



August 25, 2009

Ms. Katherine White, Manager  
The Bowie Senior Center  
14900 Health Center Drive  
Bowie, Maryland 20716

Dear Katherine,

I am pleased to officially inform you that the Accreditation Board met on August 13th, 2009 and unanimously approved the recommendation for full accreditation of the Bowie Senior Center. Successfully achieving accreditation status takes the work of many people both in the senior center and in the community. When these two groups work together the rewards will be felt for many years to come. Your organization demonstrates outstanding leadership and commitment to quality programs and services. This letter is your official notification that the Bowie Senior Center has been accredited by NCOAINISC for a period of five years (August, 2009-July, 2014).

Your Peer Reviewer, Sandi Johnson, observed many strengths of the Bowie Senior Center. These included:

- Warm and caring staff
- . Strong and responsive leadership
- . Strong volunteer program
- . Engaged Advisory Council
- . Lovely and well-maintained facility
- . City's strong investment in senior programs
- . Excellent transportation services
- . Wide range of classes and strong collaboration with community college
- . Services available for seniors who are very active or frail
- . Support services including: strong Information & Referral and various support groups (i.e. Parkinson's, Caregiver's, Diabetes Patient, Hearing Impaired, Weight Management), Additional groups beginning this fall include: Bereavement and Grandparents Raising Grandchildren. .

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Recommendations for the future included:

- . Expand Planning Document and Outreach Plan
- . Date all Governance documents
- . Add both Recruitment and Termination procedures when Volunteer Handbook is revised.
- . Provide training opportunities for all staff, and opportunity for senior staff to attend state and national meetings.
- . Develop Outcome Measurement Surveys for additional programs.
- . Consider establishing a non-profit arm which would give members an opportunity to make donations and leave bequests to the Center as insurance for the future.
- . Expand Annual Report, making it user friendly and touting success of Center's activities and then plan for wide distribution.

We are pleased to have the Bowie Senior Center on the list of more than 175 senior centers who meet the standards as developed by NISC. These are centers that are held up as models for others to follow. We know that you and your staff will continue to improve and adapt to meet the changing needs of the older population. We congratulate you and your staff in striving to meet the needs of the older population in your community.

Sincerely,

*Sharon L. Lally*

Sharon L. Lally, Co-Chair  
National Senior Center Accreditation Board  
CC: National Accreditation Office