

# Initiatives to Fund the Healthcare Workforce We Need as We Age:

ADVOCATING  
TEAM CARE  
FOR OLDER  
ADULTS



Eldercare  
Workforce  
Alliance

## Support the Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program and Geriatrics Academic Career Award

Administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP) and the Geriatrics Academic Career Award (GACA) Program are both critical to the care of older adults in our community.

### Why They Matter

#### GWEPs



- Only federal program designed to increase the number of providers across disciplines with skills to care for us all as we age.
- Educate & engage broader frontline workforce, including caregiving workforce and family caregivers.
- Focus on opportunities to improve the quality of care delivered to older adults, particularly in underserved and rural areas.

#### GACAs



- Ensure we can equip early-career clinician-educators to become leaders in geriatrics education and research.
- Only federal program intended to increase the number of faculty with geriatrics expertise in a variety of disciplines.
- Supports developing leaders for health care transformation across settings including rural, medically underserved, age-friendly settings that provide interprofessional training.

The supply of geriatricians is projected to decrease modestly between 2018 and 2030 but demand will grow more steeply, a 50% increase in demand.

### What We Need

#### FUND!



We urge you to support an appropriation of \$82 million for the Title VII geriatrics education and training programs in the FY 2024 Labor-HHS Appropriations Bill.

Additional funding would allow:

- 80 GWEPs at \$950,000 per program, enabling every state to have a GWEP and ensure that more rural and underserved areas of the country can have access to geriatrics training and expertise.
- 60 GACAs at \$100,000 per award, ensuring we have a larger and more geographically diverse pipeline of geriatrics research and training expertise with the incentives and resources needed to grow the field.

Please ensure these programs are adequately funded.

#### IMPACT!



In Academic Year 2020- 2021,

GWEP awardee sites:

- Provided training for 69,518 students and fellows
- 52% were located in medically underserved communities.
- 29% were located in rural areas.
- 63% offered COVID-19 related services.
- 61% offered telehealth services.
- 30% provided integrated behavioral health services in a primary care setting.

GACA awardees:

- 96% received training in setting that offered telehealth.
- 40% received training in opioid use treatment.
- 68% of faculty received COVID-19 related training
- 56% received training on health equity, social determinants of health.