

PROJECT ABSTRACT

Project Title: Optimizing Aging: A National Geriatrics Workforce Model to Secure the Safety Net for Underserved Seniors

Applicant Organization: Division of Geriatrics, University of California San Francisco

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Program Funds Requested: HRSA-15-057

Funding Preference: Underserved populations

Project Period: July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2018

Collaborators & Partners: San Francisco (SF) Department of Public Health/ Health Network; SF Department of Adult and Aging Services; SF Veterans Affairs Medical Center; San Francisco Alzheimer’s Association; Friends of the Elderly; Openhouse; UC Hastings College of Law; California Social Work Education Center

Trainee types: a) health professions providers; b) health professions trainees; c) direct care workers; d) community-based organization staff and volunteers; e) first responders; f) patients and families

Overview. The Division of Geriatrics at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) is uniquely positioned to implement a Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP) that will (1) **integrate geriatrics and primary care across health systems**, (2) create novel community, social service, and population health partnerships that will **enable local resource centers to maximize patient and family engagement** and improve health outcomes for underserved older adults, and (3) serve as an **incubator of local innovations with national applications** for primary care-, community- and patient-engagement for **underserved** elders, particularly those with **dementia (ADRD), living alone, or LGBT.**

Objectives and Approach. Through our deep network of collaborators and partners spanning health systems that care for underserved populations, schools of Medicine, Nursing, Social Work and Law, local government agencies, community organizations, and other local sources, we will:

1. Create the Optimizing Aging Geriatrics Workforce Education Center to develop, implement, evaluate, and disseminate an innovative, interprofessional GWEP to meet local needs and serve as a national model
2. Develop, implement, and evaluate geriatrics-primary care integrations in diverse health systems citywide to provide clinical experiences for trainees and improve the care of underserved, high-risk older adults using a Tiered Training approach
3. Partner with the Department of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) and community-based organizations to create, deliver, evaluate, and disseminate programs that enhance the ability of designated Adult and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) to engage and address the learning and support needs of underserved older adults, families and caregivers
4. Develop, implement and evaluate innovative trainings for individuals citywide who provide care to underserved older adults in primary care and the community
5. Increase citywide competence in ADRDs by implementing workforce training, resource development, patient-caregiver information and support elements from San Francisco’s unique “Strategy for Excellence in Dementia Care.”