

ATTACHMENT 4 – Updated Project Abstract

Grant Number: U1QHP28742

Project Title: Northwest Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Center (NW GWEC)

Applicant Organization: University of Washington, Box 359755, Seattle, WA 98195-9755

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Performance Period: July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2024

Partners: 3 Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) (Community), WWAMI (Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, Idaho) region Family Medicine Residency Network (Primary Care), Veteran’s Affairs Puget Sound Healthcare System and VISN 20 (Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Alaska) (Primary Care), WWAMI region Practice & Research Network (WPRN) (Academic)

The NW GWEC serves as a regional center conducting interprofessional education and training programs to improve the primary care of older adults in the WWAMI region. Our mission is to lead the Pacific Northwest in optimizing primary care of older adults through collaborative education, traineeships, client engagement, and enhanced community-clinical linkages. Our vision is that older adults are personally engaged and positively supported by families, caregivers, age- and dementia-friendly health systems and primary care providers, as well as their community to maintain their own health and well-being. Three fundamental values guide our work: collaboration – working with partners in communities and clinical settings and bridging these two worlds; client engagement – fostering knowledge, skills, and confidence of patients, families and caregivers to manage their personal health and care; and equity – focusing on vulnerable groups (rural, underserved, Native Americans, and veterans) to improve health and reduce disparities. The NW GWEC goals are to:

1. Develop partnerships among academia, primary care delivery sites or systems, and community-based organizations to educate and train a workforce, including curriculum development as necessary, to provide value-based care that improves health outcomes for older adults;
2. Train geriatrics specialists, primary care providers, and health professions students, residents, fellows and faculty to assess and address the primary care needs of older adults;
3. Transform clinical training environments into integrated geriatrics and primary care systems to become age-friendly health systems that incorporate the principles of value-based care and alternative-payment models;
4. Deliver community-based programs that provide patients, families, caregivers, and direct care workers with the knowledge and skills to improve health outcomes for older adults;
5. Provide training to patients, families, caregivers, direct care workers, healthcare providers, and health professions students, residents, fellows and faculty on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD).

The NW GWEC continues to achieve its goals and objectives in the new-normal post-pandemic climate through continuing outreach and partnerships with community-based agencies, WWAMI primary care sites, and VISN 20 to deliver our activities: 1) **AAA Practicum**; 2) AAA-based **Primary Care Liaisons** linking clinic and community; 3) **Self-Management Plans**; 4) **Project ECHO–Geriatrics**; 5) **Geriatric Healthcare and ADRD Lecture Series**; 6) supporting our primary care partners to reliably provide **Age-Friendly care**; and 7) supporting curriculum development on culturally competent, age-friendly care of older adults residing in **nursing homes**. We are evaluating the impacts of our activities on practice-level outcomes in partnership with the WWAMI region Practice & Research Network (WPRN). The Center continues to expand efforts to advance diversity, equity and inclusion across all of its activities.