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SCIENCE CENTER

GERIATRIC EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN TEXAS

 DONALD W. REYNOLDS FOUNDATION

2013 FALL NEWSLETTER

This issue of the IGET-IT Newsletter highlights the history of the Reynolds Programs and provides an outline on the direction of future programs beginning with the original grant, the emergence of SAGE as an independent program, and the goals for the next four years. Take a few minutes and get to know the faculty and staff that contribute to making the area so successful and check out the most recent award the Reynolds Team received.

Reynolds Geriatrics Education and Training in Texas (GET-IT) Award #1

The Reynolds Geriatric Education and Training in Texas (GET-IT) Program was developed as a proactive effort to address the national shortage of Geriatricians and the medical needs of a growing geriatric population. The original program grant of \$2 million was awarded in 2009 for four years from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation also had matching funds from UNT Health Science Center, Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM). Janice Knebl D.O. Chief of the Geriatrics Division and the program primary investigator believed that most physicians would be treating older adults as a part of their medical practice and that enhanced patient care should be promoted through increased training in geriatrics.

The goals of the original GET-IT Program were to develop and implement an innovative and sustainable program to strengthen physicians' training in geriatrics. Four primary groups were targeted for increased training in geriatrics: Medical students and faculty at the UNTHSC Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine at Fort Worth; the Rural Osteopathic Medicine Education Program; Residents in the Texas Osteopathic Postgraduate Training Institution Programs; and Practicing Physicians throughout Texas. The original objectives established to help accomplish the goal of geriatrics infusion to these groups were:

- Development and Implementation of an integrated geriatrics curriculum across all four years of medical education;
- Osteopathic residents training throughout Texas having access to an integrated geriatrics curriculum;
- Rural Osteopathic Medicine Education Faculty and Osteopathic Postgraduate Training Institution Program Directors having access to a geriatrics faculty development program;
- Collaboration with the UNTHSC Professional and Continuing Education Department (PACE) helping to develop geriatrics continuing medical education programs for practicing physicians.

The GET-IT Programs achieved success in meeting the objectives of the Reynolds Grant and have made an impact in the geriatric education of medical students at the University of North Texas' Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine as well as some physicians and residents in the state. One of the programs that emerged as a leader in student geriatric education and had an impact in the larger community of Fort Worth was Seniors Assisting in Geriatric Education or SAGE. In 2013 this original Reynolds Grant will deplete its funding although many of the programs have been extended through the Reynolds Next Steps Grant with continued funding from the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Healthy Aging Council (details follow).

Seniors Assisting in Geriatric Education (SAGE)

As part of the original GET-IT Program, SAGE was implemented as an educational model for preparing medical professions students to better serve older patients. SAGE partners' 1st and 2nd year medical professions students (physicians, physician assistants, physical therapy, and pharmacology students) with a senior citizen volunteer who either receives home delivered meals through the Meals on Wheels Program or is a volunteer from the local community. Students make home visits as an interdisciplinary medical team where they apply their classroom education in the context and care of an older patient over a two year period. In 2011 the SAGE Program received a national award from the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) for best community service program. In 2012 SAGE received a \$150,000 foundation grant from the UNTHSC's Healthy Aging Council and also received funding as part of the Donald W. Reynolds GET-IT Texas Grant. In 2013 the program received the Mae Cora Peterson Senior Spirit Award from Senior Citizen Services of Greater Tarrant County (see pg. 4).

Reynolds *Interprofessional* Geriatrics Education and Training in Texas (IGET-IT) Next Steps Grant Award #2

In 2013 another four-year \$1 million grant award from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation along with matching funds from UNTHSC TCOM to support the *Interprofessional* Geriatric Education and Training in Texas (IGET-IT) NEXT STEPS Programs. This continuing study series for geriatric education will employ three major innovations under the direction of Janice Knebl D.O. Chief of the Geriatrics Division and principal investigator:

- Expand the Seniors Assisting in Geriatrics Education (SAGE) program for students of various health professions, including physician assistants, physical therapy, pharmacy, nursing and nutrition;
- Create an Interprofessional, web-based Team Capstone (ITC) geriatrics experience for all senior-year health professions students at the participating institutions; and
- Develop interprofessional e-learning modules in collaboration with the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME) for residents and practicing physicians.

The UNTHSC Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine /GET-IT Programs and the School of Health Professions will partner with the UNT System College of Pharmacy, Texas Christian University Harris College of Nursing and Health Sciences and Department of Nutritional Sciences, to develop and implement a partnership to improve the ability of physicians to work in teams among health care discipline. The /GET-IT program will also collaborate with Donald W. Reynolds Foundation grantee Virginia Commonwealth University to adapt its Virtual Classroom as the model for the ITC geriatrics experience, which will match older patients with students studying medicine, physician assistance, physical therapy, pharmacy, nursing and nutrition.

Ongoing geriatric programs that are supported through the Reynolds /GET-IT area are listed below:

- Core Geriatric Rotation (Clerkship)
- Geriatric Grand Rounds
- Seniors Assisting in Geriatric Education (SAGE)
- Palliative Care Student Organization
- Knowledge Based Inference Tool (KBIT)
- Geriatric Board Review
- Year 1 and Year 2 Geriatric Lectures
- Reynolds Annual Geriatrics Update (RAGU)
- Student Chapter American Geriatric Society (SCAGS)
- Aging and Healthcare Survey

REYNOLDS INTERPROFESSIONAL GERIATRIC EDUCATION & TRAINING TEAM



**Figure 1 - Janice Knebl, DO, MBA
Principal Investigator Reynolds /GET-IT**



**Figure 2 - Sandra Marquez-Hall, PhD
Director of Reynolds /GET-IT**



**Figure 3 - Yolanda Lane, MEd, CHES
SAGE Education Coordinator**



**Figure 4 - Raina Smith, MS
Education Coordinator**



**Figure 5 – Brenda Harless
Administrative Associate**



**Figure 6 – Office Location
Geri Annex/Blue House – 3501 W. 7th Street**

Senior Spirit Award

The **Seniors Assisting in Geriatric Education (SAGE)** Program was selected in September 2013 by Senior Citizen Services (SCS) of Greater Tarrant County to receive the Mae Cora Peterson Healthy Aging Award. The SCS, founded in 1967, is a non-profit organization that provides programs and services to enable senior adults to live independently with dignity. The Mae Cora Peterson Award is in honor of Ms. Peterson, a retired Fort Worth educator and long-time supporter of Senior Citizen Services. At 96 years young, she exemplifies the spirit of seniors by living an independent, active life. SAGE received this honor for its innovative educational program to improve medical care and the health and independence of older adults in Tarrant County. The program ensures that all medical students from UNTHSC have a level of familiarity and comfort in treating older patients. With the addition of the Mae Cora Peterson Award, the SAGE program is also being recognized as a significant contributor to community service in Texas.



Figure 7 - Mae Cora Peterson and Dr. Janice Knebl at the Senior Spirit Award Ceremonies

Reynolds Team Contact Information

Janice Knebl, DO, MBA
janice.knebl@unthsc.edu
(817) 735-0291

Sandra Marquez Hall, PhD
sandra.marquez-hall@unthsc.edu
(817) 735-2949

Office Location
Geri Annex/Blue House
3400 Clifton Street

Brenda Harless
brendagayle.harless@unthsc.edu
(817) 735-0291

Yolanda Lane, MEd, CHES
yolanda.pitts-lane@unthsc.edu
(817) 735-0289

Raina Smith, MS
raina.smith@unthsc.edu
(817) 735-0287