



Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WELFARE
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

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The Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services conducts activities to improve services for California's elderly through research, education & collaboration. These activities are made possible through the generous support of the Kleiner Family Foundation and other donors.

Issue Highlights...

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Family Caregiver Support Project Update

With the generous support of the Archstone Foundation, the Center has successfully completed the data collection phase of its follow-up to the 2002 California Statewide Survey of Caregivers (CSSC). Follow-up telephone interviews were conducted with a subset of caregivers from the CSSC's original random sample of Californians who are providing care to an ill or disabled older adult. In addition, interviews also were conducted with a sample of caregivers whose care recipient had died in the past year. The goal of this project is to identify important information regarding the utilization and impact of caregiver services, in order to facilitate policy and program development to improve services for California's caregivers. Specifically, the project will determine how caregiver support programs meet caregivers' changing needs over time, identify barriers that inhibit service use or contribute to unmet needs, and document the impact of service use for caregivers and their care recipients.

To help meet its goal of improving policy and programs, on May 6th, the Center convened a meeting of its Advisory Committee, consisting of key stakeholders and experts regarding the needs of caregivers. The Center's faculty, staff, and students presented preliminary results of the comparison of the 2002 and 2004 data. The preliminary results show: (1) an increase in caregiver use of all types of formal services, except services from clergy; (2) a decrease in the number of caregivers who are not getting the services they need; (3) overall increases in caregiver knowledge of services, although many respondents still did not know how to get services they thought would be helpful; and (4) fewer barriers to service use, with the exception of language barriers and insufficient time to get services caregivers need. The Advisory Committee members discussed the implications of these findings for caregiver programs and policies, and provided important input regarding future research directions.


During the final phases of the Archstone Foundation grant, the Center faculty, staff, and students will be conducting detailed statistical analyses of the 2002 and 2004 survey data, building further on the extensive foundation of work the Center has completed to date. In addition, the Center will continue the process of disseminating its research findings to policy makers and program planners in order to advance knowledge about strategies for improving support for family caregivers. ●

2004-2005 Rose Kleiner Fellowship & Center Scholarship Recipients

Each year, several Masters of Social Welfare students are recognized for their academic and professional promise with the Rose Kleiner Fellowship in Gerontology and the Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services Scholarship. Special recognition this year went to three outstanding students: Catherine Spensley, Lauren Patti, and Tamara Thompson.

Lauren Patti was awarded a 2004-2005 Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services scholarship. As part of her graduate work, Lauren served as a case manager for Jewish Family and Children's Services Seniors at Home Program and as a discharge planner for senior residents at Laguna Honda Hospital. As a current Graduate Student Researcher for the Berkeley Center on Community Wellness, Lauren develops content for senior-focused educational publications and is part of the project team for a study entitled: "From Hospital to Home: A Strategic Assessment of Eldercare in the Bay Area.

Catherine Spensley also was awarded a 2004-2005 Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services scholarship. Catherine's second year field placement was at the Institute on Aging in San Francisco, which offers a comprehensive array of services for seniors, specializing in helping seniors stay safe and independent at home.

Tamara Thompson was awarded the 2004-2005 Rose Kleiner Fellowship in Gerontology. Tamara's second year field placement was at Linkages, a case management agency for elderly and disabled individuals in Oakland. She also compiles and edits anthologies for Greenhaven Press, a young adult nonfiction publisher. "At Issue: How Should Society Address the Needs of the Elderly," will be published in Fall 2005. Her current project, "Current Controversies: The Elderly," is slated for 2006 release. Prior to graduate school, Tamara spent 15 years as a professional journalist. 



Lauren Patti



Catherine Spensley

Kleiner Family Foundation Gift

In February, the Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services received a generous gift of \$780,000 from the **Kleiner Family Foundation** to further the training of social work students and research in the field of aging services. Over the years, Eugene and Rose Kleiner, now both deceased, helped the School of Social Welfare to found the Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services and have provided critical support that has contributed to the Center's successes to date and has provided a firm foundation for the Center's future.

Rose Kleiner was a graduate of Berkeley's School of Social Welfare and a leader in the emerging field of geriatric case management as founder of Older Adult Care Management and its innovative training subsidiary Personal Assistant Research and Development. Eugene Kleiner was one of the founding fathers of Silicon Valley and an original partner in Fairchild Semiconductor, the first company to manufacture the silicon-based transistor. His venture partnership company was instrumental in helping to spawn more than 350 companies, including Compaq, Genetech, Tandem Computers, Sun and Amazon.

Rose and Eugene were committed to providing support for high quality training of social workers and other aging services personnel in gerontology and understood the importance of cutting-edge research to develop effective services for older adults. The Center faculty, staff and students are forever grateful for their vision, encouragement and generous support.

Faculty Highlight — Julian Chow

University of California at Berkeley, School of Social Welfare, Associate Professor, Julian Chow, PhD., has been an invaluable member of the Center's Family Caregiver Support Project. Julian's research interests in community practice and service delivery in ethnic and immigrant neighborhoods and community analysis and needs assessment have helped focus the analyses of several areas of research from the California Statewide Survey of Caregivers (CSSC). Julian has worked with doctoral students, Nancy Giunta and Erica Auh, to examine variations in caregiver service utilization patterns, unmet service needs, and barriers to access among diverse ethnic groups. Recently, Julian presented CSSC research results at the National Gerontological Social Work Conference in New York and at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research in Miami. To download copies of these presentations, please visit the Center's website—<http://cssr.berkeley.edu/aging> or to learn more about Julian visit the UC, Berkeley, School of Social Welfare website - <http://socialwelfare.berkeley.edu/> ●



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Publication Highlight

Recently, Andrew Scharlach, Center Director and Barrie Robinson, Field Consultant produced a curriculum manual for training social work students in county Departments of Adult and Aging Services (DAAS). The training curriculum was developed over a four-year period (1999–2003) with generous support from the John A. Hartford Foundation of New York, as part of its Practicum Partnership Program, an innovative initiative to strengthen social work training in aging.

The training curriculum is designed for use by DAAS as well as social work education programs. Materials can be used to enhance current internships, as well as to establish new training programs. The goal of the project is to enable DAAS and schools of social work to work together to prepare increasing numbers of students to serve older adult populations through the public aging services system.

Curriculum materials were tested and refined over a three-year period with cohorts of MSW students across three schools of social work and the model was shown to be very effective in providing comprehensive training in aging services. An article summarizing the results of the model is under review by the Journal of Social Work Education.

A copy of the training curriculum materials are available to download at —
<http://cssr.berkeley.edu/aging>.

Farewell, Graduates!

On May 9th, the Center gathered to thank, congratulate, and say farewell to our two graduating students: Cara Goldstein and Jhiah Chang. Cara has been with the Center for two years, providing a great deal of research assistance regarding family caregiving. Jhiah has been with the Center for four years, helping with administrative as well as research tasks. We wish our graduates the best of luck in their future endeavors and thank them for all of their ambitious and diligent work.



Cara Goldstein, Andy Scharlach, Jhiah Chang

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