



## **Older Americans Month – MAY 2011**

### **Older Americans: Connecting the Community**

Every May since 1963, people in towns and cities across the country have come together to celebrate the enormous contributions of older Americans—borne of wisdom, experience, and the will to realize their dreams and speak their minds. Trident Area Agency on Aging supports our seniors as they continue to enrich and strengthen our communities. The theme of this year's celebration—Older Americans: Connecting the Community—pays homage to the many ways in which older adults bring inspiration and continuity to the fabric of our communities. Their shared histories, diverse experiences, and wealth of knowledge have made our culture, economy, and local character what they are today. The theme also highlights the many ways technology is helping older Americans live longer, healthier and more engaged lives.

In fact, older Americans are more active in community life than ever before, thanks in part to advances in health care, education, technology, and financial stability over the last several decades that have greatly increased their vitality and standard of living. Older adults are out and about giving back and making a difference in their community.

Older Americans step up to help one another as well. Across the country, seniors connect with other seniors by delivering meals, helping with home repair, assisting with shopping, and offering companionship, counseling, and care. Their efforts remind us that when older adults are active and engaged in their communities, everyone benefits.

Help Trident Area Agency on Aging celebrate Older Americans Month, by allowing us to provide information sessions about seniors in our community. Contact Trident Area Agency on Aging to find out about our Long-Term Ombudsman Program, Family Caregiver Support Program, Alzheimer's Disease and Supportive Services Program, Senior Medicare Fraud Project, and Information and Referral Assistance to Seniors. We think you will discover that when you help seniors thrive in your community, you gain far more than you give.



## **Older Americans Month Proclamation**

*Older Americans: Connecting the Community.*

### **Older Americans Month 2011 A Proclamation**

**Whereas,** Charleston, South Carolina is a community that includes 18,650 (16.6%) citizens aged 60 and older; and

**Whereas,** the older adults in Charleston, South Carolina are the roots from which our community grows, who bestow gifts of wisdom and insight upon younger generations, and strengthen the bonds between neighbors to create a better place to live; and

**Whereas,** our society can be enhanced by older adults aging peacefully in their communities; and

**Whereas,** the older adults in Charleston, South Carolina should be commended for their role in creating and bolstering the fiber of our community and nation; and

**Whereas,** our community can provide that recognition and respect by enriching the quality of life for older Americans by:

- Increasing their opportunities to remain in their communities as active and engaged citizens
- Providing services, technologies, and support systems that allow seniors to foster and maintain connections within the community
- Emphasizing the value of elders by publically recognizing their contributions to the diversity, strength, and unity of our community

**Now Therefore,** I, Mayor Joe Riley of Charleston, South Carolina do hereby proclaim May 2011 to be Older Americans Month. I urge every citizen to take time this month to honor our older adults and the professionals, family members, and volunteers who care for them. Our recognition of older Americans and their involvement in our lives can help us achieve a stronger and more meaning community.