We are delighted to introduce our Annual Impact Report. Over the past year our agency has worked tirelessly to create an ecosystem that supports, enriches, and empowers the lives of our older adults, persons with disabilities, caregivers, and their families.

Each day, we strive to make a difference by delivering services that meet the diverse needs of our community. From providing nutritional assistance, advocating for elder rights, offering social engagement programs, to education and enrollment of benefits, our mission extends to practically every corner of concern for older adults.

In this report, you'll see the tangible impact of a few of our efforts. This is only a small sample of the wide range of services we provide. We invite you to visit our website to discover more. seniorconnections-va.org

Over the past year, we've reached thousands of members of the community and their families, alleviating isolation, improving wellbeing, and promoting an empowering network of support. Every story of an individual served, every statistic demonstrating the scale of our reach, is a testament to our commitment to empowering the aging population.

But our impact extends beyond the people we directly serve. We've created an environment that supports families and caregivers, reducing stress and burden. We've educated communities, changed perspectives, and fostered a culture that values and respects the wisdom and contributions of older adults.

Our work is rooted in a deep sense of community and caring. It’s driven by a core values driven focus to create a vibrant, intergenerational society where everyone can age with dignity and respect.

I invite you to explore this report, learn about some of our successes, and celebrate the impact we have all made together. I am grateful to be a part of an organization that is such a vital part of our community, and I thank you all for your continued support.

AMY STRITE
Amy Strite
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ABOUT US

Senior Connections is the state designated Area Agency on Aging for Planning District 15 which covers the City of Richmond and the counties of Charles City, Chesterfield, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, New Kent, and Powhatan. We provide services, information, advocacy, and referrals for older adults, persons with disabilities, and caregivers. Most of our services are able to be provided at no cost (or little cost) to recipients thanks to Federal, State, and Local funding along with donations received from individuals, businesses, and community organizations.

OVER 35 DIFFERENT SERVICES OFFERED
We currently support almost 40 vital and unique services and we are always adapting to address the changing needs of the community.

OVER 100 STAFF MEMBERS
It takes a lot of skilled individuals and hard work to provide such diverse and comprehensive services to the community.

OVER 150 VOLUNTEERS
In addition to our staff, it takes dozens of dedicated volunteers to assist with outreach, benefits enrollment, intergenerational engagement, and much more.
OUR SERVICE AREA

WE SERVE VIRGINIA PLANNING DISTRICT 15.

THIS COVERS THE COUNTIES OF:
CHARLES CITY
CHESTERFIELD
GOOCHLAND
HANOVER
HENRICO
NEW KENT
POWHATAN

AND THE CITY OF:
RICHMOND
William and Sandra Jones are a couple in their 80s living in the east end of Henrico. William has dementia and Sandra is his full-time caregiver. As William and Sandra have grown older, they are no longer able to prepare nutritious meals at home for themselves and they are unable to leave the house due to mobility issues. Their daughter Katrina who lives out of the state contacted us to see if we had any services to assist her parents.

Senior Connections sent a Care Coordinator to their home to assess their eligibility for home delivered meals. We were able to approve their application for Meals on Wheels as well as send a referral to our Benefits Enrollment Center for assistance with applying for a Medicaid PC for William. Their daughter, Katrina was relieved to know that access to these services will give her peace of mind knowing that her parents are eating healthy and being looked in on when she is unable to be with them.

SANDRA’S STORY

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Friendship Cafés are neighborhood gathering places for older adults. Participants receive a nutritious midday meal while receiving social interaction through a range of diverse activities. Friendship Cafés offer so much more than a nutritious meal, social events, exercise, recreation, life-long learning, and artistic activities. Participants are provided with a way to decrease social isolation by keeping them active and connected to their community. Participants are offered programming of their choice, such as health and wellness workshops. Transportation to and from the centers are provided by Senior Connections through the Ride Connection program.

THE FRIENDSHIP CAFÉ PROGRAM SERVED 31,064 HEALTHY MEALS TO 651 PARTICIPANTS
HOME DELIVERED MEALS

Home Delivered Meals is a nutritional support program in partnership with FeedMore. Nutritious meals are delivered to the homes of older adults who are not able to prepare meals themselves due to a prevailing chronic illness. Participants are unable to leave the house for social activities, and have no one to help regularly prepare nutritious meals for them. Beyond a decline in social connectedness, participants are also at risk of malnutrition. By proving a meal for fragile older adults volunteers both decrease social isolation and help prevent negative health outcomes.
FOSTER GRANDPARENTS

167 CHILDREN MENTORED BY 51 FOSTER GRANDPARENTS FOR OVER 23,000 HOURS OF SERVICE
RIDE CONNECTION

Ride Connection helps older adults and persons with disabilities access transportation to age safely at home & live a healthy and connected life. Ride counselors offer transportation education, travel training, & referrals to local transportation providers. Recipients receive a round trip to medical, dental and vision appointments, mental health appointments, dialysis treatments, cancer treatments, grocery shopping, banking errands, and court. In addition, travel education aids in transportation sustainability.

OVER 9,400 RIDES PROVIDED
In-Home Care Support & Respite provides respite for the caregiver and an opportunity for the care receiver to receive social stimulation outside of the caregiver. Caregivers are typically the family member or life partners of the older adult. Caring for an adult with Alzheimer’s, dementia, or other related memory disorder takes a toll on the caregiver. To help both the caregiver and care receiver, Senior Connections contracts with community-based service agencies to provide homemaker, personal care, and adult day services. Using this service helps the caregiver to attend to their physical or emotional health, or simply setting aside time for errands and meaningful activities.

Respite services were provided to 248 persons in need for 27,609 hours of support and care.
Senior Connections
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Richmond, VA 23224