

# Spotlight on Aging

VOLUME XXIX, ISSUE 12

A newsletter for D.C. Seniors

December 2018



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

By Laura Newland  
Executive Director,  
D.C. Office on Aging

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving! The holiday season is officially in full swing, and here at the Office on Aging we've been hard at work planning the biggest event of the year — the Mayor's 20th Annual Senior Holiday Celebration! I hope you'll join us on December 12th at the D.C. Armory for a day of fun, food and fellowship.

This will be my third time celebrating with all of you at the Armory. Every year, I promise it will be the best one yet — and this year will be no different. Seniors from across the city remind me why it's so important that we constantly strive for the absolute best when it comes to bringing our community together in celebration.

Last September, when more than 160 of our neighbors were displaced by the devastating fire at the Arthur Capper Apartments, seniors from across the city reached out to offer support, clothing, entertainment, time, and anything they could afford to give. Today, as we continue to work with our residents, we still hear from all of you asking how to help. You have been there from the start, and you continue to be there.

I'm proud to live in a city where our neighbors look out for one another. Washington, D.C. is a big city (soon to be a state!) with small town values — where our neighbors are neighborly, and complete strangers will drop everything to lend a helping hand. At DCOA, we are privileged to serve a population who teach us these values every day.

So every year, we're all looking for bigger and better ways to celebrate the community that you've built, and the Mayor wouldn't have it any other way. From the moment you arrive, we'll be ready to cheer you, entertain you, connect with you, break bread with you, and experience the joy of the season with you.

As Mayor Bowser has said, the strength of our city rises and falls on its people. We know that government can't create community — you create community. But we can support and join you in keeping our communities strong and vibrant. The Mayor's Annual Senior Holiday Celebration brings all of us together, in celebration of all that you've done, and all that you continue to do for this city.

So reach out today to get your ticket to the best event of the year by calling 202-535-1372 or emailing [dcoa.communications@dc.gov](mailto:dcoa.communications@dc.gov). Whether it's your only holiday party, or one of many, we want you to know that this is for you. I can't wait to see you on December 12th!

## The Annual Feast of Sharing



The Annual Safeway Feast of Sharing was a great event, and we were pleased to be there once again providing information about our programs and services for the District's older adults, adults with disabilities and their caregivers. For many people, old and young, this event provided lots of opportunities and a great Thanksgiving meal.

If you would like us to come out to your event, or want us to bring our community partners for an event specially organized for your group or organization, contact 202-535-1321 or [alice.thompson@dc.gov](mailto:alice.thompson@dc.gov).



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR



# Become a DCOA Ambassador!

Since 2012, we have been holding training sessions to make ordinary residents more familiar with the services that the D.C. Office on Aging provides for D.C.'s older adults, adults with disabilities and their caregivers. Community partners present during the trainings help tell the story of the direct services that are available to D.C. residents.

DCOA Ambassadors use this knowledge gained through the training to connect others with services they may be able to benefit from, or services that can assist them in their daily life. Residents receive the help they need, and DCOA is connected to more residents in need of services.

Many ambassadors enjoy helping others, and they are able to stay connected. Cedric Burgess, a great ambassador who calls to get more materials to share with others and is always interested in volunteering, says "I love to help others and stay informed as a DCOA Ambassador. I feel I am doing my part." He adds, "Other volunteers inspire me to volunteer where I am needed."



Cedric Burgess serves as a DCOA Ambassador.

If you are interested in doing your part, contact the Ambassador Registrar Sadia Ferguson and sign up for the next training on Jan. 17, from 10 a.m. to noon by emailing [sadia.ferguson@dc.gov](mailto:sadia.ferguson@dc.gov) or calling 202-727-0374. If you are interested in having a group training session for ambassadors, let us know that as well.

We hope to see you soon at an upcoming training or workshop.

## Spotlight on Aging

Spotlight On Aging is published by the Information Office of the D.C. Office on Aging for D.C. senior residents. Advertising contained in the Beacon is not endorsed by the D.C. Office on Aging or by the publisher.

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**The Office on Aging is in partnership with the District of Columbia Recycling Program.**

## Get Involved

### Monday, Dec. 3

1 to 3 p.m.

D.C. Senior Resource Group  
Workshop — Innovative  
Intergenerational Housing  
in the DMV  
Metropolitan Memorial United  
Methodist Church  
3400 Newark St. NW — Ward 3  
Contact: Steve Gurney  
Cell/Text: 703-966-6182

### Wednesday, Dec. 5

6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Office of Tax and Revenue  
D.C. Seniors Real Property  
Tax Workshops  
Riggs LaSalle Recreation  
Center  
501 Riggs Rd. NE — Ward 4

### Friday, Dec. 7

10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Terrific, Inc. Lead Agency  
Senior Holiday Party  
Nineteenth Street Baptist  
Church  
4606 16th St. NW — Ward 4  
Contact: Edwinta Jenkins:  
202-882-1824

### Wednesday, Dec. 12

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Mayor's 20th Annual Senior  
Holiday Celebration  
D.C. Armory  
2001 E. Capitol St. SE — Ward 6  
Tickets are free but required  
for entry.  
Contact: Your senior site or  
call 202-535-1372

## Senior Telephone Town Hall

Join us for the next Senior Telephone Town Hall, Wednesday, Dec. 5 at 11 a.m., where special guests will discuss winter activities and winter preparedness for seniors. It's free and open to all D.C. residents age 60 and older.

**Who:** D.C. Office on Aging, Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services,

Mayor's Office of Community Relations Services, Special Guests, and Residents like you!

**When:** Wednesday, Dec. 5, 11 to 11:30 a.m.; Call-in number: 855-756-7520, code: 30984#

**How:** To RSVP or to request reasonable accommodation, call 202-442-8150 or email [engagement.dc@dc.gov](mailto:engagement.dc@dc.gov)

**Mayor Muriel Bowser and the DC Office on Aging Present**

*The Mayor's 20th Annual Senior Holiday Celebration*

**Wednesday, December 12, 2018**  
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
(Doors open at 9:30 a.m.)

**DC Armory | 2001 E. Capitol St. SE**

Contact your senior site for ticket reservations or call 202-535-1372.

  **GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR