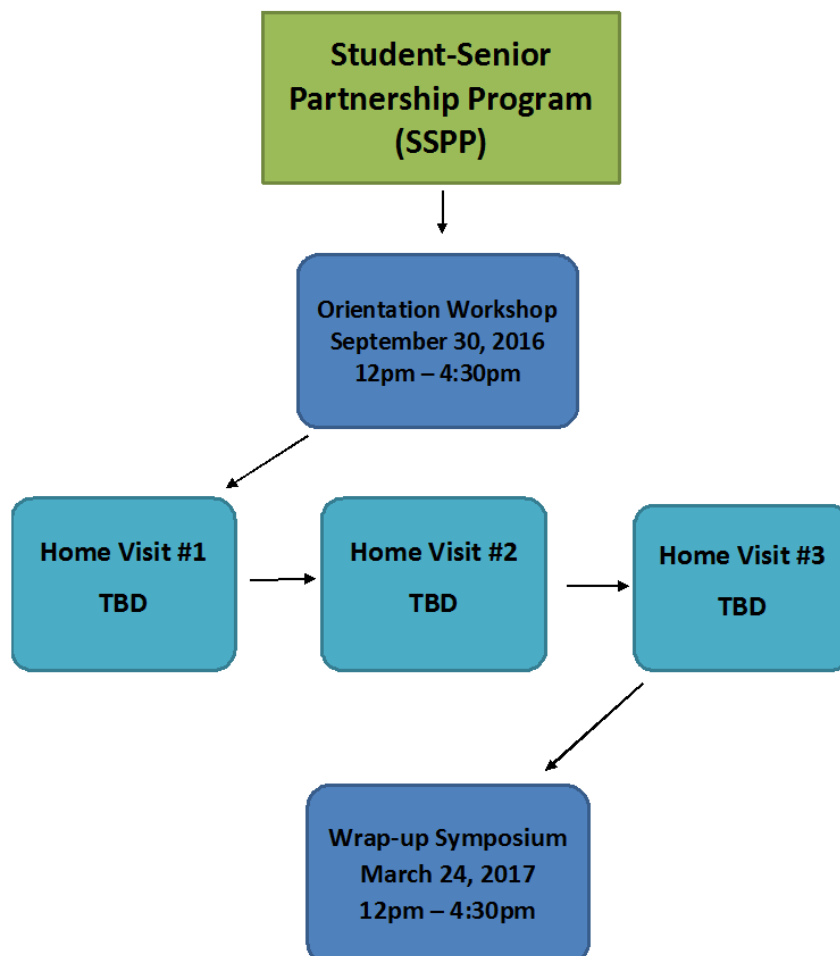


# Student-Senior Partnership Program

## Introduction

The Student-Senior Partnership Program (SSPP) is one of the programs of the GWEP, funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), at the University of Southern California, Keck School of Medicine. The program aims to introduce students from various disciplines to the concepts of older adults 65+ physical health, relationships to family, friends and community, and normal healthy memory/cognition.

Teams of 3-4 students from different health professional programs will be partnered with an older adult 65+ from the community, USC alumnus/alumna, or retired staff and faculty member. Seniors will meet with the student team five times during the academic year. There will be an orientation workshop/luncheon September 30, 2016, three home visits (dates to be determined by student team and senior) to discuss physical well-being, social/leisure/connectedness and cognitive stimulation, followed by a wrap-up symposium on March 24, 2017.



## Learning objectives

This program is, by design, an introduction to healthy aging. There will be specific learning objectives for each student / senior encounter. There are also a number of overall learning objectives that span the entire program. Those learning objectives will be addressed in subsequent small group discussions. Today, students/seniors will be presented with information about:

- Normal aging
- Introduction to the biopsychosocial model
- Normal age-related changes
- How these changes effect health care
- Polypharmacy in the elderly
- Tips for effective history taking with the elderly

Students will participate in small group discussions with seniors from the community.

Students will be taught history taking following discussions with their senior partner

Students will be able to:

- List at least three healthcare provider communication “tips” important to their senior partners.
- Identify personal goals for their own healthy aging
- Discuss strategies for achieving their goals.
- Discuss, on an introductory level, the concepts listed above.
- Identify at least three strategies for effective history taking with the elderly

# Student-Senior Partnership Program (SSPP)

## Home Visit Descriptions

1. Student teams will visit senior partner in their home at the convenience of the student team and senior partner. Each visit will help students:

- Develop skills in working collaboratively in an intraprofessional team
- Develop skills to develop and present a creative project

### • Session 1: Home Visit I, Physical Well-Being

#### **Session Goal and Objectives:**

- Understand the importance of a bio-psycho-social history
- Develop skill in interviewing seniors to obtain a bio-psycho-social history
- Understanding how chronic disease impacts daily life.
- Increase knowledge of healthcare provider and older adult relationship

### 2. Session 2: Home Visit II, Relationships to community, friends, and family

#### **Session Goals and Objectives:**

- Understand the importance of relationships to family, friends and community particularly as individuals age
- Increase awareness of cultural identity relationships to friend, family and community
- Increase knowledge about community resources beneficial to healthy aging older adults

### 3. Session 3: Home Visit III, Memory and Cognition

#### **Session Goals and Objectives:**

- Understand normal aging and brain health
- Understand normal change with healthy brains and aging
- Develop skill in interviewing seniors about their quality of sleep and how it affects brain function.