

SESSION 1

Workshop

The Age-Friendly Movement in Ohio: From Model to Momentum to Metamorphosis

Presenters: **Ann Garrison Whelpton**, **Jessie Leek**, Oxford VillAGE Network/Age-Friendly Oxford, **Abby Crisp**, Delaware General Health District, **Mary McNamara**, Cleveland Dept. of Aging/Age-Friendly Cleveland, **Taylor Stucket**, **Stephen Crouch**, Clinton County Regional Planning Commission

In 2012, AARP became the United States affiliate of the World Health Organization's Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. This program encourages communities to pay increased attention to the environmental, economic and social factors that influence the health and well-being of older adults. Since 2012, the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities has grown rapidly. According to AARP, more than 75 million people now live in a town, city, county or state that has enrolled in the network. In this session, we will hear and learn from four distinctly different Ohio communities: a large city, a mostly rural county, a rapidly-growing mostly suburban county, and a small town with a large college-age population. While all four communities are members of AARP's Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities, each is in a different stage of Age-Friendly development and each has its own approach to community change.

Symposium

Promising Strategies to Address Elder Abuse: The Ohio Attorney General's Elder Abuse Commission

Presenters: **Amy Restorick Roberts**, Miami University, **Sylvia Pla-Raith**, Ohio Attorney General's Office, **Kenneth Steinman**, Ohio State University

This symposium will highlight Ohio's strategy to address the prevalence, risk factors, and consequences of elder abuse and neglect. First, Ms. Sylvia Pla-Raith, the lead staff member of the Ohio Attorney General's Elder Abuse Commission and the director of the Elder Justice Initiative, will share information on the mission and duties of the Commission. Additionally, she will discuss advocacy efforts such as the Ohio Elder Justice Initiative to identify, investigate and prosecute elder abuse cases; improve services for victims; and raise awareness about abuse. Next, Dr. Steinman will explain the goals of the Research Committee of the Commission, and how they complement the Commission's other working committees of Direct Services, Education, and Policy. He will also share findings from the Research Committee's first statewide survey on elder abuse research priorities. Completed by frontline practitioners, program administrators, advocates, researchers, and policy makers, the survey received 459 responses from individuals across the state. Findings reflect gaps in the elder abuse literature, as respondents prioritized funding for research in how elder abuse can be prevented, and what programs/policies can best serve victims and their families after elder abuse has begun. In conclusion, Dr. Roberts will moderate a question and answer session.

Workshop

Engaging Students with Community to Decrease Ageism

Presenter: **Laura Landry Meyer**, Bowling Green State University

Purpose Statement: Geared toward educators and community-based practitioners, session will explore active learning and community engagement to decrease ageism. Objectives: Participants in this workshop will be able to:

- Define active learning and community engagement practices
- Recognize opportunities for active, engaged learning to decrease ageism
- Examine community-based best practices for higher education and community partners

Description: This presentation focuses on educators and practitioners who want to collaborate and explore partnerships to decrease ageism. Using active learning strategies combined with community engagement practices, participants will gain insight (and hopefully inspiration) to reach beyond the ivory towers of campus into communities. Specific information about mutual benefit, civic learning outcomes and best-practice examples are discussed. Resources and examples about how-to initiate or enhance active learning and community engagement are shared to help participants brainstorm action steps.

Paper Session | Data- informed Care

Polypharmacy in the US Among Older Adults Aged 65 and Above: Does Intrinsic Religiosity Play A Role?

Presenter: **Lunya Lin Ducay**, Miami University

Objective: Drawing inspiration from the Blue Zone study of Seventh-day Adventists (Buetner, 2005) which showed that religiosity positively impacts health outcomes and from Charlemagne-Badal and Lee's (2016) study of intrinsic religiosity and hypertension which reported that intrinsic religiosity, distinct from the healthy Adventist lifestyle, can significantly

reduce hypertension risk, the purpose of this investigation is to examine the relationship between intrinsic religiosity and polypharmacy. Design and Methods: Data are from the 2016 National Health and Aging Trends Study. The analytic sample included 1015 respondents ≥ 65 years of age. Intrinsic religiosity is defined as the importance of attending religious services. Polypharmacy is defined as the concurrent use of multiple medications. Using multivariable linear regression, polypharmacy was regressed on intrinsic religiosity while controlling for demographic, lifestyle, physical health, and social support factors, depression symptoms and BMI. Results: After controlling for the other variables in the model, intrinsic religiosity did not have any effect on polypharmacy. Implications: Further studies may consider using a standardized measurement scale for intrinsic religiosity, the participant's religious affiliation and lifestyle factors, geographic location and access to health services to better assess the relationship between the main variables. Nationally representative, longitudinal studies among different population subgroups is imperative.

Effects of an Enhanced Nutrition Education Program on Outcomes of Older Adults Receiving Acute Rehabilitation

Presenter: **Kaitlyn Daff**, Youngstown State University

The health risks of malnutrition on outcomes of older adults are well documented in the literature. Interventions to treat or prevent adult malnutrition are of high importance in the health of older adults. The aim of the current study is to examine how an enhanced nutrition education program (ENE) affects nutrition-related outcomes in a group of older adults patients admitted to an acute rehabilitation unit compared to a similar cohort of routine-care (non-ENE) older adult rehabilitation patients. Using a

retrospective study design with prospectively collected data, proposed outcomes will center around improvement in malnutrition indicators including oral intake, weight status, presence of physical fat and muscle wasting, physical functionality and differences between ENE and non-ENE groups post-admission. Attendees will be able to name current malnutrition criteria and clinical indicators as well as identify important nutrition-related education topics pertinent to the health of older adult rehabilitation patients.

Factors Associated with Memory Problems Among Adults Aged 50 and Up: NHANES 2015-2016

Presenters: **Hairui Yu, Jennifer Perion**, University of Toledo

Memory problems have been recognized as a potential precursor of Alzheimer's disease. The risk and predictive factors of early development of memory problems have not been well investigated. This study utilized secondary data analysis to identify factors that predict the development of memory problems. Data were retrieved from the 2015-2016 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) data set and the weighting factor was applied. The sample was limited to participants 50 years and older, resulting in n=2,824. Participants were fairly equal in gender female (n=1,427), and primarily Non- Hispanic White (n=1,031). A series of 30 related variables were selected to predict the experience of memory problems and analyzed by bivariate logistic and stepwise multiple logistic regression analysis. The results revealed seven significant risk factors for memory problems: serious difficulty concentrating (OR=28.6; 95% CI=28.51-28.61), less than high school education (OR=2.01; 95% CI=2.01-2.02), previous stroke (OR=1.9; 95% CI=1.84-1.90), perceived general health condition not good (OR=1.5; 95% CI=1.52-1.52), high blood pressure (OR=1.4; 95%

CI=1.39-1.40), little interest in doing things (OR=2.01; 95% CI=2.01-2.02), and overweight (OR=1.28; 95% CI=1.27-1.28). Future studies should consider comparisons between different NHANES collection years and trends in long terms and yield more detail about the risk factors of memory problems.

Understanding Characteristics and Perceptions of Oral Health in Older Adults

Presenters: **Jenna Kudley, Faheem Mir, Courtney Reynolds**, Benjamin Rose Institute

Poor oral health and oral health disparities are increasingly being linked to poor overall physical health and chronic diseases. A survey was conducted with senior center participants to examine perceived oral health, focusing on dental hygiene habits, access to dental care, physical and emotional health, and lifestyle behaviors. A cross-sectional study design was used. Interviews were conducted with attendees at four senior centers in low-income neighborhoods. Among the 122 respondents, 72% were female, 71% reported living alone, nearly 85% had lost four or more teeth, and over 50% wore full or partial dentures. Understanding oral health problems can help practitioners address barriers to improved oral health by linking older adults with senior transportation services to go to a dentist, providing education on the importance of oral health care, and partnering with community dentistry programs

Paper Session | Navigating Later Life Systems & Structures

Ohio's Public Employment Pension Systems

Presenter: **Angela Curl**, Miami University

Study Purpose: The purpose of this study is to examine how these policies are similar and

different in terms of eligibility requirements for retirement. Objectives: After viewing this presentation, attendees will be able to describe how policies compare for the five pension systems. Attendees will also be able to identify potential areas of growth and opportunities within public sector employment. Methodology: Ohio has 793,700 government employees, covered under one of 5 pension systems: Public Employees Retirement System, State Teachers Retirement System (STRS), Schools Employees Retirement System (non- teachers), Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund and the Highway Patrol Retirement System. Using secondary, administrative data from Ohio's public records, information about the pension systems is summarized. Results: Pension benefits are most generous (i.e., fewest years of contribution, youngest age) for Law Enforcement employees, and least generous for those in the STRS pension system. Discussion: Retirement of Baby Boomers is expected to create new challenges and opportunities related to recruitment and retention of older workers. Policy makers should carefully consider whether pension systems act as an incentive for continued employment or to promote retirement.

***Mid- and Later-Life Students in Ohio
Community Colleges: "We're out there. We're vital. We can do things."***

Presenters: **Annabelle Arbogast, Phyllis Cummins**, Miami University, **Peter Bahr**, University of Michigan

Background: Mid- and later-life (MLL) workers represent a substantial segment of the labor force in the U.S., with adults ages 40 to 64 years accounting for nearly half of all workers. Older adults, especially those with limited education, face significant disadvantages in remaining competitive in the labor market or even in the workforce at all. For these older adults, community colleges (CCs) are an important

vehicle to improved employment prospects and life chances. Study purpose: Map barriers to CC completion among older learners (40+) and identify factors that, when targeted, would improve education and employment outcomes. Objectives: Investigate experiences of MLL CC students, barriers to success, and unmet needs; identify programs that promote recruitment, success, and job placement; and propose interventions. Methods: Analyzed existing quantitative data and gathered qualitative data from all 23 Ohio CCs (62 key informant interviews), with a particular qualitative focus on three CCs selected for a range of size and geography (15 focus groups; ethnographic site visits). Findings: Identified student, classroom/instructor, and institution level barriers exacerbated by insufficient attention to functional health, age identity, and life stage distinctions across the "adult learner" spectrum. We offer a gerontological lens for addressing MLL student barriers.

Consent in the Eye of the Beholder: Variation in Definitions of Sexual Consent Among Older Adults

Presenters: **Allyson Graf, Viviane Johnson**, Northern Kentucky University

Sexual violence occurs at any age (National Sexual Violence Resource Center, 2014), yet discussions and education pertaining to consent typically target young people. Safe sexual expression and well-being are important components of life, regardless of age. Within research and senior housing communities, sexual consent is only studied in relation to capacity to consent among older adults with cognitive impairments (Hillman, 2016; Syme & Steele, 2016). To improve the likelihood that sexual relationships occurring in late life are consensual, we must understand how sexual

consent is conceptualized among older adults and what, if any, deficiencies can be addressed through education. In the current survey of 200 participants between the ages of 46-99 years (60.9% female), more than half (60%) supplied incomplete definitions of sexual consent. Despite missing key aspects of the definition, many participants supplemented their definitions with common themes including explicit/implicit communication, capability, and absence of coercion. Additionally, attitudes about the appropriateness of giving and receiving consent differed significantly ($p = .003$) between those with accurate and inaccurate definitions. Suggestions will be provided for systematically addressing sexual consent concerns in older populations. For researchers, the question remains whether holding non-uniform definitions of sexual consent influences navigation of sexual relationships.

An Assessment of Accessible Design Principles for Website Use Among Older Adults

Presenter: **Kennedy Griggs**, Ohio University

In a world that is constantly becoming more technologically advanced, older adults must adapt to the rapidly changing state of the internet in order to get access to resources that they need. Oftentimes, websites that target older adults are not designed appropriately with respect to their potential limited functional abilities. Thus, this may cause older adults to stay offline and not gain access to resources that they might require. The “United Seniors of Athens” (USA) website serves the rural community of Athens County, and the webmaster indicated that the website needs to be more user-friendly and informative for their select audience. This presentation provides an

overview of the processes employed to create a more effective website for older community members. This includes a thorough literature review on accessible webpage design, an assessment of the website’s current design, and interviews with local older adults that are both involved and not involved with USA. The final product includes a website template based on the aggregated findings of both the literature and community research. By incorporating universal design principles and community input, it is hypothesized that the USA website will receive considerably more online traffic that will result in better community engagement.

Association Among Volunteering and Psychological Well-Being in Older Adults in the United States

Presenter: **Bandana Shah**, Miami University

Volunteering is common and older adults (65 years and above) experiences higher psychological well-being compared to younger adults (20-64 years). This study aims to determine psychological well-being among different age groups of US adults: young-old (65-74 years), old-old (75-84 years), and oldest-old (>85 years). It has wide coverage of emotional well-being of volunteers under dimensions of positive effects (cheerful, full of life), and negative effects (bored, upset). National Health and Aging Trends Study (NHATS) is a nationally representative of Medicare beneficiaries 65 years and above in the United States were examined in the study. Linear regression using SAS vs 9.4 examined volunteering as a predictor of psychological well-being. The overall model explained 13.72% of the variance in psychological well-being ($p < 0.0001$). The results shows that compared to non-volunteers psychological well-being among volunteers are 0.58 higher ($p < 0.0001$), after controlling for race, gender, age, education, income, overall health condition, health or

functioning that keep away from doing volunteering, total number of children, and total number in household. Additionally, compared to old-old, psychological well-being are low among oldest-old adults and marginally significant ($\beta = -0.16, p = 0.07$), after controlling for other variables.

SESSION 2

Workshop

The New Ohio Population Website: Visualizing Ohio's Aging Population

Presenters: **Nader Mehri, Traci Wilson, Ian "Matt" Nelson**, Miami University

The Scripps Gerontology Center researches aging and disability-related population trends in Ohio to inform planning, policy, and economic development at the state and county level. This workshop will introduce participants to the updated Ohio-Population.org website, featuring a new interactive data center, projections and characteristics of the older adult population, state and county-level reports, maps and data downloads, and more. Workshop facilitators will give an overview of demographic changes taking place in Ohio compared to the US in general, with an emphasis on older adults and adults with disabilities. They will demonstrate the interactive data center, discuss methodologies and data sources, and answer questions. By the end of this workshop, participants will:

- Understand population aging trends in Ohio, including projections through 2050
- Utilize the interactive data center to answer their own research questions
- Learn about new directions in the measurement of disability and difficulty

- Know how to access information and visualizations to support research, policy development, and planning

Symposia

Emotions Across the Lifespan

Presenters: **Jennifer Tehan Stanley, Britney Webster, Anthony Villalba**, University of Akron

This symposium will present results from three studies investigating age differences in emotional processing. In the first study, we investigated whether blocking the ability to make facial expressions by holding a pen in the mouth would differentially affect young and older adults' judgments of emotional stimuli. Ninety young (18-30 years) and 90 older adults (60-80 years) participated. Consistent with the idea that there are weakened links between mind and body with age, young adults were worse at classifying faces and words as emotional (vs. not emotional) in the pen condition than the control condition, but older adults' accuracy was not affected by the pen. The second study investigated age differences in interpersonal emotion regulation. The narratives from 50 young adults, 44 middle-aged adults, and 51 older adults were coded, revealing qualitative differences in the types of situations that elicit interpersonal emotion regulation. The third study investigated whether emotion perception accuracy of 24 older adults ($M_{age} = 69$ years, $SD = 5.96$) could be improved by increasing the display time for each trial to 5 seconds. Compared to the traditional, self-paced emotion perception task, older adults performed better in this extended display-time task, perhaps because it encouraged more deliberate processing.

Guardian Visitation Program

Presenter: **Judge Robert N. Rusu**, Mahoning County Probate Court

The Mahoning County Probate Court has operated a Guardian Visitation Program for the past 5 years. This program is a partnership with the Gerontology program at Youngstown State University and the Mahoning County Sheriff's Department Senior Service Unit. The Program is part of a larger effort by the Probate Court to connect with and protect vulnerable older adults in Mahoning County. The Probate Court has made it a goal to work with partners including the Area Agency on Aging, Compass Family Services, and MAPAN. The presentation will discuss the legal background, reporting requirements, and how Mahoning County has been able to partner with Youngstown State University's gerontology program to create a learning experience for senior students. The current presentation will encompass multiple examples of partnerships, their impact, and how others may be able to adapt and implement these programs in their own counties

A Holistic Approach to Successful Aging: Current Limitations and Future Directions

Presenters: **Lucas Hamilton**, Cleveland State University, **Jennifer Sublett**, **Michale Vale**, University of Akron

Over the course of the last 40 years several successful aging theories have been proposed, argued, and critiqued. However, several limitations regarding the underlying assumptions about aging and related methodological shortcomings have not received extensive attention within the literature. The following symposium will provide a review and discussion of successful aging models along with challenging current assumptions and proposing new indicators of successful aging. The first presentation will provide an overview of successful aging including initial conceptual

models, empirical evidence, and current limitations. Key issues include the role of individual differences and whether successful aging is an outcome or a process. The second presentation will discuss the important role of individual's subjective experience and how this impacts objective indicators of successful aging. Key issues include the role of self-perception, appraisal and coping, and contextual/environmental factors. The third presentation will focus on key indicators that should be included in conceptual models of successful aging. Key issues include the inclusion of both objective and subjective indicators of health and well-being, individual-based goals and mastery, and the role of health influences and health disparities. The discussant for the symposium will provide further analyses and reaction along with thoughts pertaining to future directions.

Symposium

Evaluating the Implementation of a Person-Centered Communication Tool

Presenters: **Katy Abbott**, **Abigail Hermes**, **Da Jung Chang**, **Chelsea Goldstein**, **Shamatree Shakya**, **Heshuo Yu**, **Emily Mueller**, **Alexandra Heppner**, **Nytasia Hicks**, **Sarina Poth**, Miami University

This symposium describes the implementation of a novel person-centered care (PCC) communication tool in nursing homes (NH). PCC is a philosophy that recognizes "knowing the person" and honoring individual preferences. The communication tool is based on an assessment of NH resident likes and dislikes via the Preferences for Everyday Living Inventory (PELI). The PELI is an evidenced-based, validated instrument that can be used to enhance the delivery of PCC. In 2016, the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) mandated NHs

use the PELI as one of the factors that determine the quality portion of their daily Medicaid reimbursement rate. The Preferences for Activity and Leisure (PAL) Card was developed to communicate important resident preferences across care team members. In 2018, the PAL Card Project was approved by the Ohio Department of Aging as a Quality Improvement Project. The first presentation will describe the implementation of PAL Cards with n=43 NH providers. The second presentation will present data regarding the acceptability, feasibility, and appropriateness of the communication tool as rated by providers. The final presentation explores provider qualitative responses regarding the characteristics of the PAL Card communication tool related to effective implementation.

SESSION 3

Workshops

Developing a Geriatric Case Manager Program: An Integrative Workshop

Presenter: **Tiffany Hughes**, Youngstown State University

Geriatric case managers provide an essential function connecting older adults to resources and services in their community. The growing number of older adults necessitates a greater number of highly qualified case managers who have a good working knowledge and understanding of issues related to the older adult population. The Education Committee of the Ohio Association for Gerontology and Education (OAGE) proposes to develop a geriatric case manager training program to increase knowledge and skills in gerontology for all case managers. The objectives of this workshop are to discuss:

(1) module topics to include in the training program; (2) platforms for disseminating the training modules; (3) methods of credentialing the training program; and (4) strategies to engage important stakeholders. The workshop will engage the audience through small group discussions and “Poll Everywhere” live interactive polling using text messaging to capture and display responses. These results will provide important feedback to the OAGE Education Committee in developing a training program to enhance the training of geriatric case managers in the state of Ohio.

How to Eat the Social Security Elephant-- One Bite at a Time

Presenter: **Linda Barrett**, DiverseAGE

Social Security is the single largest federal budget item in the United States and represents over one third of annual mandatory spending. The Fiscal Year 2019 budget estimates show it will cost \$1.046 trillion (out of the \$4.4 trillion) to deliver benefits to over 60 million beneficiaries. The general public is often unaware of, uninterested in, or misunderstands program basics and their importance in providing intergenerational and economic stability. Ongoing Gallup polls indicate most Americans do not believe Social Security will be there when they need it. Many younger people believe it is only for retirement. Since Social Security may not be the “sexiest” or fun topic to discuss, how do educators and practitioners foster an engaging discussion? It is critical to develop innovative teaching practices addressing Social Security’s economic and social importance. In this workshop, the following objectives will be met. Objective 1: Participants will receive valuable information about Social Security’s history, intergenerational component, economic impact, and current solvency and reform options. Objective 2: Participants will come away with knowledge about innovative classroom teaching

techniques. Objective 3: Participants will receive a “Toolkit” including lesson plans, factsheets, and websites related to Social Security education.

Symposium

Exploring the Impacts of Emotional Eating, Food Insecurity, and Life Events on Eating Behaviors among Older Adults in Northwest Ohio

Presenters: **Tasha Ford, Kerri Knippen, HeeSoon Lee**, Bowling Green State University

Food insecurity, life events, and emotional eating can negatively impact quality of life and dietary patterns, however, their interaction among older adults requires further investigation. This mixed method, interdisciplinary project included 7 focus groups and cross-sectional survey (n = 55) to evaluate these factors among older adults (60-102 years of age) living in rural Northwest Ohio communities. Qualitative themes highlighted the importance of life events, personal relationships, non-hunger cues, food insecurity and learning how to do more with less, and generational differences in food choice. The majority (80%) of participants were overweight or obese. Emotional eating was associated with food insecurity ($r_s = .27, p < .05$). Increased age ($r_s = -.29, p < .05$) and frequency of congregate meals correlated with reduced emotional eating score ($r_s = -.27, p < .05$). Attributes of diet quality correlated with emotional eating and food insecurity as well. The purpose of this presentation is to describe participant experiences across the lifespan as a guide for building frameworks to improve health and dietary quality of older adults. Objectives: Participants will be able to identify patterns of emotional eating while evaluating the intersectionality of life events, food insecurity, and generational differences on food choice.

Paper Session | Aging & Othering

Give Back, Go Forward: A New Model for Engaging Students with Community-Dwelling Elders

Presenters: **Allison King, Christine Raber, Sarah Boehle**, Shawnee State University

Opportunities to connect community-dwelling older adults and undergraduate students can be challenging to coordinate and implement. The Give Back, Go Forward (GBGF) program allows students the opportunity to “give back” to their communities by volunteering with elders at least 100 hours per academic year. In exchange, students earn a three-credit hour tuition voucher from their institution. GBGF’s overall aim for older adults is increased health outcomes and improved ability to remain living independently. For undergraduate students, GBGF offers positive elder interactions, with the aim of increasing awareness of careers in gerontology. Partners include SSU, the ODA, AAA District 7, the OSU Extension staff, and the Portsmouth Metropolitan Housing Authority. During year one, GBGF students from four SSU degree programs (health care administration, nursing, occupational therapy associate and bachelor’s 3+2) provided nearly 600 volunteer hours with elders living in two senior apartment complexes. Volunteers conducted a variety of social and health promotion activities, including a smoking cessation event, and an AARP Walk Audit to assess walkability to campus. Weekend meals on campus and delivery of evidence-based programs, such as Eat Smart, Live Strong, are planned for this year. The presentation describes the development, implementation, and ongoing evaluation of the GBGF program.

Understanding the Factors that Contribute to College Students' Ageist Attitudes and Willingness to Work with Elders in a Future Profession.

Presenter: **Kathy Snider-Buchanan**, Kent State University

Purpose: Most people assume that older people are given respect due to their advanced years, but many elders reported experiencing ageist discrimination. This study attempts to understand what affects college students' attitudes toward older adults and their desire to work in the aging fields. Methods: The author conducted a literature review by using electronic databases including, EBSCOhost Research Database, Ageline, SocINDEX, and PsycINFO with full-text to identify studies published between 2007 and 2017. Results: This review identified that current college students obtained negative attitudes toward elders due to the lack of intergenerational contact and knowledge of aging. Studies also showed that students who had a higher level of death anxiety were less likely to report a future likelihood of working with older adults, whereas students with a higher level of aging anxiety were more likely to indicate their likelihood to work with older adults. Implications: We are facing labor force shortages in the aging services field and desperately need more college students to be interested in working with older adults. The results of this study may shed new light on students' engagement in health behaviors and motivation to work with the elderly, thereby suggesting avenues for further education or intervention.

What Aging Means Today: Using Drawing as a Teaching Tool to Explore Undergraduates' Perceptions of Aging and Their Own Aging

Presenter: **Chih-ling Liou**, Kent State University

Researchers have shown that a drawing activity is a useful way to detect students' attitudes and stimulate discussion on age-related subjects. This study adopted a drawing activity to investigate 105 college students' attitudes towards aging in general compared to notions of their aging self. Results highlighted two double standards. First, undergraduate students in the present study perceived aging in general or older people as "the other" who do not age successfully, while constructing a successful ideal regarding their own aging or future selves. If the current generation of college students in deed does view older people as somehow 'different' from themselves, it is then possible that they will distance themselves from older people or treat them less favorably. A second finding revealed gender difference regarding the image of later life. Specifically, college students in this study perceived older women more negatively and facing more physical challenges of aging while at the same time positively viewed older women as having more support from family and social relationships. Implications of current study focus on ways faculty can alter college students' biases along with enhancing students' interests in working in the field of aging.

Breaking Down Ageism: Social Barriers and Steps Toward Achieving a Third Demographic Dividend

Presenter: **Sara Stemen**, Miami University

The modernization of societies has resulted in "the demographic transition", a series of stages marked by shifts from agrarian economies, accompanied by high fertility and mortality rates, to industrialized economies with falling fertility and mortality rates due to changes in public health and sociocultural values. The demographic transition has resulted in two demographic dividends or benefits from an aging population. The first occurs when previously high rates of fertility pair with decreased mortality

rates, creates a large ratio of working aged individuals to non-working aged individuals. The second is marked by individuals surviving into old age with accumulated wealth. Recently, gerontologists have explored the possibility of achieving a third demographic dividend whereby disease prevention and increased roles for older persons will lead to better health and continued societal contributions in old age. Missing from discussions around demographic dividends, however, has been the impact of ageism. This presentation will highlight an original conceptual model illustrating how ageism moderates the relationship between investments and the third demographic dividend. Additionally, resources for combating ageism will be discussed. Learning objectives include the ability to: define ageism, describe how ageism impacts the attainment of a third demographic dividend, and identify resources which combat ageism.

A Pilot Intergenerational Program for Youth, University Students, and Long-Term Care Residents

Presenters: **Jessica Krok-Schoen, Jill Clutter**, Ohio State University, **Lauren Feyh**, Worthington Christian Village

Background: Intergenerational (IG) activities aim to improve interactions and communication between different ages throughout shared experiences. Methods: In the summer of 2018, an IG program, utilizing evidence-based IG activities, was tested for feasibility and acceptability among assisted living and nursing home residents, children from pre-K to 4th grade, and Ohio State University students. The weekly 45-minute IG programming consisted of evidence-based activities including physical activity, games, music, crafts, and food. This ongoing program is collecting attendance, participant feedback, observations of child-resident interactions, pre-post measures from the children regarding perceptions of older

adults, and pre-post measures from the long-term care residents regarding their self-rated health, depressive symptoms, and perceptions of resident-youth interactions. Results: Results were positive for this pilot program. Both the children (n=30) and the residents (n=16) repeatedly expressed excitement about the IG program and regularly interacted during the IG program (e.g., eye contact, talking). No significant pre-post differences were found in self-rated health, however, results indicated a decrease in feeling dependent on others among the residents (60% at baseline vs 33.3% at follow-up, p=0.08). Improvements on the children's description and depiction of older adults was observed. Conclusion: These findings suggest the IG program was successful, especially among the children.

Symposium

Court-Monitoring Programs in Adult Guardianship: Two Models to Improve Oversight and Reduce Elder Abuse and Neglect

Presenters: **Amy Roberts, Amy Daily**, Miami University, **Rebecca DeLong**, Butler County Probate Court, **Christi Middleton**, Stark County Court, **Caitlin Patrick, Hon. Dixilene Park**, Stark County Probate Court

Adult guardianship is an integral part of caring for our communities' most vulnerable individuals. As local probate courts develop initiatives to support their guardianship programs, many challenges arise due to lack of funding. To improve guardianship care in the context of limited resources, courts are developing innovative monitoring programs to ensure the care and well-being of persons under guardianship. This symposium will highlight two innovative guardianship-monitoring programs

aiming to prevent and detect maltreatment. First, the Butler County Connections Program, in southwest Ohio, is a staff monitoring program where a court investigator personally meets with every person under guardianship in the county. Second, the Stark County Court Angel Program, in northeast Ohio, is a monitoring program that utilizes volunteers and staff to complete in-home visits of persons under guardianship and guardians. After the visit, court staff review reports of the volunteers' observations. Findings from a program evaluation of the Stark County Court Angel program identify key aspects of the program, underscore the value of the program, and describe volunteer motivations for getting involved. Experts from these programs and researchers will share recommendations for guardianship-monitoring programs for communities interested in increasing the oversight and support for guardianship.

SESSION 4

Workshop

Brukel - A "Gaminiscing" Case Study

Presenter: **Bob De Schutter**, Miami University

Brukel is an award-winning game development project that recreated the stories of a reminiscing elderly female World War 2 survivor as an interactive game. The game has an educational agenda as it sensitizes and teaches players about the impact of war on the innocent bystander. The proposed session is an interactive post-mortem on the Brukel project. During the session, the participants will be invited to experience the challenges of a gaminiscing project through short first-hand experience with Brukel's original source material. Next, they will be shown how Brukel approached these challenges through a live demo of some of

the scenes in the game. Finally, the participants will be provided with a step-by-step toolkit to gaminisce the past of their own elderly loved ones.

Symposium

OAGE: Past, Present and Future

Presenters: **Harvey Sterns**, University of Akron, **Raymond Matura**, University of Rio Grande

A symposium/conversation panel of Emeriti Board members and former officers describing the chronology, objectives, achievements, failures, and nuances of Ohio's unique organization of Gerontology educators. Panelists will report data from participation activities and formal documents. An included discussion will focus on future potential activities that complement what has been accomplished.

Paper Session | Contexts of Care

Grandparents as Parents in the Opioid Epidemic in Ohio

Presenter: **Jonathan Trauth**, Miami University

The opioid epidemic has resulted in a new type of "sandwich generation": a growing number of older adults who are positioned between an adult child who is struggling with addiction and grandchildren who need care. These grandparents parenting grandchildren (GPG) face unique stressors and strains as they attend to their addicted child while at the same time taking on unexpected parenting responsibilities, trying to maintain employment or live within fixed retirement incomes, and balancing their own health needs, which may include natural physical changes associated with aging. These stressors and strains place GPG at risk for poor financial, social, physical, and mental health outcomes. One unasked but essential question is whether

the stressors and strains of the opioid epidemic place GPG at increased risk for SUDs, particularly the use of opioids

A Pilot Study of Tai Ji Quan: Moving for Better Balance in a Community Study of Fall Risk

Presenter: **Tiffany Hughes**, Youngstown State University

Tai Ji Quan: Moving for Better Balance (TJQMBB) is an evidence-based, fall- prevention intervention for older adults. This study examines the feasibility and compares the potential efficacy of TJQMBB to fall prevention education (FPE) at improving physical and cognitive function among older adults. Participants were recruited from an on-going fall risk study, Project VIBE (Valley Initiative to promote Balance among the Elderly). Twenty-nine participants were randomized to TJQMBB plus FPE (n=15) or FPE only (n=14). Program attendance, perceived benefits, and satisfaction were measured to evaluate feasibility. Performance on Trailmaking Parts A & B, Timed-Up-and-Go, 30-second Chair Stand, and 4-Stage Balance tests was examined to assess change in cognitive and physical function pre- to post-intervention. A total of 12 (80%) TJQMBB and 11 (79%) FPE participants completed the intervention. The average TJQMBB class attendance was 17 (range 9-18). The majority agreed TJQMBB improved their balance (91%), mental function (91%), and fear of falling (100%). All rated the quality of the program as good/very good/excellent; 64% would participate again. Compared to FPE only, more TJQMBB participants improved on physical function measures. Tai Chi is a feasible intervention for older adults and may reduce falls by improving physical function.

Organizational Characteristics Associated with STNA Turnover in Ohio Nursing Homes

Presenter: **Oksana Dikhtyar**, Miami University

Purpose of the Study: To identify organizational characteristics associated with State Tested Nurse Aides (STNA) turnover specifically for Ohio nursing homes. High STNA turnover rate is a common problem among nursing homes, since it drives up facilities' operating costs and negatively impacts quality of care in nursing homes. Design and Methods: Data from the 2016 Ohio Biennial Survey of Long-Term Care Facilities, the Ohio's Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, and the Five-Star Quality Rating System were merged to create one comprehensive data set. Logistic regression analysis was conducted to examine nursing homes' characteristics associated with STNA turnover. Results: For-profit ownership increased the odds of having a high STNA turnover rate even after controlling for facility's size, organizational design, survey rating and number of complaints. Having a better health inspection rating increased the odds of having low STNA turnover, whereas facility's size didn't predict STNA turnover. Implications: Future research is needed to develop a better survey instrument to measure nurse aids' workload, professional climate, pay and benefits to identify what predicts their turnover; and to compare nursing homes that responded to the turnover question to non-respondents to learn if there are significant differences between the two samples.

Training Healthcare Clinicians on Elder Abuse: Do Trainee Characteristics Affect Retention of Knowledge Gained?

Presenters: **Minzhi Ye, Miriam Rose, Farida Ejaz**, Benjamin Rose Institute

A total of 826 clinicians in 63 primary care clinics in Texas participated in a one- hour, in-person training program provided by Adult Protective

Services staff on identifying, screening and reporting elder abuse, neglect and exploitation (ANE). Knowledge of ANE (dependent variable) was measured immediately before and after the training, and one year later. Of the 604 clinicians who completed the pre-test, 532 completed pre- and post-test surveys, and 257 also completed the follow-up. Analyses of data for the latter group indicated that ANE knowledge significantly increased immediately after training, but was not sustained at the same level at the one-year follow-up. Frontline clinical staff and those with at least a Bachelor's degree retained the most knowledge at follow-up. Recommendations include ongoing ANE training to sustain knowledge over time and customized training based on educational levels and para-professional/professional roles. The findings have implications for educators involved in training healthcare staff on ANE.

Investigation of the Preferred Learning Styles of Persons Living with Dementia

Presenter: **Debra Stewart**, Forbes School of Business

Understanding and gaining cooperation during personal care of a resident with dementia can be difficult especially when there are language barriers. When a caregiver such as a certified nursing assistance attempts to help a resident with activities of daily living (ADLs), it can be difficult and time-consuming to accomplish even the simplest task because of the patient's understanding of the process and the resistive behaviors that are often a result of confusion. The learning styles inventory is an evaluative tool used by the participants in the study who are certified nursing assistants to establish the preferred learning styles of patients in their care. The study revealed important information concerning the determination of the preferred learning styles of persons with dementia. The

research provided critical data in determining if ADLs, when designed around the learning styles, have a greater acceptance rate with fewer resistive behaviors. Also, the study was an essential addition to research concerning understanding a patient's learning styles and presenting care based on that information to promote greater patient acceptance and nursing unit productivity. The research examined if knowing the preferred learning styles of persons living with dementia resulted in greater cooperation and unit productivity.

Symposium

Policy Still Matters: Continued Progress in Providing Long-Term Services and Supports for Ohio's Older Population: Emergency Preparedness in Ohio Skilled- Nursing and Residential Care Facilities

Presenters: **Cassie Hua, Meghan Young, A. Katherine Harrington, Katherine Kennedy**, Miami University

Previous data and studies suggest a shift from nursing home use to home and community-based service use. The number of people with a physical or cognitive disability is expected to increase 43% between 2015 and 2030, which suggests more people will require long-term services and supports. For over 25 years, The Scripps Gerontology Center, with funding from the Ohio Department of Aging, has tracked Ohio's demographic and long-term service and support trends using a combination of different data sources. The Survey of Long-term Care Facilities, collected every two years, is a core component of this data collection effort. Administrators at Ohio's nursing and residential care facilities have participated in 13 waves of data collection. The survey collects data related to beds in service, facility fees, and admission rates. Additional modules address different issues in the industry such as culture

change, emergency planning, and staff retention. The 2015 wave of data collection yielded response rates over 90%. This presentation will highlight the changes of the long-term services system in Ohio over the last few decades.

Symposium

Community Paramedicine: An Opportunity for Strategic and Timely Fall Intervention for Community-Dwelling Older Adults

Presenter: **Catherine Quatman-Yates**, Ohio State University

Falls in older adults often result in injuries that can lead to profound changes in mobility, independence, and life expectancy. Calls to emergency medical services (EMS) for falls in older adults have significantly increased over the past decade, suggesting existing fall prevention methods are inadequate, despite open-access and evidence-based fall reduction strategies and resources. EMS calls for lift assists (falls that do not result in transport to further care) have also increased, but traditional EMS providers do not have the ability or mechanisms to intervene and prevent future falls. The public health problem of falls is complex and would benefit from a systemic approach to designing health system interventions. The objective of this symposium is to explore an innovative approach from a multidisciplinary partnership to fall prevention through EMS to reduce fall-related disability and death in older adults. The session will explore the transformation of a traditional fire-based EMS system to a community paramedicine program, the impact of leveraging process improvement science to solve operational challenges and improve time management, and community collaborations to design, finance, and implement a fall prevention initiative for community-dwelling older adults. Speakers will include representatives from EMS, health

services research, physical therapy, and orthopaedic surgery.

SESSION 5

Poster Exhibitions

Understanding People with Dementia

(100) Trauma-Informed Dementia Care: A Toolkit for Social-Workers Serving on Interprofessional Clinical Teams Across Care Settings

Presenter: **Kelly DiTurno**, Case Western Reserve University

While the transmission of specialized clinical culture is instrumental in the process of clinical mastery in service-delivery programs, increasing specialization within clinical disciplines continues to engender homogenous thinking and compartmentalized skill sets which fail to serve a healthcare consumer landscape that increasingly demands integrative care to meet efficiency and quality standards. Inspired by observations during the 2017-2019 immersive Inter-professional Clinical Education Practicum, Aging-in-Place (AIP) at Case Western Reserve University, this submission provides analysis and recommendations for the cultivation, implementation and application of trauma-informed, intersectional leadership pedagogy aimed at developing dynamic, strengths-based team interventions for clinicians serving older adults with neurocognitive decline and co-occurring complex trauma. This analysis relies upon the inter-professional clinical care structure of Saxe, et, al's Trauma Systems Theory (TST) and extrapolates its clinical principles in exploring the intersection of complex trauma and the behavioral and psychological symptoms of

dementia (BPSD) by highlighting an intersecting dialectic between neurobiological factors and social determinants across the lifecourse. Utilizing the Inter-professional Education Collaborative (IPEC)'s four domains of competency-introduced in 2011 and updated in 2016 - this submission will demonstrate how trauma-informed educational interventions, specifically in gerontological inter-professional training experiences, can encourage dynamic discourse, deference and premier service delivery across care settings.

(101) Understanding the Unmet Needs of Individuals with Mild to Moderate Dementia

Presenters: **Morgan Watts, Katherine Judge,** Cleveland State University

Research on individuals with dementia (IWDs) has received increased attention in order to gain knowledge of the illness experience and quality of life for these individuals. Research suggests that the dementia process includes a decrease in the ability to meet one's own needs due to difficulty with communication, physical abilities, and cognitive functioning. This may lead to many IWDs experiencing unmet needs. Previous research on unmet needs of IWDs has been limited to individuals at mild stages of the disease process. Additionally, proxy-reports of unmet needs are used rather than self-reported, proving to be problematic as differences between proxy-reports and self-reports on a variety of topics suggests that proxy-reports do not fully or accurately describe the illness experiences and include biased results. The aim of this research is to assess three main objectives; (1) to increase the understanding of the illness experience by having individuals with mild to moderate dementia self-report unmet needs, (2) to understand how unmet needs may change during the progression of dementia and (3) to understand how unmet needs are related

to well-being outcomes such as depression and quality of life for IWDs.

(102) Obstacles Speech Language Pathologists Encounter when Working with Older Adult Clients with Dementia

Presenter: **Larkin Giesige,** Ohio University

This study explores some of the main challenges speech language pathologists (SLP's) face when working with clients with dementia. SLP's caseload of clients with dementia is increasing as the volume of older adult population increases. To explore this issue, the following research question was asked: What challenges do SLP's face when working with older adult clients with dementia? Google scholar, PubMed and ArticlesPlus were used to conduct a general literature review to identify relevant articles. Three main themes were identified amongst the articles reviewed. The first being SLP's lack of training with this demographic of clients. The next challenge found was the client's deficits in pragmatics and semantics which influenced interaction with the SLP. Lastly aspects of the client's cognitive state influences the care received. The SLP may have limited knowledge with how to keep the OA focused and engaged during the session. In conclusion, it is clear there is a need for change in the training SLP's receive on working with clients with dementia. When we highlight these main challenges, it can bring up a discussion amongst professionals to better help prepare to face these challenges.

(103) The Use of Spaced-Retrieval Training to Facilitate the Learning of New Face-Name Associations in Individuals with Alzheimer's Disease

Presenter: **Gabrielle Beck,** Cleveland State University

There are many symptoms that come along with Alzheimer's disease (AD), memory loss being one of the first and most characteristic. However, there are still some memory processes left largely intact that are able to be utilized in learning new information. One form of memory training that has been found to effectively teach individuals with dementia and AD to learn new information is known as spaced retrieval. To date, few studies have investigated the use of spaced-retrieval training (SRT) on aiding individuals with AD in remembering face-name pairs. Further, there is a gap in current literature comparing the differences between types of stimuli being trained and tested during SRT, whether imagery or words. The following study intends to investigate whether pictures or names are better used as stimuli during SRT in helping individuals with AD successfully recognize, recall and retain new face-name pairs they had been trained on. Discussion will focus on how such findings may be used to assist individuals maintain current cognitive and functional abilities in remembering caregivers and loved ones for longer, what types of learning individuals with AD are still capable of, and how SRT can additionally be utilized as a memory technique in other domains.

(104) *The Persistence of Self in Mild to Moderate Dementia*

Presenter: **Amanda MacNeil**, Cleveland State University

Individuals with dementia (IWDs) experience declines in episodic autobiographical memory which can affect their sense of self and potentially negatively impact psychosocial outcomes. This is further exacerbated by fear and stigma that surrounds dementia related diagnoses and the resulting progression of the illness. Research had found that IWDs maintain aspects of their sense of self across the illness continuum. However, it is not clear how sense of

self is maintained across the illness and whether different conceptualizations of sense of self vary across the illness continuum. The present study aims to investigate the persistence of sense of self through the mild to moderate stages of dementia by utilizing several different measures: autobiographical memory recall, visual self-recognition, self-concept, and analyzing language usage. The present study aims to add to the literature by measuring a range of sense of self conceptualizations and how these constructs are related to the level of cognitive impairment and quality of life. Understanding how IWDs make meaning of their sense of self and how it is related to cognition and quality of life may better assist researchers, clinicians, family members and IWDs in developing person-centered interventions that facilitate essential aspects of IWD's sense of self.

Caring People, Caring Places

(200) *Integrating Preferences into Home Care: A Pilot Study*

Presenter: **Abigail Hermes**, Miami University

In order to promote person-centered care (PCC) within home care organizations, providers need tools that systematically assess and communicate client preferences. The purpose of this study was to understand how to utilize the Preferences for Everyday Living Inventory (PELI) to facilitate communication of preferences between clients and direct-care workers (DCW). The objective was to implement a new communication tool ("Preference Guide") to communicate clients' preferences to DCWs. Fifteen clients from one home care agency were interviewed at baseline about their preferences using the PELI. The Preference Guide was created and left with the client. Follow-up interviews with clients were conducted 8 weeks after baseline. In addition, interviews with five DCWs and six management staff related to the

barriers and facilitators to providing PCC were conducted. Clients reported that the guide accurately reflected their preferences and were satisfied with how it promoted conversations with their DCW. Seventy one percent of clients said they discussed the guide with their DCW. Facilitators to providing PCC included trust and consistent assignment between clients and DCWs. Barriers included difficulties matching clients to DCWs and staff turnover. Overall, findings highlight the feasibility of utilizing the PELI/Preference Guide in home care and offer strategies for future implementation.

(201) Person-Centered Care Staff Engagement Project: Tools and Strategies for Quality Care in NW Ohio LTC Facilities

Presenters: **Tanya Likens, Megan Benner Senecal**, Advocates for Basic Legal Equality (ABLE)

By 2030, the entire baby-boomer population will be over 65 necessitating a growth of direct-care workers at approximately 48% (U.S. Census Bureau, 2018). This growth accompanies ongoing issues with staff instability in long-term care (LTC) settings. The Person-Centered Care Staff Engagement Project was designed to address retention and recruitment strategies in LTC. Over the course of 2 years, collaboration with B & F Consulting and the State Long Term Care Ombudsman enabled each region in Ohio to implement the project in their service area. Region 4 (Northwest Ohio) recruited (n=11) nursing homes with diversity in setting/population spanning 10 counties. The most effective project interventions included staff huddles, consistent assignment, and STNA participation in care conferences. Clinical results included elimination/reduction of personal alarms, falls, and anti-psychotic medications. Additionally, residents at participating homes reported consistent assignment improved their care experiences. Recruitment/retention results in

several homes found decreased turnover rates and the elimination of agency staff. Unexpectedly, 9 of 11 homes experienced administrative turnover and two homes experienced corporate buy-out. Staff/corporation changes impacted the efficacy of interventions and are integral in considering the factors contributing to organizational effectiveness. Results of this project provide foundational best-practices for recruiting/retaining staff to ensure quality care.

(202) Distinctions between High and Low Performing Ohio Nursing Homes

Presenter: **Xiao Qiu**, Miami University

Background: Ohio has an older population who at higher risk of nursing home admission than other states. However, a recent study shows that nursing homes in Ohio have lower quality compared to the rest of the United States. Hence, improving nursing home quality in Ohio is paramount in the field of aging services. Purpose: The purpose of this study was to identify factors that affect nursing home quality in Ohio. Methods: This study used data from the 2013 Biennial Survey of Long-Term Care Facilities in Ohio for Nursing Facilities and 2013 fourth-quarter archived data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Five-Star Rating System. Results: Not-for-profit facilities with a low proportion of Medicaid days were more likely to be high performers in Health Inspection, Staffing, and Overall domains. Small facilities were more likely to be high performers in Staffing and Overall domains. Facilities that had no administrator turnover were more likely to be high performers in Health Inspection. Non-chain affiliated facilities performed better in the Staffing domain. Facilities with low STNA retention rates were at higher risk of receiving one- or two- star ratings in Overall. Discussion: Implications for consumers, policy makers, and providers are discussed.

(203) Direct Care Staffing Issues in Long-Term Care Facilities

Presenter: **Emily McLewis**, Youngstown State University

The need for State Tested Nursing Assistants, or STNAs is at an all-time high with many Ohio facilities falling as short as 75% on their staffing numbers. This shortage is in turn hindering the potential of a high quality of life for many institutionalized older adults. Direct care staff, specifically STNAs provide a large amount of care to these older adults daily; therefore, it is very important to acquire strong, teamwork-oriented employees to carry out the tasks assigned to them by the residents in which they are taking care of. Despite established standards for quality care and formal procedures for STNAs, there are a variety of informal structural factors that influence the daily events in the facilities that in turn affect the quality of care provided. Through observation and literature review, the proposed review will examine factors that could be considered as the informal structures and their impact on the quality of care that is received from the STNAs. This study will also discuss how the implementation of various programs help alleviate issues that residents face with quality of care received from the STNAs and the intended results from these programs.

(204) Consequences of Understaffed Nursing Facilities

Presenter: **Katheryn Downie**, Youngstown State University

All across the United States long term care (LTC) facilities are challenged with high staff turnover rates. Understaffing of direct care workers increases the risks of injury or other health issues to LTC residents, and also threatens the

health and well-being of care staff. As of now, most states have not required a minimal staffing level in order to provide the most efficient care of well-being, even if they did, most facilities would be well under the requirements and standards. The purpose of this study is to examine the relationship between staffing issues and the potential consequences to residents as well as to direct care workers in nursing facilities. An overview of what is expected of nurse aides in order to provide sufficient care to maintain the highest possible level of physical, mental and psychosocial well-being of each resident will be provided. In addition, what is expected based on federal regulations of staffing will also be discussed. It is important that owners and administrators of nursing facilities are aware and understand these issues in order to work towards developing sustainable solutions for the high staff turnover rates, and to try and reduce the consequences their residents and staff potentially face.

(205) Global Burden of Care Shortage: A U.S. Case Study of a Global Problem

Presenter: **Leah Janssen**, Miami University

Global increases in population aging, life expectancy, and chronic health conditions have contributed to a global shortage of direct care workers (DCWs) to provide care to a growing segment of the world's population. This shortage results from an imbalance between supply of, and demand for, DCWs. The purpose of this paper is to examine the demographic and epidemiological forces, and workforce trends that provide context for this labor force shortage, with a particular focus on the United States as a case study to a globally- experienced problem. This presentation will summarize the scope of the shortage in the U.S. and will describe the role of demographic and epidemiological changes in the creation of, and possible solutions to the challenge. Additionally, this paper will present

state, national, and international workforce initiatives to resolve the shortage, including the role of immigration in several countries. Objectives: 1) Describe the health and demographic forces at work in the DCW shortage 2) Articulate examples of DCW-related programs and policies in different countries 3) Evaluate the extent to which other countries' solutions to the DCW shortage might be appropriate for the U.S.

Growth & Opportunities for Competent Care

(300) Age Differences in Stressors and Outcomes among Young Adult, Midlife, and Older Adult Family Caregivers

Presenters: **Athena Koumoutzis, Kelly Cichy**, Kent State University

Despite research on caregiver burden, less is known about how young adult caregivers' experiences differ from other age groups. Using data from the National Alliance for Caregiving (N = 1635), this study examines age differences in primary (number of ADL and IADL dependencies and caregiver burden) and secondary stressors (financial and employment strains), and caregiver outcomes (emotional strain and physical health). Respondents include young adults ages 18-39 years (n = 239), midlife adults ages 40-59 years (n = 485), and older adults ages 60-80 years (n = 491). ANOVA results revealed similarities and significant age differences in stressors and caregiver outcomes. Post hoc tests indicated that young adult caregivers assist with fewer IADLs ($F(2, 1214) = 3.77, p < .05$) and report less caregiver burden ($F(2, 1193) = 3.70, p < .05$) and greater financial strain ($F(2, 1195) = 5.34, p < .05$) compared with older adults. This research expands our understanding of informal caregivers and addresses the strains felt by young adults.

(301) Sex and Education Differences in the Psychological and Social Well-Being of Sandwiched Caregivers

Presenters: **Barbara Hodgdon, Jen Wong**, Ohio State University

As older adults live longer, more individuals are taking on the role of family caregivers. Less examined in the field of aging is the changing demographic of family caregivers including sandwiched caregivers. The care responsibilities that sandwiched caregivers navigate may impact their psychological and social well-being (e.g., positive and negative affect, meaningfulness of society, social contribution). There is an imperative need to examine the well-being of sandwiched caregivers so future programs can effectively promote sandwiched caregivers' psychological and social well-being. Informed by the life course perspective, this study examined the impact of sex and education on the psychological and social well-being of sandwiched caregivers.

Sandwiched caregivers (n=136; Mage=59) selected from the Midlife in the United States Survey (MIDUS-II) Findings from regression analyses showed that female sandwiched caregivers exhibited lower levels of positive affect and meaningfulness of society than male counterparts. Sandwiched caregivers with lower levels of education exhibited lower levels of personal growth, social contribution, and meaningfulness of society than those with higher levels of education. The innovative nature of the MIDUS allows for tracking the growth of well-being in sandwiched caregivers and has the potential to inform engaging opportunities and programs aimed at promoting the well-being of sandwiched caregivers.

(302) A Life Course Examination of the Meaning of Retirement in Employed Middle-Aged Family Caregivers

Presenters: **Jen Wong, Barbara Hodgdon, Monique Jackson**, Ohio State University

In the United States, fewer people are experiencing the traditional lock-step pathway from full-time work to full-time retirement. The increasing work uncertainties combined with changes in one's personal and social worlds during the period of midlife point to the need to examine how family caregiving intersects with retirement expectations and plans. Informed by the life course theory, this qualitative study explores the meaning of retirement in a sample of 352 middle-aged employed family caregivers. Participants provided information about work, family, and health. Qualitative data were analyzed by three researchers using a theory driven approach. Findings showed that caregivers perceived retirement as a turning point to enjoy life and accomplish goals that they have yet achieved due to the responsibilities associated with work and family. Although many of the caregivers looked forward to exiting the labor force, they questioned the reality of retirement and cited individual, social, and historical factors as possible deterrents of retirement. Our analyses also revealed that the decision to retire and the meaning of retirement are shaped by the social networks in which the caregivers are embedded. Study findings can help inform retirement planning programs and services by integrating the needs of employed family caregivers.

(303) The Relationship Between Paid Leave for Caregivers and Self-Reported Health: Does Paid Leave Result in Better Health?

Presenters: **Hien Thi Hoa La, Cassandra Hua, J. Scott Brown**, Miami University

The effects of caregiving are substantial, and caregivers often experience various health-related problems (MetLife Mature Market

Institute, 2011; Northouse et al., 2014; Wang, 2018). These health disparities are apparent among caregivers who juggle competing demands of caregiving and the workforce, since the United States government currently does not provide any mandatory paid family or sick leave policy for workers (Chen, 2016; Heymann et al., 2009). There is also a lack of empirical research on whether caregiving policy moderates the relationship between caregiving demands and health outcomes; only one US- based study found that paid family and sick leave was associated with better self-reported health (Earl & Heymann, 2011). Using a structural equation modeling approach and the Caregiving in the U.S. 2015 dataset (NAC & AARP) that contains information on 816 employed adult caregivers, this research will examine the mechanisms linking paid family and sick leave to caregivers' self- rated health. We will share the findings showing how caregivers who have access to paid family and sick leave may experience lower financial, emotional, and physical strain, resulting in better self-rated health. This presentation will encourage more scholarly discussions on progressive changes needed in healthcare policy regarding the aging population in the United States.

(304) The Differential Impacts of Types of Family Caregiving on Psychosocial Well-Being in Midlife and Late Adulthood

Presenters: **Jen Wong, Yetty Shobo, Barbara Hodgdon**, Ohio State University

According to Family Caregiver Alliance, family members provide 80% of the long-term care in the U.S. Much of the family caregiving and aging literature has focused on the well-being, health, and experiences of spouses, adult children, and daughter/son-in-laws as caregivers. Unlike others types of family caregiving, caring for a son/daughter with a developmental disability (DD) often is lifelong and persists into late

adulthood. Using the National Survey of Midlife in the United States (MIDUS-II) data, this study examines the impacts of caregiver types (caregivers of sons/daughters with DD, spousal/partner, parent, and parent-in-law) on psychosocial well-being (e.g., generativity, environmental mastery, affect). A sample of 405 midlife and older adults ($M=56.01$, $SD=11.26$) who provided care to a family member completed questionnaires and interview. Multiple regression analyses showed that caregivers of sons/daughters with DD exhibited the lowest levels of generativity and environmental mastery, highest level of negative affect, and older subjective age as compared to other family caregivers. Among the groups of caregivers, parent-in-law caregivers exhibited the most positive psychosocial well-being. Study findings can help inform services and programs directed at family caregivers by highlighting the nuances in needs across different types of family caregiving responsibilities in midlife and late adulthood.

(305) Suit Up! Utilizing an Aging Suit to Teach Students Empathy

Presenter: **Meredith Pitt**, University of Findlay

Until an individual ages and personally encounters physical, psychological, or social limitations, understanding how those limitations can affect quality of life will rarely be achieved. It is believed that students in the health professions who are placed in a simulation of wearing an aging suit, which helps replicate certain aging issues (lack of mobility, poor eyesight, hearing issues, balance issues) all within a simulated home-setting will develop empathy for future clients in the aging population more so than they would have if they had received passive lecture material on the same subject matter utilizing no simulation

(306) Adolescent Dementia Caregivers and Their Perceived Psychological Health and Wellbeing

Presenter: **Jennifer Perion, Victoria Steiner, April Ames**, University of Toledo

This qualitative descriptive study seeks to understand how dementia caregiving influences the psychological health and well-being of adolescents. Following completion of a brief survey, adolescents aged 12-17 providing care for a non-parental family member with dementia participated in a focus group. An adult family member was surveyed about the family background and care recipient. Verbatim transcripts were analyzed using a qualitative thematic process. The data from the two surveys were analyzed using descriptive statistics. Five males and six females from Northwest Ohio with an average age of 15 participated. Thematic analysis revealed six themes related to psychological health and well-being: Feeling sad but understanding it's not the care recipient's fault; Helping even though it's not always pleasant; Feeling good inside about helping family do stuff; Believing no one can do it like family; Finding connection through humor and fun; and Reflecting that caregiving is just something that I do. Participants expressed low stress levels related to caregiving responsibilities. Participants expressed low stress levels related to caregiving responsibilities. Using Pearlin's Stress Process, the findings provide new insight into adolescents' experiences of dementia caregiving and can be used to develop supportive and enriching programs aimed at increasing the wellbeing of caregiving youths.

Health & Mental Health Across People & Environments

(400) The Forgotten Minority: Exploring the Treatment of Older Adults in Ohio's Prisons

Presenter: **Lucas Adams**, Miami University

According to The PEW Research Center (2016), prisons classify inmates between the ages of 50-55 as older adults because they are perceived to be in poor health. In Ohio prisons, 19% of inmates meet the criteria to be considered "elderly." Not only are older adults considered a minority in prisons, there is a lack of quality care provided by state governments. Due to mass incarceration, massive overcrowding has become commonplace. This results in fewer resources, such as medical care and psychiatric care, for the older inmates. Consequently, older adults in prison suffer from a lower quality of care and have higher chances of being susceptible to mental health disorders. Ohio is ranked sixth in the United States for the largest concentration of prisons. Only one prison in the state had a geriatric unit on site, and that prison is planned to close in March 2018. With a lack of trained professionals taking care of these older adults in prison, many end up being released and harming themselves or others. The purpose of this paper is to shed light on the lack of geriatric facilities in Ohio prisons and demonstrate the effects on older adult's mental health.

(401) Heart and Soul: Examining Blood Lipids, Psychological Well-Being, and Motivation in Older Adults

Presenter: **Elizabeth Sohns**, Miami University

Suboptimal lipid levels, a major risk factor for heart disease, increase with age. Some psychological well-being (PWB) constructs have been linked to healthy cholesterol levels, while other aspects of PWB have exhibited equivocal associations with lipid measures. This study assessed the relationship between PWB

constructs and lipids in 79 older adults (Mage=69) and examined if intuitive eating (IE) and motivation for exercise, two motivational concepts related to PWB, were related to lipids. Eudaimonic well-being, hedonic well-being, relatedness, IE, exercise motivation, and blood lipids were measured. Total IE correlated with triglycerides ($r=-.37^{**}$) and LDL/HDL ($r=-.30^{*}$); unconditional permission to eat related to LDL/HDL ($r=-.24^{*}$) and HbA1c ($r=.24^{*}$); eating on physical cues correlated with LDL/HDL ($r=-.25^{*}$) and triglycerides ($r=-.38^{**}$). External regulation for exercise correlated with HDL ($r=-.24^{*}$), triglycerides ($r=.40^{**}$), and glucose ($r=-.26^{*}$); introjected regulation related to HDL ($r=-.30$, $p<.01$); the relative autonomy index correlated with triglycerides ($r=-.26^{*}$). Finally, relatedness correlated with HDL ($r=.31^{**}$). All preceding correlations were significant ($^{**}p<.01$, $^{*}p<.05$). Results indicate motivation for diet and exercise may be important determinants of blood lipids among older adults and reinforce results of ambiguous associations among PWB and lipids from prior research. Future studies should examine specific dynamics by which motivation may affect blood lipids.

(402) Integrating Depressive Symptoms and Well-Being: Creating a Holistic Picture of Mental Health

Presenter: **Ashlee Cordell**, Miami University

Mental health challenges are a common concern facing our society. However, there continues to be great stigma associated with mental health, especially among older adults. Research has also tended to focus on the negative aspects of mental health, creating a rather grey image of mental health and aging. This study aims to examine the relationship between experiencing depressive symptoms / subjective well-being and self-rated health to establish a more complete picture of mental health among a sample of older adults in the United States. Data from the fifth

round of the National Health & Aging Trends Study (NHATS) were used for this secondary analysis. The sample was comprised of 12,427 Medicare beneficiaries' ages 65 years and above. Linear regression methods were used to fit a model by regressing self-rated health on depressive symptoms and subjective well-being. The results show that experiencing fewer depressive symptoms and greater subjective well-being are both associated with better self-rated health. In addition, the findings indicate that distinct aspects of depressive symptoms and well-being are unique measures of self-rated health. Understanding the importance of integrating these diverse characteristics of mental health can lead to the establishment of more holistic mental health practices for older adults.

(403) The War on Suicide in Older Adults

Presenter: **Sarah Cychosz**, Miami University

Study Purpose: Depression is common among the older American population. In addition to lower quality of life, depression can lead to suicide if untreated. Older adults tend to use more lethal means when attempting suicide, such as the use of firearms, compared to those 60 years of age or younger. This presentation will review the various types of prevention and therapies used to combat depression and suicide in older adults. Objectives: After viewing this study, observers will be able to identify the many risk factors (physical illness/disability, mental illness, social isolation) that could make someone more prone to depression and suicide, as well as the ways society can proactively prevent older adult suicide. Results: A review of the literature indicates that a combination of various resources, such as Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and Mindfulness practices, along with social engagement, are effective strategies to combat suicide and depression in older adults. Discussion: Professionals who work with older

adults need to be knowledgeable of the symptoms and warning signs of depression, suicidal thoughts, and be able to intervene appropriately.

(404) A Pilot Study to Identify the Barriers to and Facilitators of Diabetes Management in Older Adults

Presenter: **Monica Williams**, University of Toledo

Background: Diabetes is an important health condition for the aging population; approximately one-quarter of people over 65 years of age have diabetes, and this is expected to increase rapidly in the coming decades. Diabetes self-management is an integral part of care for older adults who want to achieve successful outcomes. Purpose: This descriptive study examines factors affecting diabetes management in community-dwelling older adults. Specifically, the objectives were to identify barriers to and facilitators of diabetes self-management. Methods: A survey instrument developed by the primary investigator based on constructs from the Health Belief Model was used. In addition to demographic questions, subjects are asked about thoughts and behaviors that might encourage or prevent their diabetes self-management. This one-time survey will be administered to 200 older adults with diabetes who reside in two independent living facilities in Ohio. Descriptive statistics and correlation analyses will be used to analyze the data. Results: Surveys will be distributed at the independent living facilities in February of 2019. Conclusion: In order to engage older individuals with diabetes, communicate efficiently, and help them improve their health and quality of life, providers must identify barriers to and facilitators of treatment adherence and work collaboratively to overcome those obstacles.

(405) The Relationship Between Rural Residence and Depression Among Older Adults

Presenter: **Na Sun**, Miami University

Depression is prevalent in the U.S. and is associated with comorbidity and impairment. Previous research found that rural residence is significantly associated with depression. The rural challenges such as a lack of healthcare providers, isolation, and social stigma may be significant for depression in terms of both detection and treatment. These factors may be especially important for older adults due to greater levels of chronic conditions and disability, which are significantly associated with depression. Without much research spotlight on older adults, it's salient to understand the influence of living in a rural area on depression in this population in the U.S. Data were from 2014 wave of Health Retirement Study. A short version of the Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale which measures psychological distress was adopted as measurement of depression and the score of four was used as cutoff point. Logistic regression models stratified by gender were built to analyze the relationships. The first model examined the relationship between depression and rural residence, as well as social and demographic characteristics including age, race, education, wealth, living alone, and unemployment status. The next model examined the additional effects of health status including number of chronic conditions and disabilities on depression

(406) Loneliness and Isolation in Long-Term Care Facilities

Presenter: **Jessica Moore**, Youngstown State University

Older adults who reside in a long-term care facility can feel isolated and lonely, which can

negatively impact their health. This paper will explain the variety of factors that contribute to loneliness and isolation in long-term care facilities. The loss of a spouse, lack of family support, and health restrictions are just a few factors that contribute to older adults feeling lonely and isolated. Lonely older adults who reside in a long-term care facility start to disengage themselves from performing their activities of daily living, which can lead to increased dependency on nursing staff. Enhancing social, human interaction among residents can decrease an older adults' social isolation and improve their sense of loneliness. This writing will present how loneliness and isolation can impact an older adult's health, and how staff members can implement ways to improve the quality of life of these older adults. Implementing person-centered care into facilities can limit residents feeling lonely, isolated, and improve their well-being. This study will help narrow down the reason of isolation and loneliness among this vulnerable population residing in these long-term care facilities.

(407) Social Connections in Elder Care Facilities

Presenter: **Allison Evans**, Ohio University

Studies have shown that building relationships is important for maintaining and improving health, but there has not been a narrative account of how these relationships are facilitated in elder care facilities. I interviewed 15 adults over the age of 65 to obtain a better understanding of the social connections that adults living in nursing facilities maintain and develop, and how those relationships impact their experiences living in the facility. From my interviews, I found that established relationships shape elders' experiences adjusting to long term care, new relationships can give elders a sense of control in institutionalized living, and that specific forms

of structured social activities were perceived to be beneficial by participants. By understanding the experiences of individuals currently living in nursing facilities, we can foster more successful relationships which might lead to better outcomes in health and well-being for the growing elderly population.

(408) Applying a Child Life Specialist Approach within a Geriatric Context

Presenter: **Nicholette Pagan**, Ohio University

This study explores how guiding practices within the academic field of “Child Life” can be applied to a geriatric context. Child Life Specialists (CLS) are healthcare professionals who help children and families in the hospital setting overcome the stressors of the unknown and advocate for them. The skillset and approach they employ benefits both the young patients and their caregivers. One of the primary reasons CLS's are so effective is because they help to reduce stress and anxiety in the patient and create a trusting environment where the patient is not as scared to ask information about diagnosis or procedures. By using this lens, one may see how a similar approach may be highly beneficial with other populations, in particular, older adults. A review of the literature indicates that other populations would likely benefit from interaction, intervention, and advocacy from professionals who use a similar approach as a CLS. In particular, this would be a tremendous asset for persons who are experiencing early stages of cognitive decline, as well as their caregiver. In turn, utilizing similar healthcare professionals with older adult populations in clinical settings may also improve aspects of the patient's well-being and rapport with the healthcare facility.

(409) A Hopeful Future: Providing Culturally Competent Care for Transgender-Identified Older Adults

Presenters: **Sara Powers, Ruth Walker, Tarynn Witten**, Benjamin Rose Institute

Transgender and gender nonconforming (TGNC) adults face significant barriers to maintaining good physical and mental health in old age due to both experiences of and fear of bias from healthcare professionals. In our previous qualitative study that evaluated 829 TGNC-identified persons fears and concerns about care receiving in old age, participants answers fell into the following five categories: (1) No concerns (e.g., have caregiving plan, will not need care, do not fear bias); (2) Anticipated discrimination (e.g., fear of abuse, neglect, or religious imposition, negative past experiences with care); (3) Loss of control (e.g., limited care options, disempowerment); (4) Quality of life (e.g., lack of trans-safe spaces, loss of personhood, inadequate medical care); and (5) General concerns (e.g., inability to age in place, financial concerns). To begin to overcome some of these barriers, we translated our previous qualitative findings into seven overarching practice recommendations for professionals working with TGNC older adults and their families (e.g., need for older TGNC-specific training and education; need to identify and create TGNC-safe services and spaces; need for mental health screenings and social advocacy; encouragement for end-of-life care planning; need for TGNC-friendly policies). Discussion will focus on the future of TGNC aging in the US.

(410) An Assessment of COPD in Athens, Ohio

Presenters: **Amy Shook, Allison Giordano**, Ohio University

This study assessed the prevalence, causes, and implications of a health disparity in Athens County, Ohio. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is the third leading cause of

death in the United States and the third leading cause of death in Athens County. This incurable disease increasingly restricts air flow to the lungs and causes the individual to have significant trouble breathing. Although tobacco use is the primary cause of COPD in the United States, genetic predisposition and air pollutants at home and at work can cause COPD as well. Athens County lies at the heart of what is known as The Hocking Valley Coal fields, which was one of the most productive fields in Ohio at the turn of the 20th century and research suggested that work conditions may have been a catalyst for the development of COPD among those workers who are now today's older adult men in Athens County. Unfortunately, due to the remote geographic location of Athens, there are limited medical facilities and support services to aid these persons yet creative solutions merit exploration. Attendees will recognize the significance of COPD within the Ohio Appalachian region, and understand the relationship between work conditions and respiratory health

Growth & Opportunities in the Community Context

(500) Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: A Focus Group Perspective on Supportive Programs

Presenters: **Karleah Harris, Kelly Shields**, Miami University, **Gifty Ashirifi**, Indiana University

Public health issues such as the opioids crises, drug abuse, poverty, and incarceration, are contributing factors to the increase in grandparents raising their grandchildren and other forms of kinship care in the US. Most grandparents report that they accept to raise their grandchildren for altruistic and cultural reasons. For others, it's more of a necessity and

to prevent their grandchildren from entering the foster care system. The phenomenon of grandparents raising grandchildren have been associated with many challenges relating to financial, psychological, social and physical health for both grandparents and the grandchildren. Hence different organizations and agencies have been established over the years to provide support and guidance for grandparent families. This study was conducted to explore grandparent's perspectives on the effectiveness of supportive programs and to highlight areas where they need more support. Four grandparents raising their grandchildren were engaged in a focus group interview. The focus group interview was audiotaped and transcribed verbatim. After a thematic analysis, our results revealed that the supportive programs for kinship care are mostly effective. However, our participants posited that they still have unmet needs in areas relating to adoption process, tangibles, and education which needs attention from policy makers.

(501) Promoting Digital Literacy to Rural Older Adults

Presenters: **Emily Holcombe, Mackenzie Minner, Riddhi Patel**, Ohio University

This poster presentation highlights the need for digital literacy among older rural populations. The Aging and Gerontological Education Society (AGES), a student organization at Ohio University, has been addressing this issue by aiding with technology tutoring sessions offered at the local public library. Besides promoting digital literacy, these events provide an opportunity for meaningful engagement between the younger and older generation. This presentation highlights four overarching aspects that merit consideration: challenges of technology literacy, benefits of sessions, opportunities for improvement, and tips for tutoring. Some of the challenges include

increasing the older adult's confidence with seeking assistance and use of the technology platform. Benefits include creating a context for the older adult to better understand how to effectively utilize everyday technology. There are multiple opportunities with such programs, such as hosting events more frequently and connecting with those who cannot drive. As an organization, we are striving to learn the most effective ways to help older adults digitally competent and confident beyond the context of the session. Techniques employed thus far include writing down step-by-step instructions. We aim to further develop this program and demonstrate the need for gerontechnology education and support members of the older adult community we serve.

(502) *The Challenges and Opportunities Faced by Older Adults with Functional Limitations*

Presenter: **Dez'Aray Searcy**, Ohio University

This study is a literature review that focuses on the challenges and opportunities faced by older persons who experience physical and cognitive limitations. This is critical to assess, as functional limitations may hinder life engagement as well as cause the older adult to experience forms of discrimination, stigmas, and prejudices. By using search engines such as Google Scholar and Pub Med, scholarly articles that address the research question were analyzed and themes were identified. It was found that society, oftentimes through media, tends to promote misconceptions about age-related functional limitations and equates it with incompetence. This has been promoted from a historical lens by persons regarding functionally limited individuals as objects of pity or diseased ridden. To address this ongoing issue, we must find effective means to educate the public and provide accommodating opportunities, as this strongly influences one's quality of life.

(503) *Exploring the Relationship between Level of Education and Retirement Satisfaction*

Presenter: **Abbey Klacik**, Miami University

While America's retiring population is growing substantially, little research exists examining factors associated with retirement satisfaction. To help fill this gap, I used data from the 2014 Health and Retirement Study to examine the relationship between level of education and retirement satisfaction among adults 65 years and older (n=9,970). Education was categorized as high school or less versus some college or above. Retirement satisfaction was measured with a single item: "All in all, would you say that your retirement has turned out to be very satisfying, moderately satisfying, or not at all satisfying?" Responses were categorized as "not at all satisfied" and "very/moderately satisfied." Results indicated a statistically significant relationship between education level and retirement satisfaction ($p < .0001$). Among those with a high school education or below, 91% reported being satisfied with retirement, compared to 95% of those who had completed some college or more. Although the difference is small at the population level, the results of this study suggest that those with less education are disadvantaged in regard to retirement satisfaction. Further research is needed to explore why those with less education experience lower levels of satisfaction and how factors such as gender influence the association.

(504) *Finding the Gaps: Age-Friendly Oxford Needs Assessment*

Presenter: **Valerie Kessler**, Miami University

The City of Oxford, Ohio became an official member of the AARP network of Age-Friendly Cities in November 2017. Members of the

community and city officials formed a steering committee, who are tasked with identifying barriers to aging in place in Oxford and developing an action plan to create a more livable community. The first step of the process was to conduct a community needs assessment. The AARP Community Survey Questionnaire was modified to address the unique characteristics of living in Oxford. The survey was mailed to a random sample of 700 residents aged 50 and older. The response rate was 46.8%. A gap analysis was conducted to determine which services are important but cannot be found in Oxford, as well as which services are important but individuals are unsure if Oxford provides them. The results show the domains with the largest gaps due to Oxford not having a service are transportation, housing, and health. The domains with the largest gaps due to individuals unsure if Oxford has the service are jobs and volunteer work. The steering committee will use these findings to inform their action plan for the city during the next phase of the age-friendly process.

(505) The Relationship Between Cognitive Impairments and Falling

Presenter: **Caitlynn Woody**, Youngstown State University

There are a lot of things that change as we get older, one of the growing problems within the older population is falls. The purpose of this work is to examine the relationship between cognitive impairment and fall risk also the occurrence of falls among older adults. Physical function is an important predictor of falls however, there is growing evidence that cognitive function also contributes to fall risk. Project VIBE (Valley Initiative to promote Balance among the Elderly) is a longitudinal, community-based fall risk assessment and prevention study among older adults. Data from the second assessment cycle

will be used to examine cross-sectional associations between cognitive impairment measured using the Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA) and (a) fall risk determined using the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's Stopping Elderly Accidents, Deaths, and Injuries (STEADI) tool kit algorithm, and (b) the occurrence of falls in the past year. Within this study it is hypothesized that those with cognitive impairment compared to normal cognition will be at higher fall risk and more likely to have experienced a fall in the past year. Understanding the association between cognition and fall risk and occurrence has importance implications for fall assessment and prevention strategies.

(506) Project VIBE: Correlates of Fear of Falling

Presenter: **Agnes Nsam**, Youngstown State University

Falls are a serious problem that can negatively affect older adults' quality of life. A common consequence of falls is fear of falling (FOF), which can lead to changes behaviors that further influence risk of falling. The purpose of this research is to examine (1) if older adults reporting a fall in the past year have greater fear of falling measured with the Activity Balance Confidence Scale; and (2) associations between fear of falling and participation in fall prevention behaviors such as exercise, home modifications, using an assistive device, and health evaluations. Data from an on-going fall risk assessment study, Project VIBE (Valley Initiative to Promote Balance among the Elderly), will be used for this research to answer questions related to balance, and fall prevention. Descriptive characteristics of the sample and associations between falls fear of falling and fall prevention behaviors will be reported. These results will improve our understanding of the

impact of fear of falling on older adults' engagement in fall prevention behaviors

(507) Employment Type and Literacy Skills Among U.S. Older Adult Workers

Presenters: **Jessica Yauk, Phyllis Cummins, A. Katherine Harrington**, Miami University

The purpose of this presentation is to examine the relationship between employment status and literacy skills. Our objective is to provide the audience with a better understanding of the importance of literacy skills for those who desire to remain employed at older ages. Research has shown that older adults with lower literacy skills are more likely to be unemployed. However, the relationship between type of employment and literacy skills has yet to be explored. This study uses data from the 2012 Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC). Survey analyses were completed for adults ages 45-54 and separately for adults ages 55-64. Employment status significantly predicted literacy scores for adults 45-54, with employed adults scoring higher than unemployed. There was no significant predictive relationship for adults 55-64. Adult education and training has received attention in recent years as a way to keep older adults competitive. Understanding the skills of older adults will help ensure that adult education and training are designed to meet changing workplace needs. More research is needed comparing work type and skill level so education can be better targeted.

(508) Expectations on Driving Continuation Among Older Adults: The Association with Driving Frequency and Attitudes Towards the Non-driving Future

Presenter: **Jiawei Cao**, Miami University

The goal of this study was to look at what factors might contribute to current older drivers'

expectation on driving continuation. Specifically, I aimed to find out whether such expectation was associated with driving frequency, thoughts on a non-driving future, and how satisfied and how capable they would be without driving themselves to meet their transportation needs. A survey data was used in this study. Bivariate tests and multiple linear regression techniques were used to evaluate the relationship between driving expectations and several key predictors. Driving frequency, thoughts on a non-driving future, and the satisfaction level of meeting transportation needs without driving were found to be associated with older drivers' expectations on driving continuation. Older adults who drove more frequently, thinking about a non-driving future less often, and being less satisfied with meeting transportation needs without driving would expect to continue driving for a longer time. Findings from this study suggested that older drivers who had higher expectation on driving continuation would experience a difficult transition process if they had impaired driving ability. Alternative transportation methods other than driving, such as public transportation system and rideshare services, also needed an enhancement to ensure older adults' daily needs would be met.