

**Selected Center on Aging Research, Evaluation, Training, and Community
Consultation Projects
(May 2016)**



Project	Summary
<p>University of Maine Aging Initiative Seed Grants (Older Worker, Water Quality, and Nutrition Issues)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Center on Aging is the lead organization on a University of Maine seed grant that will pilot an older worker survey aimed at creating a better understanding of the value and contributions of older workers to the labor force. The Center is also a partner on two additional seed grants that will further development of water quality improvement technologies and a nutritional supplement food product for older adults. • Seed grants provided by the University of Maine are designed to support pilot-level work and catalyze additional funding opportunities.
<p>MOTIVATE Model Needs Assessment Research 2015-2016</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Motivate project utilizes an innovative, interprofessional educational model to improve, promote and protect the oral and systemic health of Maine long-term care residents. The University of Maine Center on Aging and the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine collaborated to implement a comprehensive needs assessment study at pilot sites in Maine. Needs assessment surveys and focus groups will identify the needs of staff at all levels of long term care with regard to oral health training, techniques, and tools. Results will be used to develop oral health training curriculum for long-term care staff.

<p>At Home Downeast Evaluation Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Center on Aging has been contracted by the At Home Downeast Program to develop a comprehensive evaluation plan for the At Home Downeast program that will evaluate participant outcomes, organizational processes, and program costs. The goal of this work will be to build upon existing evaluation procedures to create an enhanced and sustainable evaluation system that can be carried forward by At Home Downeast staff.
<p>Thriving in Place Initiatives 2015-2018</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Piscataquis Thriving in Place initiative is overseeing a comprehensive strategy to strengthen the system of care by focusing on elements of the supportive environment for individuals in the form of transportation, volunteerism, home-based services, caregiver support, and community engagement, which are all crucial to thriving in place. • The Center on Aging is supporting the Piscataquis Thriving in Place project by conducting an evaluation of systems change activities undertaken by the Thriving in Place collaborative workgroup to document changes in partner engagement and collaboration, goal alignment, and progress toward goals. This evaluation focuses on generating actionable information for workgroups to help guide implementation through activities such as theory of change development. The Center on Aging will also be working with partners to document changes in health outcomes at the county-level and among patients engaged directly with Piscataquis Thriving in Place Collaborative supports. • In 2015, the Penobscot Thriving in Place initiative launched in the towns of Milford, Old Town, Orono, and Veazie. Led by the Eastern Area Agency on Aging and Penobscot Community Health Care (PCHC), the initiative utilizes a Social Work Health Advocate through PCHC who provides services to support thriving in place for individuals with chronic conditions and disabilities. To improve coordination of community services and supports, a Thriving in Place coordinator focus on convening and working with community partners to identify gaps in services and

	<p>supports and improve integration. The Center on Aging is conducting a comprehensive evaluation of the initiative including client health outcomes and access to care, and improved integration of community services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the Katahdin area, the Center on Aging is facilitating a community needs assessment to better understand the needs of the local population for thriving in place. This planning grant is being led by Millinocket Regional Hospital with a coalition of local community partners. Findings from the needs assessment will inform the development of a strategic plan to address aging in place in the Katahdin area.
<p>Healthy Communities Planning Grants 2015-2016</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Center on Aging is conducting a process evaluation for two Maine Health Access Foundation-funded Healthy Communities planning grants to measure collaboration quality, stakeholder engagement, and goal-alignment of partners. • The Piscataquis County Healthy Community grant is focused on improving access to healthy food for citizens of Piscataquis County. The Bangor initiative is focused on better supporting prevention of substance abuse and supporting substance abuse recovery. Both initiatives have a strong focus on stakeholder engagement by the target population, providers, and the broader community.
<p>Access to Quality Care Initiative 2015-2017</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Maine Health Access Foundation-funded Access to Quality Care Initiative is a partnership of local healthcare providers focused on the development and adoption of standardized opioid prescribing protocols with the goal of reducing substance use disorders. The project is also partnering with local human service agencies to increase access to needed supportive services to assist patients in recovery. The Center on Aging is providing evaluation consultation to the project to evaluate the collaborative process and connections among medical and human services providers.

<p>Greenville-area Age Friendly Communities Needs Assessment 2016</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through an AARP grant program focused on developing age friendly communities, the Center on Aging, in partnership with the Charlotte White Center, is conducting a needs assessment in the Greenville-area to determine needs and priorities for supporting an age-friendly community. The Center on Aging will be conducting a survey with local community members, as well as interviews with health and human services and other professionals serving the area.
<p>Penquis Regional Linking Project 2012-2017</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 year grant-funded project through Federal Children’s Bureau that will fund supports for children and caregivers affected by substance abuse including trauma informed systems of care interventions, regional partnership activities, and direct services. Families and Children Together is the lead agency for this grant. The Penquis Linking Project Partnership is a central leader in carrying out and informing grant activities. The Center on Aging is evaluating this project examining both outcomes at the client, partnership, and systems of care levels.
<p>Balancing Act Translational Research 2013-2016</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 year NIH-funded clinical trial that will test a self-administered falls prevention program that has been adapted for use among older adults with visual impairments. In partnership with the University of New England and The Iris Network, the UM Center on Aging coordinates project activities including overseeing data collection, analysis and reporting, and coordinating a national Blue Ribbon Panel that will guide project activities.
<p>Penquis Regional Linking Project 2012-2017</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a 5-year grant-funded project through Federal Children’s Bureau that will fund supports for children and caregivers affected by substance abuse including trauma informed systems of care interventions, regional partnership activities, and direct services. Families and Children Together is the lead agency for this grant. The Penquis Linking Project Partnership is a central leader in carrying out and informing grant activities. • The Center on Aging and the University of Louisville are jointly evaluating this project examining both outcomes at the client, partnership, and

	systems of care levels.
Maine Community Foundation Evaluation Consultation Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Center on Aging is providing targeted evaluation consultation to the Maine Community Foundation (MCF) as it carries out its current strategic planning activities. Specifically the Center is providing evaluation implementation guidance and ensuring that MCF's programmatic impact is measurable and can be documented through practical evaluation strategies.
Maine Safe Medicine Disposal for ME Program Data collection phase: 2008-2012 Public education: On-going	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Center on Aging spearheaded the provision of postage-paid envelopes to residents throughout Maine. These envelopes were used to return unused and unwanted medicines to the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency for cataloging and proper disposal (2008-2012). Key activities included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Marketing and education campaign addressing safe medicine disposal ○ Collection of unused and unwanted medications and the documentation of the type and quantity of medications returned and reason for the return of such medications ○ Documentation of wasted healthcare dollars and reduction in the accumulation of drugs within Maine homes.

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