The South Carolina Center for Gerontology is a consortium of Clemson University, Coastal Carolina University, the Medical University of South Carolina, South Carolina State University, the University of South Carolina, Winthrop University, Lander University, Department of Health and Human Services, AARP South Carolina, South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control, South Carolina State Budget & Control Board, South Carolina Hospital Association and South Carolina Silver Haired Legislature. For more information about the Center, please visit our website: http://cosw.sc.edu/research/12-research/280-south-carolina-center-for-gerontology

SPRING/SUMMER 2015
ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

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Director’s Message

Dear Colleagues,

I hope all is well with you. As we know, the link between cognitive function and well-being is well recognized. Using data from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, a recent article (Deokar et al., 2015), published in Preventing Chronic Disease, assessed individuals’ cognitive function, specifically “increased confusion or memory loss” (ICML). The study subjects were from households across 13 states, including South Carolina. Several findings especially merit our attention.

First, more than 15% of households in our state reported at least one adult experiencing ICML. In other words, an estimated 252,400 households have an adult with ICML, with the potential of affecting more than 700,000 people. The magnitude of the problem is alarming.

Second, the findings from the 13 states also highlight the relationship between household incomes and ICML. While 7% of households with annual incomes of $75,000 or more reported having at least one adult with ICML, 22% of households with annual incomes below $15,000 did so. High-income households are less affected by ICML than low-income households. Finally, cognitive decline also has safety and health implications, especially for those with ICML living in single-person households.

Since disparity in ICML is an obvious concern for social policy, services and programs that help to recognize signs and symptoms of cognitive decline should also be emphasized. Such programs and services will allow individuals and families to seek timely medical advice.

Best regards,

Rita Jing-Ann Chou, PhD, MSSW
Hartford Geriatric Social Work Faculty Scholar
Associate Professor
College of Social Work
University of South Carolina
Universal Design Workshop Series

An Invitation from Jenay M. Beer, PhD

Hello everyone,

I would like to announce an exciting workshop series on Universal Design — homes that are accessible! This is held jointly by USC SmartHOME and Kehoe Constructors, a local building company that specializes in accessible design.

Universal design is an exciting topic that has grown in popularity/interest in the past decade. The need for accessible, green, usable, tech-enabled spaces can improve the quality of life for persons with disability, older adults, children, and... well... everyone!

The workshop series is free, I hope to see you all there. It will be held in my lab here on campus (see flyer below).

Thanks much,
~Jenay

Jenay M. Beer, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Director of the Assistive Robotics and Technology Lab (ART Lab)
Associate Director of Usability for SmartHOME Research Initiative
College of Engineering & Computing, and College of Social Work
University of South Carolina
http://artlab.cse.sc.edu/
http://smarthome.cse.sc.edu/
Universal Design Workshop Series

Free event with food provided/
Facilitated by Kehoe Constructors/ Tim Kehoe

April 8th 5:30pm - 7:00pm

*What is Universal Design?* - An introduction to making homes functional and attractive, inclusive, flexible, and barrier free and visitable for everyone, everyday, at all stages of life - photos / UD planning + actual UD local results - program includes Q & A

April 15th 5:30pm - 7:00pm

*Planning Homes for Visitability / Livable Design*
- Creating lifelong homes using Universal Design, and green building practices; providing ‘a better way to live’ with spacious living, convenience and functionality, and a comfortable place to retreat, for family and friends -- program includes Q & A

USC’s Swearingen Engineering
Bldg. 315 Main St, Columbia Room 1D49

RSVP to Jenay Beer
Email: jbeer@cse.sc.edu
Phone: 803-777-7361
Online: [http://goo.gl/forms/7agL1lGGw6](http://goo.gl/forms/7agL1lGGw6)
Grants (2014)


Dye, C. (Co-I), Gimbel R. (PI). Enhancing Health Technology in the PCMH Environment to Activate Chronic Care Patients. USAMRMC/DoD. As the faculty lead for the Patient Activation Group, I will coordinate patient activation-related educational content and activities across the faculty and liaison with key Service experts. I will also serve as a member of the clinical Advisory Team. Department of Defense, $1,220,000. (4-2015 to 10-2017).

Dye, C. (Co-I), Sherrill W. (PI). Accountable Communities and Medical Neighborhoods: Accountable Community Coordinator Initiative, A Cooperative Educational and Service Project. As the training lead for the project, I will work with GHS to design and implement a training program to prepare Public Health Sciences graduates to work as Accountable Community Coordinators through CU Public Services Activities (PSA) County Extension Offices to improve health and quality of life of SC citizens and to reduce healthcare costs and unnecessary service utilization and readmissions. Duke Endowment funding to Greenville Health System (GHS) with subcontract to Clemson University. $500,000. (6-2015 to 6-2017).


Levkoff, SE. (Co-I), P Weitzman, (PI). Text Messages for Older African Minority Americans with HIV, (awarded to EHG) NIH/NIMHD SBIR Program, Phase I; 2013-2015


Levkoff, SE. (Co-I), Daniela B. Friedman (PI), Implementing Road Map Actions through New Healthy Brain Initiative Network; CDC, 2014-2019.


Owens, O. (PI). “Assessing Home Environments for Aging in Place Among Older African Americans: A Video Diary Project” The goal of this project is to assess the feasibility of using video diaries to elicit perceived barriers, facilitators, and potential solutions for aging in place among older African Americans living alone. Amount: $20,000 University of South Carolina, Office of the Provost. 05/01/15 – 05/01/16.
Presentations (2014)


Chen, H., Maxwell, J.H., Xing, L., & Levkoff, S. E. (June 18-21, 2014). Engaging Digitally Disadvantaged People, 9th World Congress of Gerontechnology Association, Taiwan, R.O.C.


Fozard, J. L., Levkoff, S.E. (June 18-21, 2014). Multiple Factors Influence Technology Acceptance by Aging and Aged Persons. 9th World Congress of Gerontechnology Association, Taiwan, R.O.C.

Hirth, V. Floor Vibration-Based Fall Detection, International Alzheimer’s Association Meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark (July 2014)

Levkoff, SE & Fozard, J. (June 18-21, 2014). Challenges To Forging Intra-University And University/Corporate Collaboration In Gerontechnology. 9th World Congress of Gerontechnology Association, Taiwan, R.O.C.


Levkoff, S. E (5-10 May 2014). Health Promotion in Chinese Aging Adults. Hefei Technology University, Hefei, China.


Levkoff, S.E. (November 5, 2014). Harnessing technology to meet the needs of dementia caregivers. All About Alzheimer’s Conference, SC AARP and Alzheimer’s Association, Columbia, SC.


Patton, M. & Stalzer, B. On September 9, 2014, from the SC Vulnerable Adult Guardian ad Litem Program at the University of South Carolina were interviewed on the U Need 2 Know Progressive Talk Radio Show on radio station 620 WGCV in Columbia, SC.

Scharf, S. Driving after a CVA at HealthSouth, Rock Hill, South Carolina (October 22, 2014).

Miller, M. Reasons White and African American Alzheimer’s Disease Caregivers Decide to Provide Care at Home or in a Nursing Home. 67th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America. Washington DC. (November 5, 2014).


Patton, M. & Stalzer, B. On September 9, 2014, from the SC Vulnerable Adult Guardian ad Litem Program at the University of South Carolina were interviewed on the U Need 2 Know Progressive Talk Radio Show on radio station 620 WGCV in Columbia, SC.


Scharf, S. Driving after a CVA at HealthSouth, Rock Hill, South Carolina (October 22, 2014).
Scharf, S. Driving after a CVA at HealthSouth, Columbia, South Carolina (November 20, 2014).


Stalzer, B. The South Carolina Vulnerable Adult Guardian ad Litem Program. Meeting of Senior Care Professionals of the Midlands, Columbia, SC. (October 16, 2014).


Publications (2014)


Agency News

The 11th Annual Aging Research Day Conference was successfully held at the Madren Conference Center of Clemson University on March 13, 2015. The theme of this year was “Stress and Aging.” Research findings presented ranged from how stress impacts on us physically and mentally to how we can reduce the effects of the stress. Below are the topics of the posters.

POSTER ABSTRACTS

Bench Science

1. Increased glutamate release in the dorsal of Parkinson’s disease
   Heather Boger, Ariana Farrand, Rebecca Gregory, Cristina Backman, Kris Helke

2. Cranberry Extract Standardized for Proanthocyanidins Alleviates β-Amyloid Peptide Toxicity in Caenorhabditis elegans Model of Alzheimer’s Hong Guo

3. Chemokine Receptor 23 Expression levels in Individuals with down syndrome and Alzheimer’s disease pathology: implications for immune stress
   Eric Hamlett, Xiuzhe Wang, Laura Columbo, M. Schultzberg, and Ann-Charlotte Granholm

4. The Effects of Probiotics Supplementation on a Health Using Caenorhabditis Aenorhabditis Elegans as a Model System
   Miranda Klees, Yuqing Dong, Min Cao

5. Elevated serum BDNF after exercise in healthy elderly volunteers
   Aurélie Ledreux, Krister Håkansson, Laura Columbo, Abdul Kadir Mohammed, Lotta Granholm

6. High-fat Diet-induced Obesity impairs spatial memory
   Catrina Sims-Robinson, Janet Boggs, and Eva L. Feldman Xiaoxia Wang and Lauren Cook

Clinical

8. Short-term Outcomes of Delirium and Outpatient Management of Delirium Developed in Hospitalized Geriatric Patients
Purva R. Choudhari, Maureen Dever-Bumba, RN, MSN, DrPH(c)

9. Fall-Risk-Increasing-Drugs and Falls in Elderly Women
John Montgomery

10. Brain Aging in South Carolina: Imaging Neurodegeneration (BASCING)
Anne Sorrell, Clifford Chan, Fatima M. Falangola, Jens Jensen, Joseph Helpern, Andreana Benitez

Social Science

11. A Dynamic, Role based Approach to Understanding Alzheimer’s Caregiver Stress and Workforce Withdrawal
Atkinson, T. Taylor, M. A. & Myers, B.

12. Effects of Thoughts and Sensory Experiences on Heart Rate Variability of Dementia Caregivers
C. Dye, C. Galligan, B. Lamont, N. Decker, H. Johnson, B. Carsten, K. Fountain, H. Karg

13. Text messages to support ART adherence in HIV+ older African Americans

14. Evaluating the Nutritional Risk of Older Adults Participating in the South Carolina Older Americans Act.
Maciel Ugalde, Katherine Cason, Cheryl Dye, Benjamin Sharp, Vivian Haley, & Lingling Zhang

15. Sustaining the Family Caregiver
Werts, Amanda A., Charles, Victoria A., Lewis, Deb S., and Miller, Angela D.

16. Community facilities and older adults’ health in China
Jingyuan Xu

Programs

17. The Office for the Study Of Aging at USC: Promoting healthy aging through program development, evaluation, education/training and research for SC Older Adults
Aaron Guest, BA; Claire Miller, BA; Sarah Pace; Gelareh Rahimi

18. Dementia Dialogues: Educating South Carolina’s Caregivers
Macie P. Smith, Ed.D; Aaron Guest, BA; Brenda Hyleman, MSW

Other Aging News/Activities

Office for the Study of Aging, USC

Brenda Hyleman, LISW-AP&CP became Director of the Office for the Study of Aging at the University of South Carolina in April 2014.

Macie Smith, Ed.D. became the Program Development & Training Manager for the Office for the Study of Aging in October 2014. Macie now oversees the widely successful Dementia Dialogues program.

Over 21,000 individuals have now been trained through the Dementia Dialogues program. As of March 9, 2015 the South Carolina Vulnerable Adult Guardian ad Litem Volunteer Program (SCVAGAL) has provided a Guardian ad Litem (GAL) on 504 vulnerable adult cases.
S.C. Aging in Place Coalition Transitions to National Aging in Place Greater Charleston Chapter

CHARLESTON, S.C. – To better serve the community and help individuals find the resources to age in place, the South Carolina Aging in Place Coalition has become a Chapter of the National Aging in Place Council. The Greater Charleston Chapter is a nonprofit organization supporting people as they prepare to age in place independently, comfortably and safely. Its initiatives include community education, employment, housing, outreach and transportation.

Charleston is one of 15 chapters around the nation and the only one in South Carolina. The chapter has more than 55 local members representing senior services in the areas of healthy living, financial and legal services, livable residences, supportive relationships and transportation. Chapter members pay national and local dues and undergo a criminal background check as part of the membership application process.

Barbara Franklin, Chairwoman of the Chapter, said that an advantage of this transition is that the public can turn to chapter members knowing they are a vetted group of providers. “Our members are committed to serving the aging population in Charleston and their families,” said Franklin. “With the backing of a national organization like the National Aging in Place Council, we can learn from the best aging in place practices and will have more resources and information we can share with the Charleston community”.

In addition to establishing local chapters around the country, the National Aging in Place Council advocates for policies, regulations and business practices that promote Aging in Place and also promotes National Aging in Place Week each October.

To learn more visit www.ageinplace.org.

About the Greater Charleston Chapter of the National Aging in Place Council

Founded in 2003 as the SC Aging in Place Coalition, the Greater Charleston Chapter of the National Aging in Place Council is a nonprofit organization comprised of businesses and organizations that support people as they prepare to remain in their chosen residence – independently, comfortably and safely.

For more information, contact:
Holly Fisher, H.A.F. Creative
843-991-1689
holly@hafcreative.com

BG TIME (which stands for Bridging Generations through Technology, Information, Media, and Engagement) is an online community forum specially designed for senior citizens in South Carolina. BG TIME’s mission is to bridge ethnic, economic, and generational lines to raise digital literacy among seniors, enhancing their participation in civic dialogue. To view stories contributed by seniors, visit BGTIME.org. If you would like to contribute a story of your own to share with others on the forum, please email it to bgtime@scstatehouse.gov.

http://ltgov.sc.gov/Programs/Pages/BGTIME.aspx

http://ltgov.sc.gov/Programs/Pages/SouthCarolinaCentenarianSociety.aspx
South Carolina Centenarian Society

The South Carolina Centenarian Society honors South Carolinians who are 100 years of age or older. If you know of a centenarian in your community who you would like to recognize, please fill out the form linked here: [South Carolina Centenarian Society Form](#).

After printing, mail your completed form to:
Office of the Lieutenant Governor
Attention: South Carolina Centenarian Society
Post Office Box 142
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

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**Volunteers Needed**

Richland Library Program for Elderly Homebound Customers

Dear Readers,

I coordinate the volunteer program at the Richland Library and wanted you to know of one of our outreach programs that serves homebound elderly customers. I thought some of your students who were interested in working with the elderly or in the field of gerontology might like to serve as one of the program volunteers. We believe that everyone should have access to materials for reading, whether for information or entertainment. Some of our elderly (60 and over) customers have barriers that prevent them from coming to one of our library locations. The Books to You program staff and volunteers deliver books to our homebound customers at their personal residence or residential facility. The books are personally selected by our staff based on a customer list or customer preferences and then picked up at either Main Library or one of our branch locations. The volunteer or staff member picks up the selected titles, delivers the books, engages with the customer and then bring back any items that need to be returned to the library. Currently, we deliver books to over 200 customers in the Books to You program. Our volunteers usually spend about 3 hours per month performing this service (it is a once a month visit) and we do require a one year commitment. The volunteers do drive their personal vehicle and some lifting is involved.

We are seeking additional volunteers, if any of your students would like to participate in this program. If you know of another university contact that might be interested in this information, please feel free to forward the information to them. I would be happy to speak with any students who would like additional information.

Thanks very much.

Cathy H. Dolan
Volunteer Coordinator | Richland Library
1431 Assembly Street. | Columbia, SC 29201
(p) 803-929-3436
cdolan@richlandlibrary.com
Access Freely at www.richlandlibrary.com
We are excited to present this electronic Spring/Summer 2015 issue of the Aging Matters Newsletter. We welcome your suggestions and comments. If you wish to submit aging related items for future issues please e-mail them to Dr. Rita J. Chou at rjchou@sc.edu.

Aging Matters, the newsletter of the South Carolina Center for Gerontology, College of Social Work, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208

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New Subscribers Wanted

If you think someone else may be interested in receiving this electronic newsletter, please ask him or her to email: Dr. Rita J. Chou rjchou@sc.edu, with his/her full name, occupation/position, and name of organization/agency/business. Thank you.