

AWARDED CONTRACTS

The Iowa Coalition on Mental Health and Aging, Phase III

Phase I established the Iowa Coalition on Mental Health and Aging, developed an informational website and defined Coalition goals and objectives to help the state improve delivery of specialty mental health services. *Phase II* activities included conducting and analyzing a service needs assessment, a survey of providers' capacity to develop evidence-based practices, and interpreting survey results for an empirical study on differing level of need among older adults. Invited experts gave presentations on mental health and aging topics at 5 Coalition meetings. Fact sheets were developed to describe Iowans age 65+ with mental illness, mental health service use patterns and treatment. *Phase III* continued efforts to build coalition membership, developed 2007 Coalition legislative priorities with supporting fact sheets and created workgroup plans.

Contract with Iowa Division of Behavioral, Developmental and Protective Services for Families, Adults and Children of the Iowa Department of Human Services

Phase I: 1/1/05-9/30/05; Total Direct Costs: \$74,951

Phase II: 10/01/05-06/30/06; Total Direct Costs: \$44,015

Phase III: 7/01/06 – 6/30/07; Total Direct Costs: \$63,485

Phase IV: Pending 7/1/07-6/30/08; Total Direct Costs-\$57,174

COA Role[s]:

Phase I: PI- K. Buckwalter, PhD, Co-Investigator- B. Kaskie, PhD; Coordinator--J. Bobitt; MA; Administrative support- B. Reasner, BS

Phase II & III: PI- B. Kaskie, PhD; K. Buckwalter, PhD; Coordinator- J. Bobitt; MA; Administrative support- B. Reasner, BS

CONSULTATION AND SERVICE

Johnson County Consortium on Successful Aging

Dr. Brian Kaskie of the COA led a strategic planning effort on behalf of the Johnson County Task Force on Aging to identify community services needed to age successfully in Johnson County. From 2003 to 2006, the project gathered and analyzed information from more than 1,000 surveys and from focus groups with over 100 service administrators. A market analysis was conducted to characterize the needs of older adults in Johnson County and the corresponding supply of programs and services. Dr. Kaskie provided consultation, including design assistance with an implementation strategy, to improve current policy and programs on health, housing, transportation and other opportunities for successful aging in the county. This work resulted in five reports on "Successful Aging In Johnson County". The project recently evolved into the Johnson County Livable Community Initiative and has received the support of the CEO of AARP, the Iowa Legislature (Senate Bill #601) and the Johnson County Council of Governments which recently hired an "aging specialist" to implement many of the reports' suggestions. The national office of AARP will monitor and evaluate the Livable Communities initiative beginning fall 2006 for consideration as a possible national model.

Project Period: July 2003-September 2007

COA Role[s]: Project advisor- B. Kaskie, PhD; Livable Community Action Committee members- K. Buckwalter, PhD, J. Bobitt, MA, L. Benz, MSW

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

L. Benz, MSW

2006-current

Member, Health and Supportive Services Committee, Johnson Co. Consortium on Successful Aging

J. Bobitt, MA

2006-current

Member, Aging Specialist and Available Resources Committee, Johnson Co. Consortium on Successful Aging

K. Buckwalter, PhD

2006-current

Member, Johnson County Consortium on Successful Aging

2007-current

Member, Johnson County Livable Community for Successful Aging Policy Board

February 2004-April 2007

Board member, Iowa Department of Elder Affairs, State of Iowa

2003-2008

Chair, Public Policy Committee, Gerontological Society of America

2006-2009

Member, Delegate Council, National Interfaith Coalition on Aging

2006-current

Joint Task Force on Mental Health and Aging, American Academy of Nursing

2004-current

Oaknoll Board of Directors, Iowa City, IA

B. Kaskie, PhD

2004- current

Consultant, National Council on Aging, Civic Engagement Initiative

2003-present

Planning Committee member, Johnson County Senior Needs Assessment, Johnson County Consortium on Successful Aging

2006-2007

Strategic Planning Task Force, member, Johnson County AARP Livable Community Forum, Iowa City, IA

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION AND ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Center on Aging [COA] Website: www.centeronaging.uiowa.edu

The COA Website is a ready source of information for the general public and specific audiences including faculty, students, community-based professionals and policymakers. Most of the resources below are located on the COA website for continuous, easy access and reflect interests and needs of our target audiences.

Calendar of Events in Aging

This searchable web-based calendar posts University of Iowa, state and national events in aging including conferences, seminars, workshops, journal clubs, grand rounds, guest lectures, community forums and other opportunities.

Education and Training in Aging Web Page

This academic planning resource provides information on UI courses in gerontology, training opportunities, fellowships, internships and new education initiatives.

Other Web-based Information Resources:

- *NEW:* Evaluating Driving Performance: Iowa Programs and Resources
- *UPDATED:* Iowa Geriatrician Locator (Iowa physicians with a certificate of added qualification in geriatrics)
- *UPDATED:* State-by-State Locator for Community Resources in Aging
- UI-based Health Resources for Older adults
- Practical publications on Alzheimer's disease, dementia and other topics in aging
- *UPDATED:* Medicare Prescription Drug Program Benefit and Enrollment Information

Listserv on Aging

The COA Listserv provides free e-mail announcements on timely aging-related educational opportunities and "NEWS in Aging" updates on the COA website. Listserv members increased 8% to 325 subscribers in 2006-2007.

Directory of Faculty Associates and Professional Staff in Aging

This Directory provides accessible information about UI expertise and activities in the field of aging to encourage interdisciplinary collaboration and resource awareness. The Directory is a searchable database on the COA website (www.centeronaging.uiowa.edu) with 260 records that describes research, education, training and clinical activities and resources in aging developed and conducted by UI faculty and staff. All 11 university colleges and several related units participate in the Directory (Updated in 2006).

INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

In FY07 the Center on Aging responded to 85 requests from the public for information, a 9% increase from the previous year.

