The Director on Aging is appointed by and responsible to the Governor and serves on the Governor's Executive Council. To evaluate services needed by elderly persons and to set priorities for meeting these needs, the Director chairs the Interagency Committee on Aging Services (Chapter 101, Acts of 1982). The Director also serves as advocate for the elderly at all levels of government.

The Office on Aging has five Divisions: Housing and Continuing Care; Long-Term Care; Management; Planning and Evaluation; and Nutrition and Community Services. The Office is aided by the Commission on Aging, the Guardianship Advisory Board, and the Financial Review Committee.

COMMISSION ON AGING

Chairperson: Rev. Monroe R. Saunders, Sr., 1991

Appointed by Governor (who also designates chair): Lena K. Bunch, 1989; Anthony Cicoria, 1989; Sharon M. Martin, 1989; Madge C. Cheek, 1990; Laura H. Dale, 1990; Katherine A. Endslow, 1990; Laurence A. Stappler, 1990; Jean Rose Moser, 1991; Charles M. Rouzer, 1991; one vacancy.

Nonvoting members appointed by Governor: Barbara A. Hoffman, Senate; Pauline H. Menes, House of Delegates.

The Commission on Aging advises the Director on Aging about programs and concerns of the Office on Aging. The Commission consists of thirteen members appointed by the Governor to four-year terms. At least seven members must be fifty-five years of age or over. Eleven members representing various regions are selected because of their interest in the problems of the elderly. One member of the State Senate and one member of the House of Delegates serve as nonvoting Commission members. The Governor designates the chair-person (Code 1957, Art. 70B, sec. 3).

GUARDIANSHIP ADVISORY BOARD

Appointed by Director on Aging: Stephen J. Nolan; Rev. John Sharp; Dr. George Taler.

The Guardianship Advisory Board advises the Director on Aging about matters relating to the Public Guardianship Program.

Established in 1981, the Board is appointed by the Director on Aging (Chapter 521, Acts of 1981). It consists of an attorney, a physician, and a third member who is neither an attorney nor a physician (Code Estates and Trusts Article, sec. 13-707).

FINANCIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Vacancy

The Financial Review Committee was created in 1985 (Chapter 752, Acts of 1985). Upon referral

by the Office on Aging, the Committee evaluates the financial condition of providers of continuing care who are experiencing financial difficulty. The Committee then recommends what action the Office should take.

The Committee's seven members are appointed to three-year terms by the Director on Aging (Code 1957, Art. 70B, sec. 17A).

HOUSING AND CONTINUING CARE DIVISION

Ilene W. Rosenthal, Chief

225-1118

The Housing and Continuing Care Division develops, certifies, and helps operate subsidized sheltered housing for the elderly. Such housing affords a place to live with staff to assist residents as needed. To provide long-term shelter and care, the Division also regulates and certifies continuing care facilities run by the private sector. Information disclosed through the registration process is open to public inspection by prospective residents.

LONG-TERM CARE DIVISION

Suzanne Bosstick, Chief

225-1083

The Long-Term Care Division directs the planning, implementation, and evaluation of long-term care services for the elderly. These services are managed by the Office on Aging in collaboration with other State departments and agencies. The Division promotes statewide programs for long-term care of the frail elderly. These programs enable the elderly to reside in their homes instead of institutions.

The Division directs programs for Senior Community Care Services, Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Public Guardianship, and Senior Life Enrichment Visitation. Operated at the local level, the Senior Community Care Services Program screens and assesses applicants and coordinates and provides services for frail elderly persons. The Division also provides staff support to the Interagency Committee on Aging Services.

MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Bernard Popick, Chief

225-1064

The Management Division is responsible for budgeting and financial management, public information, personnel, training, procurement, general administration, and data processing.

PLANNING AND EVALUATION DIVISION

Donna Folkemer, Chief

225-1270

The Planning and Evaluation Division plans, develops, and assesses programs and sets priorities for them. The Division directs and manages legislative, research, health insurance, and other Office activities that benefit consumers.