

CO-AGE Participation Agreement

Return this form to the address at the bottom of the page and make your check payable to: *Georgia Council on Aging (GCoA)*

Please provide the information below.

Name

Organization (if applicable)

Address Business or Home

Telephone Fax

Email

I understand and agree to the terms of participation in the Coalition of Advocates for Georgia's Elderly (CO-AGE) as outlined in the CO-AGE participation handout. I accept these responsibilities.

Please enroll me as:

An individual participant

An organizational participant (Enclose additional participant names with full contact information)

My voluntary contribution is:

- \$15 Student
- \$25 Individual Participant
- \$100 Organizational Participant
- Other _____

For more information contact



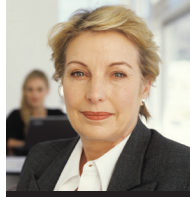
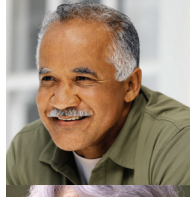
www.gcoa.org

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CO-AGE

Coalition of Advocates for Georgia's Elderly



Georgia Council on Aging

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The Coalition of Advocates for Georgia's Elderly (CO-AGE) was begun and is lead by the Georgia Council on Aging to be

- ... a forum through which the concern of older Georgians are identified and addressed,
- ... a vehicle for bringing broad-based input on aging issues from across the state, and
- ... a diverse group of organizations and individuals, consumers and providers, and persons interested in "aging specific" and intergenerational issues.
- ... a unifying force for strengthening advocates in their efforts to communicate the importance of providing supportive communities and adequate services and programs for older Georgians.

The CO-AGE Process

CO-AGE is open to any individual, business, organization or agency interested in issues affecting older and disabled adults.

Participants are encouraged to voice their concerns, submit their issues for the prioritization process, and engage in joint advocacy efforts.

CO-AGE meets quarterly for training concerning aging issues, planning and evaluating advocacy strategies and outcomes, discussing issues which affect the aging community as a whole, and selecting legislative and budget priority issues which CO-AGE will support.

CO-AGE Activities

- » Prioritize issues that impact older Georgians on an annual basis
- » Research the chosen priorities as well as other selected aging issues.
- » Train consumers and advocates regarding the annual priorities and other aging issues.
- » Advocate for the chosen legislative and budget priorities.
- » Assess advocacy strategies.

Successful CO-AGE Initiatives

- » Alzheimer's Special Care Disclosure Act requiring organizations claiming to provide special care to people with Alzheimer's Disease to disclose what makes that care special.
- » Personal Care Home Reform requiring that the Long Term Care Ombudsman Program be consulted before a personal care home is licensed.
- » Increased funding for home and community-based services for disabled and older adults.
- » Increased funding to address elder abuse and adult protective services.

The Georgia Council on Aging convenes CO-AGE and provides staff support. The Council's CO-AGE Committee consists of designated members of the Council.