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DARS NAMES NEW DIRECTOR FOR VIRGINIA'S DIVISION FOR THE AGING

(**RICHMOND, Va.**) — Marcia DuBois will lead Virginia's Division for the Aging and its programs as its new director, Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services Commissioner Jim Rothrock announced.

DuBois will assume her new role Aug. 25. As DARS' director of independent living and coordinator for livable communities, she also promotes age wave planning and livable communities and provides support for programs within VDA as well as DARS' Community Based Services Division. She recently represented the agency in efforts to decrease homelessness and expand housing options for all Virginians.

"Marcia's wealth of expertise in sustaining the growth and attention to livable communities will play a critical role for our Division for the Aging and its activities in support of an increasing population of older adults in the environment of their choice. We expect she will bring to her new position the experience, leadership and vision that she has shown in her work to support independent living," Rothrock said.

As director of VDA, DuBois will oversee efforts and programs that foster the independence and well-being of older Virginians and their caregivers, support the Commonwealth's network of 25 Area Agencies on Aging, and guide Virginia in preparing for an aging population.

"This is an exciting time for the Division for the Aging. Virginia is receiving growing recognition for its services to older adults and I am delighted to join the VDA team. Together, we can carry this positive momentum forward," DuBois said.

DuBois, of Richmond, joined DARS in 2010 after a 17-year stint as executive director of Valley Associates for Independent Living. She served in leadership roles in multiple area and statewide organizations that sustain the growth and attention to livable communities in Virginia

and support independent living and integration of individuals with disabilities into their communities. She was recently selected to participate in Leadership Metro Richmond's leadership development and service program.

DuBois holds a master's degree in Management and Disability Services from the University of San Francisco and studied special education at Virginia Commonwealth University.

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The Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, in collaboration with community partners, provides and advocates for resources and services to improve the employment, quality of life, security, and independence of older Virginians, Virginians with disabilities, and their families. For more information, visit www.vadars.org or follow DARS on Facebook at www.facebook.com/vadars or Twitter at @vadars.