



Mayor Hardie Davis, Jr.

Since elected in 2015 as the 84th Mayor of Augusta, Georgia, Hardie Davis has been a strong supporter of the collaboration between Augusta and AARP Georgia that is Age-Friendly Augusta. The first African-American mayor following the consolidation of the City of Augusta and Richmond County, Mayor Davis envisions Augusta as a place of opportunity and a community of choice for all people.

Following a successful 22 year career as a systems, automation and controls engineer, Hardie began his journey into public service as a member of the State House of Representatives in 2006. After serving two dutiful terms as State Representative for Georgia's 122nd District, he was elected to assume a vacated seat in the Georgia Senate during a 2010 special election. During his time at the Georgia Legislature, Hardie contributed to the passing of more than 1500 pieces of legislation, which today stand as Georgia law.

Born, raised, and educated in the state of Georgia, Hardie holds a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology and a Doctor of Ministry degree from the Christian Life School of Theology.

William "Bill" Lockett, Retired Commissioner

Bill Lockett served on the Augusta Commission from 2009 – 2016. Commissioner Lockett was instrumental in Augusta being designated an Age-Friendly Community in 2014. Augusta was the 20th Community in the Nation to receive this designation from the AARP and the World Health Organization. The Augusta Governing Body appointed him to serve as Liaison of the Age-Friendly Augusta Initiative upon his retirement from the Commission on December 31, 2016.

Commissioner Lockett is a retired U. S. Army Master Sergeant, a retired Lead Investigator with the United States Office of Personnel Management and a retired Richmond County Business Education Teacher. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Management (Magna Cum Laude) from Paine College and a Masters of Public Administration from Brenau University.

Debra Tyler-Horton, AARP State Director

Debra Tyler-Horton began her role as AARP Georgia State Director in 2015. She joined the AARP North Carolina team in 2010 and has demonstrated success leading and managing teams, engaging volunteers, and innovating to achieve results.

Debra is a results-oriented professional with more than 20 years of experience in nonprofit management and budget oversight. Prior to her role at AARP, she served as the Deputy Director of the North Carolina Justice Center for more than 13 years. The Justice Center, located in Raleigh, is the state's leading progressive advocacy and research organization.

Alice Bennett, Associate State Director, Community Outreach

Alice Bennett works with AARP Georgia volunteers, elected officials, community, faith-based, nonprofit leaders, and government officers to execute the Age-Friendly Augusta action plan and increase AARP's presence, relevance and impact in the Augusta and Savannah communities. Bennett joined AARP in 2016.

Prior to joining AARP, Bennett served as the North Carolina NAACP Public Policy and Legal Redress Coordinator and also worked as a community organizer for 10 years with Helping Empower Local People (HELP), training community leaders to develop and execute community action plans for social change. Bennett holds a jurist doctor degree from North Carolina Central University School of Law.

