

# USF GWEP Geriatric Practice Trends

## USF Awarded \$2.24 Million Grant to Improve Care For Older Adults

By: Anne DeLotto Baier

*USF Health teams with Tampa Family Health Centers and Senior Connection Center to build a health care workforce integrating primary and geriatric care*

The University of South Florida, in partnership with Tampa Family Health Centers (TFHC) and Senior Connection Center (SCC), has been awarded a three-year, \$2.24-million federal grant to help prepare a health professions workforce to improve care for older adults. The USF Health colleges of Medicine, Nursing and Pharmacy, the School of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Sciences, the USF Health Byrd Alzheimer's Institute, and the USF School of Aging Studies will be among the collaborators for the project.

One of 44 organizations in 29 states receiving a portion of the more \$35 million awarded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration through its Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program, the awards support interprofessional geriatrics education and training to provide care responsive to community needs.

"The competition for this funding was intense, so the award is a testament to the existing and expanding clinical collaboration across our USF Health colleges," said principal



investigator Rita D'Aoust, PhD, associate professor and associate dean of academic affairs and interprofessional initiatives in the USF College of Nursing. "The award will help us better prepare a workforce to support the state's growing geriatric population and address gaps in health care for older adults."

"This award will be invaluable to Tampa Family Health Centers' mission to provide quality, caring and accessible health care to a culturally diverse community, in particular older adults," said Charles Bottoms, MBA, chief executive officer of TFHC.

The award will also help build the geriatric workforce capacity within TFHC (including funds for hiring and training four case managers and two patient care navigators) and SCC (which will add a part time information and referral specialist to assess and follow up with patients referred by TFHC). Through interprofessional training and educational opportunities, USF GWEP will enhance the

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knowledge and skills of 300 TFHC health care professionals so they can better assess and meet the needs of older adults and their families or caregivers.

The project is expected to provide direct "age-friendly" primary care services to 6,000 underserved TFHC patients age 60 or older, with the Byrd Alzheimer's Institute offering direct services, including memory screening outreach and cognitive testing, to another 1,156 patients

Working with TFHC, USF Health faculty will tailor a geriatrics curriculum offered to USF medical, nursing, pharmacy and physical therapy students as well as residents and fellows interested in specializing in geriatric care. Trainees will rotate through TFHC under faculty supervision for clinical training integrating geriatric and primary care.



The mission of the Health Resources and Services Administration Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP) is to support the development of a health care workforce that improves health outcomes for older adults by integrating geriatrics with primary care and community resources to maximize patient and family engagement better manage chronic disease and promote optimum function in older adults. The USF GWEP Collaborative will help accomplish this mission by building a dynamic, reciprocal network of collaboration between providers of academic training, clinical care, and community-based resources to create seamless referrals for older adults and their caregivers.

## USF GWEP Partners



**Tampa Family Health Centers, Inc.:** A not-for-profit federally qualified health center (FQHC), TFHC's mission is "to provide quality caring and accessible health care to a culturally diverse community." TFHC has cared for residents of the urban areas of Tampa and northeast Hillsborough County for over 30 years. The agency has grown to 16 clinics and provides on-site medical, dental, pharmacy, behavioral health and enabling services to more than 80,000 patients (6,000 of whom are age 60 or older).



**Senior Connection Center, Inc.:** Finding answers to questions on aging can be a daunting task. That's where Senior Connection Center, Inc., comes in. SCC is a non-profit 501(c)(3) dedicated to helping people age at home. Staff explain options and guide patients and care givers through a maze of home and community based services. Its mission is to help older adults and person with disabilities live with independence and dignity. They accomplish this by connecting seniors and their caregivers with the services they need. GWEP members include CEO Charlotte McHenry, MPH and COO Katie Parkinson, MPA.



**USF Health Byrd Alzheimer's Institute:** A multi-disciplinary Center of Excellence that provides compassionate, family-centered patient care, the USF Health Byrd Alzheimer's Institute is dedicated to the prevention, treatment and cure of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders. With a state-of-the-art facility and a highly qualified team of researchers, doctors, clinicians and educators, BAI performs cutting edge research, delivers quality public and professional education and is in the forefront of Alzheimer's research and care. GWEP members include CEO David Morgan, Ph.D., CMO Amanda Smith, MD, Lucy Guerra, MD, MPH, FACP, FHP and Sharon Aroda, MD.



**USF School of Aging Studies:** One of the oldest and largest gerontology education programs in the United States, and one of the few programs offering bachelors, masters, and doctoral degrees in Gerontology, Long-term Care Administration, and Aging Studies. The Florida Policy Exchange Center on Aging supports the educational and applied research mission by providing relevant, high-quality research and policy analysis to public officials, program administrators, and stakeholders concerned with the health and well-being of older adults. The School of Aging Studies currently has 14 full-time faculty who are engaged in research and teaching. It hosts the Ph.D. in Aging Studies interdisciplinary doctoral program and draws on faculty expertise from across the University. With approximately 1 million in annual research expenditures and contributes an additional 4 million in external funding to USF through collaborative research and training programs, The School of Aging Studies also hosts the USF Collaborative on Aging, which works to enhance USF's capacity and reputation as a university with campus-wide strength in aging research, education, and service. GWEP members include Kathryn Hyer, PhD, MPP, Director of the Florida Policy Exchange Center on Aging and Victor Molinari, PhD, ABPP.

# Aims

The transformation of clinical practice and geriatrics education being undertaken by the USF GWEP Collaborative contains five overarching aims:

1. Transform primary care by infusing gerontologic and geriatric knowledge into clinical practice and providing structured geriatric interprofessional education for providers and clinical staff, creating a geriatric primary care model that fosters excellence in older adult clinical care.
2. Develop a comprehensive and coordinated curriculum for health professions students that instills core geriatric knowledge into the primary care environment and implements active student participation in key geriatric clinical activities during the transformation and beyond.
3. Prepare future health professions leaders in geriatric primary care through advanced advocacy skills, practice development, population based-medicine, family/patient involvement, interdisciplinary care and transitions through the lifespan.
4. Create a model of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias education that prioritizes identification of cognitive impairment and increases competence in memory care management.
5. Build a dynamic, reciprocal network of collaboration among partners that facilitates an efficient and effective process for elder patients to be assessed for, referred to and receive appropriate home and community-based long-term care supports and services to maintain them in the community.

## Committees and Workgroups

To assure success, the aims and objectives of the Collaborative have been assigned to various workgroups:

**Geriatrics Advisory Committee (GAC):** This group include consultants with expertise in geriatrics in the primary care environment and users of the system.

**Steering Committee:** Members coordinate and direct project activities; define targeted health measures, screenings, preventive services, care coordination activities and system navigation resources; identify clinical priorities and quality improvement initiatives; and evaluate progress toward achieving required grant elements.

**Faculty Development Workgroup:** Members create and implement a faculty development program where primary care and related faculty undergo basic instruction in fundamental principles of the multidisciplinary competencies in the care of older adults.

**Faculty Leadership Workgroup:** Members will assure geriatric/gerontologic content is embedded in graduate and undergraduate curricula to accomplish the project aims.

**Practice Transformation Workgroup:** Members facilitate geriatric/gerontologic infusion of principles of care into federally qualified health centers' practice through clinician training.

**Student Curriculum Workgroup:** Members will create and deliver basic geriatric/gerontological curriculum for upper level and advanced health professions students using HIPCOA modules and other relevant content.

**Geriatric Residency Curriculum Workgroup:** Members will enhance and standardize geriatric curriculum and experience for all primary care residents, DNPs, Pharm Ds, and ARNPs. Additionally, they will create resident specific quality of care initiatives and population management exercises.

**Evaluation Committee:** Members will oversee formative and summative project evaluation, including all HRSA reporting requirements, and report to the Steering Committee.



# Distinguished Lectureship in Aging Series

## The Silver Tsunami, Silver Lining, & Golden Dividends



Aging presents well-documented challenges: mobility limitations, hearing and vision loss, chronic disabilities, and limited incomes to name a

few. But according to Dr. James H. Johnson, Jr., it also affords many lesser-known economic opportunities.

Dr. Johnson offered his distinctive take on disruptive demographic trends and opportunities associated with a “longevity economy” as part of the Byrd Alzheimer’s Institute and Florida Policy Exchange Center on Aging USF School of Aging Studies Distinguished Lectureship in Aging Series.

Through his work teaching governments, communities, nonprofits and businesses to become more entrepreneurial in their operations and service delivery, Dr. Johnson

sees many opportunities associated with demographic shifts and a multigenerational workforce from Boomers to Millennials.

Dr. Johnson describes “Encore Entrepreneurs” (workers between 55-64 year of age seeking meaningful second act careers) as individuals who “possess the experience, expertise, seasoned judgment and proven performance” to launch a successful start-up or remain competitive in the workplace. But workplace friction between generations requires employers to be sensitive to the needs of workers of all ages. According to Dr. Johnson, “Accommodation is the order of the day.”

Dr. Johnson is the Distinguished Professor of Strategy and Entrepreneurship at UNC’s Kenan-Flagler Business School and director of the Urban Investment Strategies Center at the Frank Hawkins Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise.

### US Demographic Trends

- The South Rises Again: Between 1970 and 2010, the geographic center of the U.S. shifted to the southern states.
- The Browning of America and Marrying Out: Lower fertility rates for non-Hispanic whites and an increase in marriages between persons of different races has led to increased diversity in the workplace.
- Multigenerational Workforce: More elders care for (or are cared for by) family members

## HRSA Site Visit

Members of the USF GWEP Collaborative were pleased to welcome Captains Song Young, DrPh, and Tonjus Mason, RN, MPH of the U.S. Health Services and Resources Administration (HRSA) who visited Tampa September 8-9, 2015 to learn more about this exciting endeavor. Their visit included meetings with key project leadership, community partners and tours of the USF Health Byrd Alzheimer’s Institute, Senior Connection Center, and Tampa Family Health Centers.



*Photographed: Ed Kucher, COO TFHC; Dr. Lucy Guerra, USF COM Associate Professor; Dr. Sharon Aroda, USF COM; Rita D'Aoust, DNP, USF CON Associate Dean; Cpt. Young Song, HRSA Grant Manager*

# Nominations & Awards



Kathryn Hyer, Ph.D. was chosen as Chair-elect of the joint National Association for Geriatric Education/National Association of Geriatric Education Centers. Together, these groups represent a network of providers of education and training for health professionals in the areas of geriatrics and gerontology and promote interdisciplinary geriatric education. To learn more, visit <http://n-age.org/nagec/>. Congratulations, Dr. Hyer!

## Resources

The USF GWEP Collaborative is fortunate to be able to utilize a number of technological products and resources to help maximize the efficiency and productivity of this endeavor.

### Canvas

A learner management system, Canvas by Instructure (<https://canvas.instructure.com>) offers a platform for faculty in higher education to communicate with students and collaborate with other instructors. To help manage workgroup files and resources related to GWEP, Dr. Oma Baliram-Singh has created a USF GWEP Canvas site all members can access as either Teachers (workgroup Chairs/Co-Chairs) or Students (workgroup Members). For help accessing the USF GWEP Canvas site, contact Anna Maynard Wenders ([amaynard@health.usf.edu](mailto:amaynard@health.usf.edu))

### Adobe Connect

Adobe Connect web conferencing software service offers immersive online meeting experiences for collaboration, virtual classrooms and large scale webinars. This tool is available to all USF GWEP Committee and Workgroup Chairs for extending their meeting capabilities across the grant campuses. For help accessing the USF GWEP Adobe Connect site, contact Anna Maynard Wenders ([amaynard@health.usf.edu](mailto:amaynard@health.usf.edu))

### The Portal of Geriatrics Online Education (POGO-e)

A free collection of expert-contributed geriatrics training and assessment materials for teachers and learners, POGO-e resources are available digitally and in a variety of teaching formats (<https://www.pogoe.org>).

Funded by the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation and managed by the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Department of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine on behalf of the Association of Directors of Geriatric Academic Programs (ADGAP), the site is operated in partnership with Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Department of Biomedical Informatics and Division of Geriatrics.



## HARTFORD INSTITUTE FOR GERIATRIC NURSING NEW YORK UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NURSING

Since 1996, the mission of the Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing has been to shape the quality of health care of older adults through excellence in nursing practice. The institute's website offers evidence-based online resources, with topics running the gambit from Advance Directives to Urinary Incontinence and resources ranging from online e-Learning Center modules (many with CE credit) to Try This® evidence-based geriatric assessment tools. The Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing is the geriatrics arm of the NYU College of Nursing. <http://hartfordign.org/>

# Save The Date



**Geriatrics takes center stage when Bruce Robinson, MD** presents “Multidimensional Assessment and Treatment of the Older Adult Patient” as part of the USF Morsani College of Medicine Department of Internal Medicine Roy H. Behnke, MD Grand Rounds Lecture Series. Dr. Robinson is a geriatrician and consultant for the USF GWEP collaborative. His presentation will take place Wednesday, February 18, 2016 from Noon-1:00 pm at USF Morsani College of Medicine located at 12901 Bruce B. Downs Blvd. in MDL 1003. It will also be televised in B107 at TGH, FOB 1304 and other sites to be determined.

**UCLA Reynolds Mini-Fellowship in Geriatric Education**, February 24-26, 2016, Los Angeles  
During this three-day course, clinician-educators' knowledge and skills in teaching contemporary issues in geriatrics education are strengthened through an innovative curriculum in medical education and advanced geriatrics teaching skills. The content of the program includes core principles in medical education, providing student feedback, student evaluation, and common geriatric medicine topics. Contact Anna Maynard Wenders ([amaynard@health.usf.edu](mailto:amaynard@health.usf.edu)) for more information.



**Florida Policy Exchange Center on Aging distinguished lecture**, March 4, 2016 (COPH Auditorium, 10:30-11:30 am) Kevin O'Neill, MD, FACP, is board-certified in both Internal Medicine and Geriatric Medicine. He is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians and a member of the American Geriatrics Society. Dr. O'Neil, a former Clinical Professor in the USF School of Aging Studies, is Chief Medical Officer for Brookdale Senior Living® and Medical Advisor of the Institute for Optimal Aging. He will discuss brain fitness and factors vital for seniors to live at peak levels, with lifestyles that promote health wholeness and fulfillment.



## Excellence in GERIATRIC HEALTH CARE 2016

# SAVE THE DATE

## June 14-16

EMBASSY SUITES  
NEAR USF/BUSCH GARDENS

Health professionals from across the state are invited to this three-day, 18-credit CEU conference to learn more about:

- ▶ Critical issues in aging and geriatric health care
- ▶ Nutrition and aging
- ▶ Alzheimer's disease and other dementias
- ▶ Medications management
- ▶ Occupational therapy for neurodegenerative conditions
- ▶ And much more!

**For more information, call (813) 396-0659 or email [karalallen@health.usf.edu](mailto:karalallen@health.usf.edu).**

**REGISTER ONLINE AT:  
[HTTP://HEALTH.USF.EDU/BYRD](http://health.usf.edu/byrd)**

**EARLY BIRD RATES thru April 2016**

Early bird rates end April 15, 2016. All cancellations must be submitted in writing to the USF Health Byrd Institute. Cancellations received by April 30, 2016 will be granted a 100% refund. Cancellations received by May 31, 2016 will be granted a 50% refund. NO REFUNDS OR CREDITS will be issued after May 31.





Photographed: Leslie Lockett, MSN, Instructor USF CON; Dina Laveaux, USF CON ARNP student; Coleman Pratt, MD, CMO TFHC; Cheryl Wilson, DNP, Assistant Professor USF CON

Would you like to add to the Geriatric Practice Trends or need more information about a story?

Contact Anna Maynard Wenders  
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for more information.