preferences, clarifying values, identifying care preferences and selecting an agent to express healthcare decisions if patients are unable to speak for themselves.

The National Healthcare Decisions Day (NHDD) initiative is a collaborative effort of national, state and community organizations committed to ensuring that all adults with decision-making capacity in the United States have the information and opportunity to communicate and document their healthcare decisions.

Action

National Healthcare Decisions Day will leverage participating organizations' efforts and commitment to:

- ★ **Increase awareness** of the benefits of advance care planning so that Americans will be familiar with how to obtain and complete a healthcare power of attorney and/or living will, and talk to others about their decisions.
- ★ **Rally** a national media campaign so that Americans will know how to access information and resources to help them make future healthcare decisions.
- ★ **Mobilize** national, state and community organizations, healthcare providers and other key stakeholders to initiate outreach and educational activities for people to learn about advance care planning and complete advance directives and to honor those wishes when they become clinically relevant.

**In its first four years
(2008-2011), NHDD
achieved the following:**

- Both houses of Congress as well as several states and local jurisdictions formally recognized NHDD.
- Over 110 national organizations participated.
- Over 1,200 state and local organizations participated.
- The US Army and Navy had bases participating worldwide.
- Over 2.2 million facility/organization staff members received advance directive training.
- Over 1 million members of the general public participated in NHDD events.
- Over 17,500 advance directives were completed on NHDD alone.
- There was a variety of coverage in newspapers, TV, radio, and the internet.
- Over 2 million people were exposed to NHDD via Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.

Activities to Address the Problem

Community Engagement

Develop and distribute free outreach materials and engagement strategies for professionals, providers, volunteers and stakeholders to encourage people in their communities to take action such as completing an advance directive and/or talking to their loved ones about their future healthcare decisions.

National Media Campaign

Develop national communication tools including Public Service Announcements, advertisements, flyers and news stories to publicize National Healthcare Decisions Day activities and advance care planning resources.

Resources for the General Public

Provide clear, concise and consistent information about advance directives, how to obtain them, and how individuals and families can easily make important decisions before a serious illness at www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org or www.nhdd.org.

Virtual Resource Library

Collect and create an online directory of model programs, "best practices" and educational resources that participating organizations can use to enhance their advance care planning activities or systems.

**For more information, program ideas,
and to confirm participation, please visit
www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org or www.nhdd.org**

National Healthcare Decisions Day is April 16



**NATIONAL HEALTHCARE
DECISIONS DAY**
★ *your decisions matter* ★



NATIONAL HEALTHCARE DECISIONS DAY

★ *your decisions matter* ★

National Healthcare Decisions Day Report Card as of 2013

In six years, National Healthcare Decisions Day has enjoyed:

- Participation by at least 110 national organizations
- Participation by at least 1,200 state/local organizations
- Participation at US military at bases throughout the world
- 37 states with dedicated state liaisons

Survey results from roughly a quarter of participating organizations indicated:

- Over 3.0 million facility/organization staff members received NHDD/advance directive information or training
- At least 1.7 million members of the general public participated in NHDD events and/or were known to have received advance directive information
- Over 6.7 million people were exposed to NHDD via various social media outlets: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#)
- Over 29,000 advance directives were completed on the six NHDDs alone

In 2008 (NHDD's inaugural year):

- NHDD was formally recognized by both houses of Congress (S.Con.Res.73 & H.Con.Res.323)

Each year:

- NHDD has been formally recognized by several individual states and localities.
- There has been a variety of coverage in newspapers, TV, radio, and the internet

Please join us on April 16:

www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org or www.nhdd.org
www.facebook.com/nationalhealthcaredecisionsday and twitter: [@NHDD](https://twitter.com/NHDD)

The National Healthcare Decisions Day (NHDD) Initiative is a collaborative effort of national, state and community organizations committed to ensuring that all adults with decision-making capacity in the United States have the information and opportunity to communicate and document their healthcare decisions.