



NGA Center for  
BEST PRACTICES

National Governors Association  
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The Honorable David Paterson  
Governor, State of New York  
State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Paterson:

I am pleased to inform you that your state has been selected to participate in the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices' *Policy Academy on Civic Engagement of Older Adults*. Six states were selected to participate in the policy academy. State selection was made by an advisory committee that included subject matter experts representing corporate, academic, and state perspectives.

This Academy focuses on helping states improve the health and lives of older adults by developing strategies for increasing the proportion of seniors who are employed or engaged in meaningful volunteer activities. As part of the Academy, your state will receive an in-state orientation by Academy faculty, participate in a national Policy Academy meeting, and develop a state action plan. In addition, teams will receive customized technical assistance from Academy faculty throughout the year-long project. The NGA Center will cover the costs of transportation and lodging for up to five individuals per state for participation in the Academy meeting and will provide the technical assistance at no cost.

Funded by the Atlantic Philanthropies, this year-long Academy begins with the selection of your state and continues through June 2009.

A staff member from the NGA Center project team will be contacting your state's team leader, Michael Burgess, Director of the Office for the Aging, in the next few days to schedule a pre-academy site visit and review next steps. If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Linda Hoffman at 202-624-5374 or at [lhoffman@nga.org](mailto:lhoffman@nga.org).

Congratulations, and I look forward to your state's participation.

Sincerely,

John Thomasian