

For Immediate Release

**Rush University Medical Center's Center for Excellence in Aging
Awarded HRSA Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program Grant**

(Chicago, IL, June 11, 2019) Rush University Medical Center's College of Nursing and [Center for Excellence in Aging](#) has been awarded the prestigious \$3.75 million Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP) grant. GWEP is designed to improve health outcomes for older adults by educating a healthcare workforce that maximizes older adult and family engagement; and by developing primary care clinics and their communities into evidence-based Age-Friendly Health Communities.

Rush's GWEP, named [CATCH-ON](#) (Collaborative Action Team training for Community Health – Older adult Network), will advance its successful educational modules and primary care transformation while integrating state-wide and community-based organizations. In collaboration with 36 organizational partners, this renewal grant will allow CATCH-ON to further engage older adults, families, health systems, and populations in pursuit of its mission to develop Age-Friendly Health Communities that include Dementia-Friendly Community development. CATCH-ON improves not only the care provided by health professionals within the walls of the health system, but also educates and engages communities to meet the needs of older adults where they spend most of their time. Critical patient outcomes include increases in dementia caregiver education and support; opioid screening and education; documented advanced care plans; depression, dementia, and fall risk assessment and treatment; and decreases in prescribed high-risk medications.

CATCH-ON is led by Robyn Golden, LCSW and Erin Emery-Tiburcio, PhD, clinical leaders with decades of combined experience working with older adults and developing innovative programs. "We are fortunate to continue this important work that will impact the lives of older adults and families at Rush, in the community, and beyond," said Golden.

To learn more about CATCH-ON, please visit www.catch-on.org.