

Project Identifier Information:

Grant #: U1QHP33080

Project Title: Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program (Aging Maine Transformation Collaborative - AgingME)

Organization Name: University of New England

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Performance Period: July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024 (Grant Year 5)

New or Competing: New Project Title: Aging Maine Transformation Collaborative (AgingME)

Amount Requested: \$749,896

Overview: AgingME improves the health and wellbeing of Maine's older adults through training enhancements, primary care practice transformation, active engagement of older adults, improved alignment of primary care and community-based efforts in geriatrics. **Objectives** for Y5 include: **(1)** Strengthen partnerships between academia, primary care delivery sites and systems, and community-based organizations to create an age and pandemic-capable healthcare workforce. **(2)** Train geriatrics specialists, PCPs, health professions students, residents, fellows and faculty to assess and address the primary care needs of older adults. **(3)** Transform clinical training environments and primary care systems to become age-friendly health systems incorporating value-based care and alternative payment models. **(4)** Deliver community-based programs, including on COVID-19, for patients, families, caregivers and direct care workers to improve health outcomes for older adults. **(5)** Provide training to patients, families, caregivers, direct care workers, providers, health professions students, residents, fellows and faculty on Alzheimer's disease and Related Dementias (ADRD).

Partners: Academic: University of New England: (COM), Center for Excellence in Aging and Health (CEAH); University of Maine. Primary Care Sites/Delivery Systems: Sanford Family Practice (MIPs monitoring only), Full Circle Health Care, Penobscot Community Health Center, Islands Community Medical Services, Inc. and Northern Light Family Medicine Residency. 1 additional PCP sites TBD; Northern Light, MaineHealth/Maine Medical Center, Maine Seacoast Mission, and Senscio Systems; Community based: Age-Friendly Lifelong Learning Communities, Alzheimer's Association, Dementia Action Alliance, Five Area Agencies on Aging (Southern Maine, Aroostook,, Eastern, Seniors Plus, Spectrum Generations); Healthy Living for ME, Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, McArthur Public Library, York County Elder Abuse Task Force.

Trainee Types: practice-based providers, other healthcare providers, geriatrics specialists, direct care workers, health professions students, faculty, patients, families, caregivers and volunteers. **Methodology:** To achieve program objectives, AgingME will: (1) continue to capitalize on existing and new partners including the Age-Friendly Communities, Alzheimer's Association, the Area Agencies on Aging and public libraries to expand existing educational and community-based initiatives using virtual and in person platforms to better address geriatrics training for primary care practices, students, caregivers and older adults; 2) develop new and sustainable training initiatives; and (3) utilize the statewide AgingME Council to inform our work, disseminate information, increase collaboration and empower older adults. Primary Care Practices will continue to develop processes to better integrate MIPS outcomes focusing on Dementia Caregiver Education Support, Risk of Opioid Misuse, Advanced Care Planning, Use of High Risk Medication in the Elderly, and Screening for Future Fall Risk. Primary Care Practices will obtain Age Friendly Health System recognition and support ongoing telehealth visits inaugurated during the pandemic. The Maine Academy for Geriatrics Interprofessional Continuing Education program (MAGIC) mini-fellowship training in geriatrics for physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants will graduate the 3rd/final cohort of MAGIC Scholars. Geriatrics/Dementia ECHO series will continue to provide education for Maine's health professionals, faculty and students. All partners will help ensure we address the needs of older adults, including those living with dementia and their care partners by delivering programs such as Savvy Caregiver, Building Better Caregivers, Conversation Project and Healthy Brain Initiatives. AgingME includes a unique focus on including the voices of older adults, including those living with dementia, to ensure effective two-way communication and health literacy. We will participate in the New England Age-Friendly Collaborative in Support of Long-Term Care (GWEP NH Supplemental Award) as requested. **Special Populations** - Special focus on geriatrics training in rural regions to improve care for Maine's rural older adults. **Patient Outcomes** - Increased number of older adults receiving an Annual Medicare Wellness Visit, with improvements in screenings, including those for the project's MIPS measures; increased utilization of community-based resources by primary care practice sites; and, increase in the number of Maine health professionals and health professions students receiving geriatrics training. **Funding Preference** - Benefit to rural populations. The program will engage up to six sites (rural and non-rural) by the end of the five-year period.