



Resources For Individuals & Family Caregivers

UNDERSTANDING THE ISSUE:

The current health care workforce overall is not large enough to meet older adults' needs. The scarcity of workers specializing in the care of older adults – the eldercare workforce - is even more pronounced. It is estimated that by 2030, 3.5 million additional health care professionals and direct-care workers will be needed. To meet these needs, the Eldercare Workforce Alliance (EWA) calls for a focus on recruitment, training, retention, compensation, and reimbursement for members of the interdisciplinary team.

The first of the Baby Boomers started turning 65 years old in 2011. Now and for the next 15 years, approximately 10,000 Baby Boomers will turn 65 every day. That people are living longer is a great achievement, but we must ensure that the workforce is trained to provide care for older adults. Just as children should be treated by health providers who are trained in pediatrics, older adults should receive care from professionals trained to care for them.

RESOURCES FOR INDIVIDUALS & FAMILY CAREGIVERS:

Health care providers with geriatrics and gerontology training help prevent unnecessary hospitalizations, harmful drug interactions, falls, and depression. They understand the unique needs of older adults, especially those with multiple health problems. As a team, they work to support independent living and provide the quality care our elders deserve. Just as children should be treated by health providers who are trained in pediatrics, older adults should receive care from professionals trained to care for them.

Older adults and their family caregivers deserve quality care and access to supports and resources. That care requires a strong, supported, and well-trained workforce.

Find a health care provider with geriatrics or gerontology training:

- Find a [geriatrics healthcare professional](#)
- Find a [geriatric psychiatrist](#)
- Find a [gerontological social worker](#) (specialization "Aging")
- Find a [geropsychologist](#) (specialization "Aging")
- Find a [Geriatric Education Center](#) (GEC)
- Find a [senior care pharmacist](#)

Find resources for older adults and their family caregivers:

- AARP's [Caregiving Resource Center](#)
- Administration on Aging's [Eldercare Locator](#)
- American Society of Consultant Pharmacists' [Center for Medicines & Healthy Aging](#)
- American Psychological Association's [Family Caregiver Briefcase](#)
- Eldercare Workforce Alliance's [Older Americans Month Toolkit](#) with resources from members
- Family Caregiver Alliance's [Caregiver College video series](#)
- Find your local [Area Agency on Aging](#) (AAA)
- [Health In Aging](#) consumer and caregiver information
- National Alliance for Caregiving [Publications](#) & [Web Resources](#)
- National Association of Social Workers aging and health [consumer website](#)
- National Institute on Aging [Health & Aging](#) website