Volume 1, Issue 2

UTEP

GERIATRIC WORKFORCE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM IN THE BORDERLAND

This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant number U1Q53051.

June 13, 2025

YEAR IN REVIEW 2025



A LOOK BACK ON THE HIGHLIGHTS, MILESTONES, AND KEY MOMENTS THAT SHAPED AN UNFORGETTABLE YEAR.

OVERVIEW

OUR INITIATIVE

EDUCATE

Our project aims to implement bilingual, culturally-sensitive geriatric training and education for healthcare and supportive geriatric care workforces in the region.

REACH

The primary goal is to enhance the capacity of tribal communities, rural health organizations, and community agencies in providing effective geriatric services.

PURPOSE AND GOALS

1. Provide bilingual geriatric education and training for healthcare and geriatric care workforces.
2. Focus on comprehensive care for older adults, including those with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia (ADRD).
3. Target El Paso region individuals, underserved communities, Hispanics/Latino, AIAN, & veteran communities.
4. Collaborate with geriatric agencies to enhance patient and family engagement.

HRSA
Health Resources & Services Administration

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GWEP IN THE BORDERLAND

Partnerships

Our reciprocal Partnerships consist of 41 different organizations including: academic, community based, long term care, residential emergent homeless shelter, TTOUR and primary care sites, community advocates, government entities and private primary care practices.



GWEP IN THE BORDERLAND

Our Impact

Engaging with the El Paso community and the Tribal, Tribal Organizations, Underserved, and/or Rural (TTOUR) populations of West Texas remains a central priority for our program. We initiated our outreach efforts this year in February at the Alzheimer's Association® Caregiver Conference at El Paso Community College and continued with our most recent participation at the H.O.P.E + Mobile Clinic & Health Fair hosted by Holy Spirit Catholic Church in June.

As a result of our outreach efforts, we have successfully engaged with multiple agencies, caregivers, and family members of individuals living with Alzheimer's disease, expanding awareness and access to our resources with these communities. As of June 2025, we have directly educated 375 individuals through our free educational resources and in-person trainings, providing them with in-depth knowledge, practical skills, and personalized support. In addition to these participants, we have reached another 335 individuals through our community outreach efforts to raise awareness and increase engagement.

At a Glance



Alzheimer's Association Conference
02.22



H.O.P.E Fair at UTEP
02.26



EPCC Health & Wellness Fair
04.11



H.O.P.E + Mobile Clinic & Health Fair
04.17



H.O.P.E Fair at Holy Spirit Catholic Church
06.11

FREE Education & Modules

AGE-u-cate® Training Institute

These micro-learning courses are aimed to transform attitudes, actions, and care practices through both cognitive and emotional engagement. They can enhance existing training programs or be used independently by staff, students, and families. Available modules include Foundations for Dementia Care and Cultivating Empathy. Sharing these resources more widely has the potential to make a significant impact on dementia care across El Paso, Texas, by fostering greater empathy, awareness, and foundational care throughout the community.

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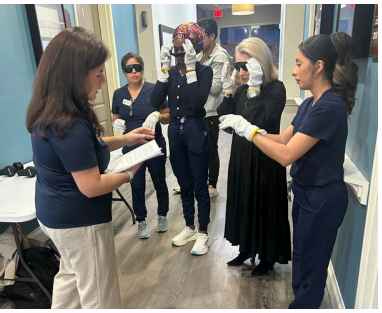
essentiALZ® ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

Training and certification program, developed using evidence from the Dementia Care Practice Recommendations. Offers comprehensive education with modules that cover essential topics such as the Basics of Alzheimer's and Dementia, Person-Centered Care, Assessment and Care Planning, Activities of Daily Living, Communication Changes, and Dementia-Related Behavior. We have actively promoted these modules at every outreach event throughout the year, allowing a total of **67 individuals** to complete the modules in both English and Spanish as of **June 13th 2025**. On May 28th, our research assistants visited Bartlett Skilled Nursing and Assisted Living in person to assist staff with registration and onboarding for the training modules.

FREE Education & Modules Continued









DEMENTIA Live®

Proven. Powerful. Essential

Dementia Live® is an immersive training that simulates the cognitive and sensory challenges of living with dementia, helping participants build empathy and improve care practices. We launched the program in March 2025 with the staff at The Legacy at Cimarron, and have since expanded to agencies including Adult Protective Services (APS), Project Amistad, our Student Interdisciplinary Training Program, and accentCare.

To better serve El Paso's large Hispanic population, several sessions were conducted in Spanish, providing accessibility to all. As of **June 13th 2025, 200 individuals** in which consisted of healthcare professionals, caregivers, and family members have completed the training. Dementia Live® continues to serve as a valuable tool for raising awareness and promoting person-centered dementia care across the community.

















FREE Education & Modules Continued











Interdisciplinary Student Courses

These evidence-based educational and clinical training modules were developed in collaboration with NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing and the Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing. The courses offered include: Foundations of Care for Older Adults, Integrating the 4Ms into the Care of Older Adults, Depression, Delirium, and Dementia, Individualized Competence in Older Adults with Serious and Persistent Mental Illness, and Health Disparities. A total o[illegible] students from diverse academic disciplines at the University of Texas at El Paso completed the training modules prior to their in-person participation in April 2025.

Emerging healthcare leaders from the University of Texas at El Paso representing Nursing, Social Work, Speech-Language Pathology, Kinesiology, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Doctoral programs joined together to complete GWEP's first annual Student Interdisciplinary Training.

FREE Education & Modules Continued

1

Health Professional Courses

In collaboration with NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing and the Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing, these evidence-based modules offer targeted training for health professionals. Courses include: Foundations of Care for Older Adults, Integrating the 4Ms, Pain, Opioids, and Older Adults, Mistreatment Detection, and an optional in-person session on Shared Decision Making with Depression, Delirium, and Dementia.

2

Foundations of Practice for Interprofessional Age-Friendly Care

This course is divided into an introduction, and three short sections: The Aging Population, Models of Care and the Interprofessional Team and Age-Friendly Care. By taking this course, you will be able to: describe trends among the aging population, describe different models of care, state the roles and responsibilities of the interprofessional care team, and discuss standards of practice that impact age-friendly care.

3

Learning Path for Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs) & Home Health Aides

This training pathway is designed to equip Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs) & Home Health Aides with the knowledge and skills needed to deliver high-quality, person-centered care to older adults across various care settings. Courses include: Foundations of Care for Older Adults, Person and Family-Centered Care, Introducing the 4Ms: A Case Study for Direct Caregivers, Falls and Fall Prevention, Health Literacy, Preventing, Recognizing, and Treating Sepsis in Long-Term Care, and Urinary Tract Infections.

4

Upcoming Courses:

Caregivers - Family & Friends
- Community Preceptors

UPCOMING EDUCATION

Featured Speaker:
Elise Passy, MPH, MAEd, CDP
Director of Health Systems
ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION



Intro to Age-Friendly Health Systems

06.04

- *1-hour virtual session with community partners.*
- Explore the Foundations of Age-Friendly Health Systems and learn the essential components of the 4M's Framework - What Matters, Medication, Mentation, and Mobility.

06.26

- *3-hour in-person session with community partners.*
- Participants will learn how to integrate the 4Ms into everyday clinical practice and enhance care outcomes at your organization.

06.27

- *4-hour in-person training with UMC employees.*
- In-person training on age-friendly care for older adults, including those with Alzheimer's and related dementias (ADRD).
- Learn the 4Ms Framework—What Matters, Medication, Mentation, and Mobility—and explore practical tools and strategies to apply person-centered care in your organization.

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GERIATRIC WORKFORCE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM IN THE BORDERLAND

Connect *with* us!

Additional Resources:

SCAN ME

Social Media:

Instagram

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We sincerely thank Brenda Aguilar for her outstanding contributions as a research assistant. Her unwavering dedication, insightful input, and meticulous work were essential to the development and success of this newsletter.