LeadingAge Virginia Receives “Top Employers for Interns” Award

Not-for-profit empowers students with real-life experience in the field of aging services

GLEN ALLEN, VA - This morning, LeadingAge Virginia, an association of not-for-profit aging services providers, was recognized as one of 100 recipients of the Virginia Talent + Opportunity Partnership (V-TOP)’s 2023 Top Virginia Employers for Interns Awards.

LeadingAge Virginia offers interns a remarkable opportunity to gain practical experience in the field of aging services. Through the internship program, it provides students with valuable work-based learning opportunities but also upholds the standards set by the V-TOP award, which recognizes employers in Virginia for offering exceptional internships. Whether undergraduate or graduate students, interns at LeadingAge Virginia are exposed to a wide range of hands-on experiences like engaging in advocacy work, leading research projects, and implementing new grants.

“We chose LeadingAge Virginia for this award because they demonstrate a commitment to meaningful internships,” said Peter Blake, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia director. “High-quality internships enhance a student’s educational experience and strengthen our workforce.”

LeadingAge Virginia provides interns with mentors, meaningful work, and access to a professional network within aging services. Students are given the opportunity to learn and practice their skills in a variety of disciplines, including events, business development, grant implementation, marketing, administration, and more. Through programs such as LeadingAge Virginia’s Summer Enrichment program, it allows them to immerse themselves in the world of aging services and develop crucial skills that will prepare them for their future careers.

Melissa Andrews, President and CEO of LeadingAge Virginia, expressed deep appreciation, remarking, "It is with immense gratitude that we accept the distinction of being named a Top Employer for Interns, joining a remarkable group of recipients who share our commitment to nurturing talent in Virginia. At LeadingAge Virginia, we hold a steadfast dedication to cultivating the next generation of aging services leaders in the commonwealth. By warmly welcoming a
diverse array of interns, we encourage an environment that thrives on the collaboration of fresh perspectives and novel ideas, propelling innovation throughout our organization.

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**About LeadingAge Virginia**

LeadingAge Virginia, celebrating its 50th anniversary, is an association of not-for-profit aging services organizations working to advocate, educate, and serve as a platform for all involved with the ‘continuum of care’ for older adults in the Commonwealth. This spans from those in need of senior housing, to community-based services, and even compassionate care for adults as they age and into hospice treatment. Whatever an older Virginian might require as they age, LeadingAge Virginia represents members who seek to fulfill this need. For more information, please visit [https://leadingagevirginia.org/](https://leadingagevirginia.org/).

**About V-TOP**

The Virginia Talent + Opportunity Partnership is administered by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia in partnership with the Virginia Chamber of Commerce Foundation and the Virginia Business Higher Education Council. It is funded by the General Assembly’s Commonwealth Innovative Internship Fund and Program.