

# Dr. Thelma Bland Watson Scholarship Fund

**Dr. Watson was a champion of VGCOA and is the Honorary Chair of VGCOA 2023. Your sponsorship supports the Conference & and the Scholarship Fund. We thank you for your support!**

**Dr. Thelma Bland Watson is the Honorary Conference Committee Chair of the 2023 Virginia Governor's Conference on Aging.** She was a leader in programming and policy-making that enhanced lives and strengthened support networks for older adults in the greater Richmond region and across the Commonwealth. Her leadership was instrumental in relaunching the Governor's Conference on Aging in 2016.

**A highly regarded and trusted authority in aging services, former state commissioner of aging, Dr. Watson remains best known for her 19 years as the leader of the Richmond-based Senior Connections, the Capital Area Agency on Aging.** During her career, she served as deputy commissioner and commissioner of the Virginia Department of Aging during the administrations of Gov. Gerald L. Baliles, Gov. L. Douglas Wilder, and Gov. George F. Allen. Earlier in her career, she held management posts in the Crater District Area Agency on Aging and the Crater Planning District Commission that serve the Petersburg area. Along with her leadership role at Senior Connections, Dr. Watson also was associated with multiple organizations involved with aging and served on a variety of boards and commissions.

**Dr. Watson later earned a master's in gerontology and a doctorate in public policy and administration from Virginia Commonwealth University.** She also earned certifications from the Virginia Executive Institute and the National Long-Term Care Institute.

**The Dr. Thelma Bland Watson Scholarship Fund will financially support individuals enrolled in graduate-level Gerontology programs in Virginia schools.** Your investment in the Scholarship Fund will ensure Dr. Watson's legacy lives on in the next generation of gerontologists who are committed to older adults and their caregivers.

The scholarship fund is being established and will be distributed by the Virginia Association of Area Agencies on Aging with support from Senior Connections. **In a special effort to launch the Dr. Thelma Bland Scholarship Fund during VGCOA 2023, scholarship supporters can choose to support through the \$500 sponsorship which will jointly support the Scholarship Fund and the Conference, or supporters can choose to contribute directly to the Scholarship Fund.** More information about the Scholarship Fund will be announced during VGCOA 2023.



## \$500 Sponsorship

**\$250 Supports VGCOA 2023**

**\$250 Supports the Scholarship Fund**

- Recognition at the Tuesday, May 9, VGCOA Lunch Session
- Agency name and logo listed on the VGCOA Website as a Scholarship Fund supporter
- Agency name and logo listed on the V4A Website as a Scholarship Fund supporter
- Recognition in the VGCOA Conference App
- Agency name and logo listed on appropriate Conference signage
- An opportunity to include a branded item in the attendee swag bag



For more Information about the Scholarship Fund please contact,  
Martina James, [martina@vaaaa.org](mailto:martina@vaaaa.org)

[www.vgcaging.com](http://www.vgcaging.com)

# YES!

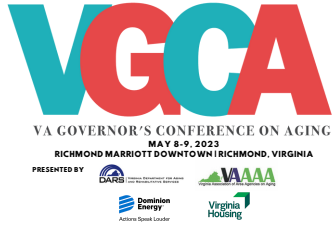
## I will support the Dr. Thelma Bland Watson Scholarship Fund

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  \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**\$500** *I would like to contribute directly to or provide an additional amount to the Scholarship Fund.*



[www.vgcaging.com](http://www.vgcaging.com)

### **MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**

Virginia Association of Area  
Agencies on Aging  
MEMO: VGCOA 2023

### **SEND FORM ELECTRONICALLY TO:**

Martina@vgcoa.com

### **MAIL FORM AND PAYMENT TO:**

Virginia Assoc. of Area on Aging  
Attn: VGCOA 2023  
PO Box 636  
Richmond, Va 23218

**Total Contribution Amount: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Please recognize my gift in honor or memory of

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When submitting this please note if you need an invoice for payment.

Payment maybe made by ACH transfer or credit card payment (subject to a 3.5% processing fee).

**For more details about the Scholarship Fund please contact, Martina James, [martina@vaaaa.org](mailto:martina@vaaaa.org)**