



### CONNECTING NEIGHBORS WITH PROGRAMS & SERVICES FOR OLDER ADULTS

Would you like to make a difference in the lives of your neighbors as they age?

Would you like to learn about the many resources Arlington offers through the county, nonprofits and others, to help residents enhance their aging experience?

# If so, Arlington's new Community Ambassador Program is the volunteer opportunity for you!

The Community Ambassador Program is a partnership among the Area Agency on Aging, Marymount University's Center of Optimal Aging, and Arlington Neighborhood Village (ANV) and is a key piece of Arlington County's Age-Friendly Action Plan.

The Ambassador Program is designed to improve communication and help older adults be aware of, and navigate access to, programs, services, and assistance available (but often under-used) in Arlington.

While Arlington County has an extensive array of valuable information and support available to older adults, many do not know about these resources or have difficulty accessing them, particularly those without internet access, those who are uncomfortable with technology, or those who speak English as a second language.

#### I'M INTERESTED, NOW WHAT?

EMAIL CAP@ANVARLINGTON.ORG OR CALL THE ANV OFFICE AT 703-509- 8057

#### As a Community Ambassador, you will close this gap!









## WHAT ARE THE DUTIES OF A COMMUNITY AMBASSADOR?



Provide community members with key information in ways that make sense to them

Conduct group or one-on-one meetings with community members to share information on specific resources as needed

Attend an initial in-person orientation

Attend quarterly updates/trainings, virtually or in person, to obtain information and share best practices with other Ambassadors

An initial orientation will give Community Ambassadors the tools and information they need to provide personal outreach to the older adults in their own neighborhoods, buildings, senior housing centers, and faith communities. Regular training will ensure the Community Ambassadors are knowledgeable and helpful.

Community Ambassadors will be a trusted source of information about the many programs and services available and how to access them. Community Ambassadors will focus solely on the community in which they are already involved, providing their aging adult neighbors with a friendly, familiar source of information and support.

Ambassadors are a bridge between their neighborhoods and the Arlington safety net, providing information to and soliciting feedback from their older neighbors to improve offerings and services that help them remain safe, independent, engaged, and connected to their community.

Together, we will help older adults identify available resources to help navigate the challenges and embrace the opportunities of aging!