

**Lake Currents Article**  
**January 8, 2016 Issue**

**LOWLINC Gears Up for a Banner Year**

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This month marks the 2nd anniversary when a small group of people from Lake of the Woods got together to talk about establishing an "aging in place" village for our community, an organization to help residents stay in their homes independently, safely and comfortably for as long as they can. Two years later, after much planning, that organization -- LOWLINC -- is on the threshold of realizing that long-held vision.

Thanks to unparalleled support from the community, LOWLINC has accomplished a number of important start-up tasks that will enable us to provide services to members on a large scale:

- More than 70 Lake of the Wood residents have volunteered to provide services to LOWLINC members
- Five Lake residents have joined LOWLINC or have submitted applications and we have begun providing services to these Founding Members
- We are in the final stages of entering into an agreement with Rappahannock-Rapidan Community Services to place one of their medical transport vans here at the Lake for more efficient transport of all Lake of the Woods residents requiring handicap access transportation
- A list of vendors who have undergone a vetting process is being compiled
- Many operational tasks have been completed including procuring accident and liability insurance covering the organization and our members and volunteers; developing the website; and obtaining our 501(c)(3) designation
- A part-time coordinator position has been created to help match volunteers with member requests and manage day-to-day activities (see help ad in the classified of this Lake Current issue or [www.lowlinc.org](http://www.lowlinc.org)).

LOWLINC is a membership based-organization, with annual fees set at \$400 for an individual and \$500 for a household. The fees support the operational expenses of this non-profit group. Services include (but aren't limited to): transportation, errand-running, light interior and exterior home maintenance, computer and tech support, friendly visits and check-in calls, pet care and social activities. Our official launch date is March 1, so for members who join in January or February of this year, their membership year will run from March 1, 2016 to Feb. 28, 2017.

We'd like to express our sincere gratitude to the donors, volunteers and members who are making LOWLINC a reality. Together we are touching the lives of our neighbors and enabling older LOW residents to age in our community as long as possible.