

## **Press Release**

### **ODP Launches Age Wave Preparedness Resource Center**

RICHMOND-- The Older Dominion Partnership, a coalition organized to help Virginians plan for the surge of aging Baby Boomers, has launched The Age Wave Preparedness Resource Center.

The online resource center is created for communities, foundations, government, media, non-profits, universities, business, and entrepreneurs. This free information resource will support community planning and development of policies, services, and initiatives to cope with the doubling of Virginia's senior population (65+) over the next twenty years.

"One of the major obstacles to age wave readiness in Virginia has been the absence of single accurate repository of current research, data, information, reports, and news on aging issues specific to Virginia, coupled with comparisons to other states and the nation," said Dr. Richard Lindsay, chair of the ODP Shared Database Work Group.

Due to the expense of creating such a repository, a solution was reached only after the Older Dominion Partnership, formed by Virginia organizations impacted by the age wave, combined resources. "The ODP is making the shared data base available to all citizens of the commonwealth," said Lindsay, "and particularly those involved in studying the effects of, and solutions for the problems created by the aging of the Virginia's population."

The site contains three main resources: Reports and Studies, Indicators on Age Wave Preparedness, and Current Generational News.

The Reports and Studies section contains a repository of published, third-party research on the aging population. The reports and studies can be searched by source, topic, keyword, or date. Readers can view the entire catalog by title, and they can submit studies to add to the database.

The Indicators on Age Wave Preparedness section allows users to search for secondary information by topic. Experts in the field have identified six key indicators that contribute to an area's overall age wave preparedness: Civic and Community Engagement, Finances, Health & Well-Being, Housing, Transportation & Mobility, and Workforce. The site also includes behavioral and demographic characteristics of the Boomer population and today's seniors across the Commonwealth.

A third section points to the latest research on generational news. Users can browse a list of current news articles, select the articles of their choice, and read the articles in their entirety.

The Age Wave Preparedness Resource Center will update the news, research literature, and publicly available data on a daily basis.

“The reports and studies are useful for gaining more knowledge about Baby Boomers and the age wave,” said Kiersten Ware, managing director of the ODP. “The Indicators for Age Wave Preparedness section allows the user to get a better idea of where we are at a local, state, and national level. Lastly, the generational news section helps the user stay up to date with current news.”

Viewing the information resources as a community asset, the ODP wants to engage users, either by submitting studies or contacting ODP with feedback or suggestions. To learn more about The Age Wave Preparedness Resource Center please visit

<http://www.odpagewaveresources.org/>.