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Office of Communications

121 South McDonough St.

Jonesboro, GA 30236

www.claytoncountyga.gov

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NEWS RELEASE

Senior Services Director to Testify Before U.S. Senate Committee on Aging

(Clayton County, GA)-The National Council on Aging (NCOA) selects the Clayton County Senior Services Director, Tori Strawter-Tanks, to testify before the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging during a hearing titled *Breaking the Cycle of Senior Loneliness: Strengthening Family and Community Support*. The hearing will broadcast live on C-SPAN on Wed., Mar. 12, 2025, at 3:30 p.m. The hearing may also be accessed online by visiting: <https://www.aging.senate.gov/hearings>.

Director Tanks will highlight how senior centers and aging services play a vital role in combating loneliness and social isolation among senior adults. She will explain how the programs offered by Clayton County Senior Services provides opportunities for seniors to connect, engage, and thrive.

She will also share the inspiring story of Dorothy Steele, a former member of Frank Bailey Senior Center, who pursued acting later in life and landed a role in Marvel's Black Panther and Wakanda Forever. Steele's journey is a testament to the power of senior centers fostering purpose, confidence, and new opportunities for older adults.

“As we work together to address senior isolation, it's clear that community-based services like senior centers, volunteer programs, home delivered meals, and social engagement initiatives are key to keeping older adults connected and supported,” said Senior Services Director Strawter-Tanks. “Dorothy Steele's story of participating in senior center programs is just one example of how seniors can rediscover their passions and make a lasting impact, proving that it is never too late to chase your dreams.”

For more information, on Clayton County Senior Services, visit www.claytonseniors.com or tune in to C-SPAN for live coverage of the hearing.

Media representatives should contact the Office of Communications, Communications Administrator Valerie L. Fuller at 770.473.3834, or submit a media inquiry form: <https://claytoncountyforms.claytoncountyga.gov/news-media-request/>.

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