

Co-Chair: Kathryn Hyer, *University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, United States*

Discussant: Brian W. Lindberg, *The Gerontological Society of America, Washington, District of Columbia, United States*

This session will address the evolving work of Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Programs (GWEP) to educate and train the primary care workforce and partner with community based organizations to address gaps in healthcare. The inaugural GWEP awardees were announced at the 2015 White House Conference on Aging. In November 2018 the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), released the second GWEP Notice of Funding Opportunity (NoFO). The new funding opportunity reflects current policy priorities. In addition, for the first time in 9 years a Notice of Funding Opportunity was released for the Geriatric Academic Career Award (GACA) program. The return of the GACA program indicates the success of advocacy efforts to increase programs to support geriatric training and the development of geriatric academic professionals. Individual symposiums will explore the policy priorities reflected in the GWEP NoFO including the use of technology for training and care delivery, the age-friendly healthcare and dementia-friendly community initiatives, and value-based care including improving partnership with community based organizations. Additionally, an individual symposium will present the GACA program and discuss the advocacy process leading to the reintroduction of this program. During the last congress advocates of the GWEP and GACA programs supported authorization and funding of geriatric programs. Geriatrics programs describing the work of the GWEPs and GACAs were reinserted into the legislative process, although this reauthorization was not completed. This advocacy process garnered strong bipartisan and agency support. The session will describe these efforts and will conclude with an update on current authorization and appropriation status.

#### AN UPDATE ON THE RETURN OF THE GERIATRICS ACADEMIC CAREER AWARDS PROGRAM

Leland Waters<sup>1</sup> and Maura Brennan<sup>2</sup>, 1. *Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia, United States*, 2. *University of Massachusetts Medical School-Baystate, Springfield, Massachusetts, United States*

The Health Resources and Services Administration recently announced a notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) for the Geriatrics Academic Career Award Program (GACA). The purpose of the GACA program is to support the career development of individual junior faculty in geriatrics as academic geriatrics specialists and to provide clinical training in geriatrics, including the training of interprofessional teams of health care professionals. The GACA program is a mentorship model where the awardee is guided through a faculty career development plan, with required project deliverables, over the course of four years. The GACA supported 222 junior faculty members between 1998 and 2006, when it was discontinued. This initial NOFO provides funding for up to 26 awardees in the schools of allopathic medicine, osteopathic medicine, nursing, social work, psychology, dentistry, pharmacy, and allied health. This presentation will provide an up-to-date overview of the program with awardee demographics and project deliverables.

#### INTEGRATING PRINCIPLES OF VALUE-BASED CARE THROUGH COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION PARTNERSHIPS

Marla Berg-Weger<sup>1</sup> and Catherine Taylor<sup>2</sup>, 1. *Saint Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri, United States*, 2. *The George and Anne Ryan Institute for Neuroscience The Rhode Island Geriatric Education Center The University of Rhode Island, Providence, Rhode Island, United States*

To develop programming consistent with value-based care principles, two GWEPs share strategies and policy implications when partnering with community-based organizations (CBO). Because the aims of value-based care – better patient outcomes and population health, reduced health care costs – cannot be achieved by changing medical practice alone, RI Geriatric Education Center (RIGEC) partners with multiple CBOs to deliver evidence-based patient education programming to empower patients/caregivers to take charge of their health. RIGEC will work directly with physician practices to bring education directly to their high-risk patient census. Saint Louis University CBO partners integrated geriatric assessment into routine care to identify geriatric syndromes. Introduction of protocols for Medicare Annual Wellness Visits, Cognitive Stimulation Therapy and exercise/strengthening enables CBOs to offer interventions. Value-based care is achieved by reducing costs as geriatric syndromes are identified earlier, enabling diagnosis, treatment, and management; improving patient outcomes and satisfaction; and strengthening provider competence in geriatric care.

#### GWEPs WORKING TO SUPPORT THE AGE-FRIENDLY HEALTHCARE SYSTEM MOVEMENT

Tara A. Cortes,<sup>1</sup> Cinnamon St. John,<sup>2</sup> and Jeff Lucas<sup>3</sup>, 1. *Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing at NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing, New York, New York, United States*, 2. *Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing, United States of America, New York, United States*, 3. *RAIN, Bronx, New York, United States*

Age friendly health systems aim to help people age and die with dignity. As this social movement progresses it is important to remember the community as a critical stakeholder. To ensure their engagement requires input from the community to understand their needs and education of the community to empower people to know what standard should be expected from an age friendly health system. The NYU GWEP has trained 140 community volunteers who have educated >4,500 older adults in the Bronx on healthy behaviors and chronic disease management. 85% responded that they have changed their behaviors as a result of the teaching. Qualitative data reveals that people feel they can now talk to their primary care provider in a meaningful way about what matters to them, the medications they take, their mental state, and mobility.

#### FOSTERING DEMENTIA-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES AND SUPPORTING CAREGIVERS THROUGH THE GWEP PROGRAMS

Jennifer J. Severance,<sup>1</sup> Lisa O'Neil,<sup>2</sup> and Mindy Fain<sup>3</sup>, 1. *University of North Texas Health Science Center, Fort Worth, Texas, United States*, 2. *University of Arizona,*