

# 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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