Securing The Future Workforce – Certifying Direct Care Workers in Long-Term Care

Purpose
A “perfect storm” is brewing in the elder care industry: a shortage of direct care workers, nurses, and family caregivers; and an elderly population reaching significant numbers by 2030. This storm is beginning to impact delivery of long-term healthcare services.

OSU CARES grant for 2016 will fund the development of an Elder Care Certification, creating a curriculum for entry-level staff including topics in gerontology as well as soft skills required for quality, elder-centered care.

Impact
Improve the quality of care for current and future elders in Ohio by certifying direct care workers in long-term services and supports organizations.

Engage the hearts and minds of entry-level elder care staff, such as housekeepers, food servers, and laundry workers; upgrade their image and professionalism; and provide a career pathway with the Elder Care Certification.

Reduce turnover rates and thus improve economic impact of the long-term services and supports industry in Ohio.

Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved
Alber Enterprise Center
Wexner Medical Center - Office of Geriatrics and Gerontology
College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences
Extension - Family and Consumer Sciences
Extension - Program Development and Evaluation
College of Education and Human Ecology - Center on Education and Training for Employment

Community Partners Involved
LeadingAge Ohio
United Church Homes
National Church Residences
Ohio Eastern Star Home
Ohio Presbyterian Retirement Services

How you can get involved:
• Provide peer review of Elder Care Certification curriculum

To get involved, contact:
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