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## **VANTAGE HOUSE RESIDENTS CAN HAVE THEIR SAY!**

**The Vantage House Residents' Association (VHRA)** is the residents' voice to the Vantage House management.

Association committees meet regularly with management departments to discuss dining services, financial services, health services, environmental services, social-cultural services, the Vantage House library, marketing and other areas in order to enhance the quality of life for all residents. The president and past-president of the Residents' Association also serve as full members of the Vantage House Corporate Board of Directors. An annual fund raiser is conducted by the Association to assure that Vantage House Staff receives a holiday gift in December. Annual dues are \$10 for an individual and \$20 for a couple.

**The Maryland Continuing Care Residents Association (MaCCRA)** is the CCRC residents' voice in Annapolis.

MaCCRA is the only association which is solely dedicated to protecting and advancing the interests of residents of continuing care retirement communities (CCRCs) in Maryland.

Since MaCCRA's founding in 1993 and continuing today, it works to keep CCRC residents informed as to what is happening in the CCRC industry, the Department of Aging, and the Legislature which might impact on a residents' lifestyle; to be the residents voice in the Maryland Legislature when necessary; and, when possible, safeguards the interest of residents by cooperating with other organizations to form a larger common front. MaCCRA informs us of developments, especially those requiring urgent grass roots attention.

MaCCRA has been successful in having the state of Maryland require that at least one resident serve on each CCRC governing board; that each CCRC maintain a minimum amount of operating reserves; and, MaCCRA continues to shape and enhance the body of Maryland law and regulation governing CCRCs and to safeguard resident's rights.

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**The Vantage House Chapter of MaCCRA** supports the mission and objectives of MaCCRA and promotes all MaCCRA sponsored activities and events.

The Chapter responds to requests and directions from MaCCRA State leadership regarding legislation and other issues; fosters a positive relationship with our Maryland Legislative Representatives; promotes a healthy and cooperative relationship with the Vantage House Residents' Association, Vantage House Corporate Board, management and staff; and collaborates with other Maryland CCRCs.

In addition, the Chapter provides service to all of the residents at Vantage House by sponsoring Maryland Department of Aging and political speakers; providing "outside the box events," those others are not providing; and by sponsoring tours of Vantage House for new and current residents.

Annual dues are \$20 for an individual and \$30 for a couple. The Chapter retains 15% of the dues for Chapter expenses and forwards 85% of the annual dues to the MaCCRA State organization.

**The National Continuing Care Residents Association (NaCCRA)** is the residents' voice in Washington, D.C.

NaCCRA collaborates nationwide with residents and prospective residents of CCRCs and allied organizations for the purpose of promoting, protecting and improving the CCRC lifestyle. The Association keeps track of developments in Congress and elsewhere and is committed to vigorous advocacy on behalf of the residents of CCRCs. It keeps its membership - state associations, community members, and individual members - informed and alert to issues that require immediate attention. Two recent examples of their activism included successfully advocating for the medical expense deduction to be preserved in the 2017 Federal Tax Bill, and in early 2018 alerting CCRCs nationwide to a proposed accounting change which would have acted to the detriment of residents.

NaCCRA's goal is to make sure our CCRC communities are well managed and properly regulated. Currently the Association is concerned with issues of Residents' Rights; Financial Fairness; Governance Standards; and Accounting Validity. Annual dues for the first individual are \$25 and annual dues for the second individual are \$20.