



White House Conference on Aging

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The Honorable Dorcas R. Hardy
Chairman, Policy Committee

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2005 White House Conference on Aging to be held October 23-26, 2005 in Washington, D.C.

The first White House Conference on Aging of the 21st Century will be held October 23-26, 2005 in Washington, D.C. The date and location of the Conference were decided at the first meeting of the Policy Committee for the 2005 Conference White House Conference on Aging held on Wednesday, July 14, 2004.

Policy Committee Chair Dorcas R. Hardy urged the Committee to look at aging in terms of today and tomorrow. “We must identify emerging trends and make appropriate recommendations to help our nation prepare for the changes anticipated over the next decade.” In addition to addressing the issues of today’s elders, the 2005 Conference will, for the first time, have a mandated focus on the 76 million baby boomers whose aging will change the face of America.

Praising the work of the Committee, Assistant Secretary for Aging Josefina Carbonell outlined the challenges ahead. “We are rightly positioned to move to the next level to meet the needs and expectations of older Americans in the future. We are talking about no less than a cultural change in perceptions on aging – about moving from awareness to action.”

“This White House Conference promises to be a highly participatory and futuristic event which will use modern technology to allow us to reach out to as many people across the country as possible,” said Dr. Ann McGee, Executive Director of the Conference.

The Policy Committee, required by the Older Americans Act Amendments of 2000, which authorized the 2005 White House Conference on Aging, is responsible for the planning and implementation of the 2005 Conference. The Committee will meet regularly to make decisions on theme, delegate selection, pre-Conference events, topic areas and the general direction of the Conference. For a list of Policy Committee members appointed for the 2005 White House Conference on Aging, please visit www.aoa.gov/press/news/2004/06_Jun/WHCOA_policy_members.pdf.

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