



Change AGENTS Action Award Winners Announcement

January, 2016

The John A. Hartford Foundation (JAHF) has announced the applicants selected as the 2016 JAHF Change AGENTS Action Award Winners. Each receive a one-year grant for up to \$10,000 – each project is for the purpose of achieving meaningful change to practice or policy that will improve health and well-being of older adults and their families. Drs. Evelyn Clingerman and Sandra Spoelstra are among nine to receive this award.

Below is a summary of their project:

Medication Therapy Management (MTM) in a Home Based Program

Sandra Spoelstra, PhD, RN

Grand Valley State University Kirkhof College of Nursing, Grand Rapids, MI

Evelyn Clingerman, PhD, RN, FNAP

Grand Valley State University Kirkhof College of Nursing, Grand Rapids, MI

Domain of Practice Change: Redesigning Delivery Systems

Summary: The goal of this project is to disseminate and implement a medication therapy management (MTM) program in home-based settings of older adults. The MTM program will be incorporated into the Tandem365 program, a pilot project comprised of nine organizations in the Grand Rapids, MI area that is designed to meet the needs of older adults, particularly those who are frail, multimorbid, and medically complex with many medications prescribed. The objective of this project is to improve medication management, thus, further reducing adverse events, hospitalizations, and/or Emergency Department visits, and ultimately, improving the quality-of-life of those who receive services in Tandem365. MTM, which is defined as care provided by clinicians whose aim is to optimize drug therapy and improve therapeutic outcomes, has evolved as a complex, multi-modal intervention, which addresses issues of polypharmacy, preventable adverse drug events, medication adherence, and medication misuse.