

## **Ambassador Opportunity Description**

Participants of the Community Ambassador Program will engage in a hands-on 8-session training program that will prepare them to identify and address needs in their community, to advocate and problem solve on behalf of older adults in their community, and serve as ambassadors for the Chatham County Council on Aging (COA) and its community partners. Upon completing the training, alumni will be prepared to serve older adults in their communities, and can participate in implementation of the 2018-2023 Chatham Aging Plan and county-wide projects to further strengthen resources for older adults in Chatham County.

### *Preferred Characteristics:*

- Strong desire to participate in a Community Ambassador Program
- Active in their community
- Good listener
- Strong interpersonal skills (i.e “people person”)
- Strong communication skills
- Internet-connected
- Access to their own transportation

### *Opportunity Expectations:*

- Attend full training, including orientation, 8-session curriculum, and graduation ceremony
  - Training sessions will occur on Tuesdays from 9AM - 2PM, with every third Tuesday off. Training begins in early September.
- Attend quarterly alumni gatherings upon completion of training
- Represent and promote the COA and its resources within their individual communities
- Provide information to older adults and their families on resources available through COA partner agencies
- Offer assistance in problem solving for older adults and their families in their communities
- Advocate on behalf of older adults in their individual communities to the COA and its partner agencies
- Report volunteer hours and summary of activities performed in community to COA staff

*Benefits to Participants:*

Participants in the Community Ambassador Program will benefit from the following:

- A hands-on learning experience with engaging and informative field trips, presentations, and workshops
- Meet directly with leaders of non-profit agencies and county government departments
- Build community with other leaders having a heart of service from Chatham County's diverse communities
- Increase knowledge of resources available to older adults and their families in Chatham County
- Enhance ability to support, advocate and problem solve for older adults and their families within their community
- Opportunity to contribute to county-wide efforts to further strengthen resources for older adults and their families in Chatham County
- Continued opportunities to network with other community leaders
- Ongoing continuing learning opportunities at quarterly alumni gatherings