

News from COLLAGE, The Art and Science of Healthy Aging®

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Aging Services of Georgia Submits Grant Proposal to Launch COLLAGE in 12 Low-Income Housing Residences

Aging Services of Georgia and the Georgia Institute on Aging has submitted a grant proposal to The Rich Foundation, Inc. and The Mattie H. Marshall Foundation Trust to bring COLLAGE to several of its member organizations. If accepted, the grant would enable COLLAGE to be launched in 12 affordable housing sites, in Metro-Atlanta and throughout Georgia, owned or managed by the following organizations:

Wesley Woods Senior Living
Campbell-Stone Apartments
Decatur Church of Christ Senior Housing
Presbyterian Homes of Georgia
Christian City
Clairmont Oaks
Lutheran Towers
Magnolia Manor
Vineville Christian Towers

"This is an extraordinary opportunity for us to bring COLLAGE to low-income housing in Georgia," commented Jacquelyn Thornton, Senior Vice President of Aging Services of Georgia and the Georgia Institute on Aging. "I see COLLAGE as the advent of keeping Georgia's largest growing population healthy longer — as we know healthy populations cost less. During these challenging economic times, it's essential for aging services providers to continue the path of innovation and transformation by embracing programs like COLLAGE that reach our members' missions of quality elder care delivery, services and housing."

COLLAGE uses an integrated assessment information system to capture essential health and wellness information that can help resource-deprived older adults in affordable housing to live and age in place more successfully in their homes. Similarly, aging services organizations who offer affordable housing services are looking for ways to understand the needs and living challenges of older adults; to organize and evaluate individual and aggregate healthy aging indices; to improve their management of risk; to more successfully link their clients to targeted community programs and services that facilitate independence; and to reduce the risk of premature institutionalization.

Through the COLLAGE program, Georgia organizations for the first time will have access to an integrated information system to advise their elderly housing residents on matters of health, wellness and successful aging. It will also inform the

development of targeted community-wide programs and services for better outcomes.

“Up to now, a majority of COLLAGE members have used the program to improve health and wellness outcomes for independent older adults living in a continuing care setting,” commented Beryl Goldman, Director of Kendal Outreach, LLC and COLLAGE. “We want to leverage the benefits and learning that COLLAGE has brought to resident outcomes in the continuing care retirement community world to further benefit low-income independent living clients who typically have access to fewer resources. This is a tremendous opportunity and we’re thrilled to be working with Aging Services of Georgia on this initiative.”

COLLAGE, The Art and Science of Aging® is a national consortium of aging service organizations. The consortium includes over 75 communities in 15 states and is led by Kendal Outreach (kendaloutreach.org), an affiliate of The Kendal Corporation based in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania and the Institute for Aging Research at Hebrew SeniorLife (hebrewseniorlife.org) in Boston; both are not-for-profit organizations. The COLLAGE membership alliance includes continuing care, at-home, community-based, home care and housing residences dedicated to improving the lives, well-being and health of their clients. The program provides its members with a standardized and integrated health and wellness assessment information system to advance and promote healthier aging.

The COLLAGE assessment instrument was developed by *interRAI*, a network of researchers, policymakers and clinicians in over 25 countries committed to improving health care for older people and people with disabilities. *InterRAI* promotes evidence-based practice and informed program development through the collection and interpretation of high quality data from scientifically derived, computerized assessment systems.



COLLAGE, The Art and Science of Healthy Aging®

Standardized and integrated health and wellness assessment information for better outcomes. Advance healthy aging in your community. On the web at collageaging.org.