TABLE: 2022 ACTIVE PROJECTS

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER BY NAME OF PROJECT) – AS OF 3/3/2022

	Project Name	Funder	VNSNY Research Staff	Total Grant $ Amount	Project Dates
1	AdvantAge Initiative **Description:** AdvantAge is an ongoing Research Center initiative. Started in 1999, it provides tools and methods to help communities measure and improve their elder-friendliness. It includes a customized survey of older adults in a defined community and a process for interpreting results of the survey and using them to drive change. AdvantAge has been used in over 60 communities nationwide (including NYC). The Research Department "motto" (Data—Information—Action) came from the AdvantAge Initiative project. A new New York City-wide survey – "The SAGE AdvantAge Initiative Survey of LGBTQ+ Older Adults in NYC" – in partnership with SAGE and with funding from the Fan Fox & Leslie R Samuels Foundation, Inc. was the most recent initiative.	Originally grant funded; now contracts with community-based organizations and a grant from the Fan Fox & Leslie R Samuels Foundation, Inc.	Oberlink Stern	Variable	Ongoing
2	Beatrice Renfield Nursing Research Program **Description:** The main activities funded with foundation support are promoting nurse scientist and nurse involvement in research.	Beatrice Renfield Foundation	Bowles Topaz	Endowment	06/01/03-ongoing
3	CAPABLE: Reducing disability following hospital discharge in vulnerable older adults: the CAPABLE intervention **Description:** This study is testing the effectiveness of the CAPABLE program, which combines evidence-based nursing, occupational therapy, and handyman components to help diverse older adults function at home and save our nation costly nursing home care.	National Institute on Aging (NIA); *subcontract with Johns Hopkins School of Nursing*	Bowles McDonald Shah Sridharan Onorato Vergez Vasquez	$2,011,546	09/01/17-04/30/23
4	Center for Improving Palliative Care for Vulnerable Adults with MCC (CIPC) **Description:** The Center for Improving Palliative Care in Vulnerable Adults with MCC (CIPC) aims to provide expert guidance to nurse scientists in becoming leaders of interdisciplinary research teams that generate knowledge to inform how best to provide vulnerable adults with multiple chronic conditions with palliative	National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR): *subcontract with Columbia University*	Topaz McDonald Ryvicker Barrón-Vayá Feldman Sridharan	$226,290	08/08/18-05/31/23

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	that care is consistent with their personal preferences and reduces burdensome treatments and transitions.				
5	Challenges and Best Practices in Delivering Family Caregiver Training During Medicare Home Health **Description:** The purpose of this study is to provide essential information to help design a pragmatic clinical trial that focuses on issues related to communication and care coordination between home health care agencies and clinicians with providers who order and certify home health care services.	Alliance for Home Health Quality and Innovation (AHHQI)	Burgdorf	$38,686	01/01/22-04/30/22
6	Consumer Health Information Technology to Engage & Support ADRD Caregivers: Research Program to Address ADRD Implementation Milestone 13.I **Description:** Dr. Burgdorf will examine patient portal access among caregiver/older adult dyads with a particular focus on older adults experiencing dementia. In addition, Dr. Burgdorf will engage in a series of information gathering conversations within VNSNY to inquire about consumer health information technology capabilities and the potential to use existing digital platforms to engage dementia caregivers.	National Institutes of Health (NIH): *Subcontract with Johns Hopkins University*	Burgdorf	$16,852	10/01/21-06/30/22
7	Dementia Caregivers' Link to Assistance and Resources (DECLARE) **Description:** The objectives of this study are to identify the supportive needs, including specific types of training, most commonly experienced by dementia caregivers during home health care. Further, to gather information regarding caregiver preferences and expectations regarding how home health staff can/should help meet these needs.	VNSNY	Burgdorf Russell Vergez	$55,000	01/01/22-09/30/22
8	Developing and Piloting a Multi-Component Technology-Based Care Intervention **Description:** This proposal seeks to develop, and pilot test a multi-component technology-based care intervention, i.e., **I**mproving **Ho**me hospice **M**anagement of **E**nd-of-life issues through technology (I-HoME), that focuses on assessing and addressing patient symptoms and caregiver burden in the home hospice setting.	National Institute on Aging (NIA); *subcontract with Weill Cornell Medicine*	Shah Vasquez Kapela	$62,377	05/01/20-04/30/24

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9	Developing and Pilot Testing Culturally Based Educational Videos for Puerto Rican and African American Home Hospice Caregivers **Description:** This study aims to develop culturally tailored educational videos focused on symptom related issues to improve caregivers' comfort in managing these issues, preparedness and self-efficacy, factors which are associated with improved caregiver outcomes.	National Institute on Aging (NIA); *subcontract with Weill Cornell Medicine*	Shah Vasquez Kapela		09/08/21-09/07/22
10	Development and Testing of the Palliative Care related, Knowledge, Attitudes, & Confidence in the Home Health Care (PC-KAC in HHC) Questionnaires. **Description:** This pilot project is aimed at developing and evaluating the psychometric properties of instruments that measure palliative care knowledge, attitudes, and confidence among clinicians, patients and informal caregivers in the home healthcare (HHC) setting.	Columbia University Intramural Grant	McDonald King	$5,000	02/01/21-01/31/22
11	Disparities in Infection in Home Health and Patients/Caregivers' Perceptions (Dis-Infection in HHC) **Description:** This multisite study is examining socio-economic disparities in infection events and will explore infection prevention and control related knowledge, attitudes, and practices among home healthcare patients and their caregivers. The final year of this study includes the pilot testing of an intervention to improve infection control practices.	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ): *subcontract with Columbia University*	McDonald Russell Barrón-Vayá Sridharan	$863,636	09/03/21-08/31/26
12	*Doyle:* Using artificial intelligence to identify homecare patient's risk of hospitalization and emergency department visits: speech-recognition feasibility study **Description:** This feasibility study is the first step in exploring an emerging and previously understudied data stream - verbal communication between health providers and patients. Specifically, advanced artificial intelligence methods will be used to explore whether audio recorded nurse-patient communication during routine home healthcare (HHC) visits can inform the identification of patients at risk for hospitalization or ED visits.	Eugenie and Joseph Doyle Research Partnership Fund of the VNSNY; award to PI Zolnoori of Columbia University School of Nursing	Topaz Sridharan Vergez	$10,000	09/01/20-06/30/22
13	Enhancing Dementia Instruction and Toolkit in Home Hospice Care (EDITH-HC)	National Institute on Aging (NIA);	McDonald Barrón-Vayá	$191,186	09/01/21-02/28/23

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	Description: This research study is intended to improve the quality of care provided to home hospice persons living with dementia (PLwD) and their family caregiver (FCG). The purpose of this study is to develop and preliminary test an educational training program and FCG assessment tool for hospice nurses and social workers (clinicians) to improve clinician knowledge about end-of-life care for PLwD and to improve support for and reduce burden among FCG of home hospice PLwD.	*subcontract with Rutgers, The State University*	Kapela Vasquez		
14	Ensuring the Safety of the Home Health Aide Workforce and the Continuation of Needed Client Services During COVID-19: Lessons and Recommendations for Future Preparedness **Description:** The ultimate goal of this project is the dissemination and adoption of effective, equitable and sustainable workforce practices and policies applicable to the challenges of providing ongoing care for people with disabling conditions, advanced illness or physical limitations in the context of current and/or newly emerging communicable diseases.	Altman Foundation	Feldman McDonald Russell Onorato Vergez Oberlink Stern	$75,000	02/26/21-06/23/22
15	Gender Affirmation, Quality of Life, and Access to Care: A Mixed-Method Longitudinal Investigation **Description:** Gender minorities experience disparities in physical and mental health. Gender-affirming healthcare has the potential to mitigate these disparities, yet this population faces multiple barriers to accessing competent care. This mixed-method, longitudinal cohort study examines changes in psychosocial adjustment and health-related quality of life after gender-affirming surgery, informing the development of future home- and community-based healthcare interventions to promote their health and wellbeing.	National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) collaborating with *University of Pennsylvania & Columbia University*	Ryvicker Bowles Barrón-Vayá Cheruvillil Sridharan Kapela	$3,465,853	07/01/21-04/30/26
16	Health Coaching Initiative **Description:** Health coaches trained by VNSNY Partners in Care are imbedded in NORC programs (currently the Stanley M. Isaacs NORC & the Johnson NORC at Isaacs/Taft Senior Center) to help vulnerable older adults age in place. Center staff are leading an evaluation of these initiatives.	Stanley M. Isaacs Neighborhood Center, Inc.,	Oberlink Stern	$20,000	06/01/17-06/30/22
17	Homecare CONCERN: Building risk models for preventable hospitalizations and emergency department visits in home care **Description:**	Agency for Healthcare	Topaz Bowles McDonald	$1,519,729	09/30/20-07/31/24

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	This study will further develop and validate a preventable hospitalization or ED visit risk prediction model (Homecare-CONCERN). Traditional (time varying Cox regression) and cutting-edge time-sensitive analytical methods (Deep Survival Analysis and Long-Short Term Memory Neural Network) for risk model development will be applied. In addition, the team will prepare Homecare-CONCERN for clinical trial via pilot testing.	Research and Quality (AHRQ)	Barrón-Vayá Sridharan Evans Kapela		
18	Home Health Aide Continuity Among Home-Based Long-Term Care Clients and its Relationship with Health Outcomes **Description:** This is a retrospective cohort study that will describe home health aide continuity among a population of older adults receiving Medicaid-funded, home-based long-term care. Client factors associated with greater continuity and the association between continuity and client health outcomes will be examined.	National Institute on Aging; *subcontract with Mount Sinai Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center*	Russell	$47,595	07/01/21-06/20/23
19	The Impact of COVID-19 on End-of-Life Care for Vulnerable Populations Description: The major goal of the study is to examine the impact of public health containment and mitigation policies implemented during the COVID-19 crisis in the United States on the experiences of patients at the end of life and their families. Hospice is the dominant model of home-based care for those at the end of life and this research will elucidate the ways in which hospices adapted their practices and implemented new policies in response to COVID-19 and in preparation for a broad range of future emergencies.	National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR); *subcontract with Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai*	McDonald Barrón-Vayá	$151,939	07/12/21-07/31/24
20	Improving TRAnsitions anD outcomeS oF sEpsis suRvivors (I-TRANFER) **Description:** The purpose of this study is to advance the science of transitional care for sepsis survivors, the study will test the effectiveness of the I-TRANSFER home health care early visit protocol intervention in the real world and study its implementation with a pragmatic, multi-center, Type 1 hybrid, stepped wedge randomized trial in partnership with five dyads of acute care and HHC providers (ten clinical sites in total).	National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR); *subcontract with University of Pennsylvania*	Bowles Barrón-Vayá Ryvicker	$584,822	12/01/20-11/30/25
21	Incapacitated with No Evident Advance Directives or Surrogates (INEADS) **Description:**	National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR);	Topaz McDonald Sridharan Vergez	$140,000	08/28/20-07/31/22

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	Determine what are the prevalence and characteristics of adults who are INEADS or at risk of becoming INEADS, and how clinical decisions are currently made for INEADS patients.	*subcontract with Mount Sinai*			
22	Leveraging Home Health Aides to Improve Outcomes in Heart Failure **Description:** The goal of the project is to develop, and pilot test a novel intervention for home health aides caring for patients with heart failure, in order to avert avoidable readmissions and improve patient outcomes. VNSNY investigators are advisors to this study and will help with the logistics of pilot testing of the intervention.	National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI); *subcontract with Weill Medical College of Cornell University*	Feldman McDonald Vergez	$38,753	12/15/19-11/30/24
23	Making health care safer for older adults receiving skilled home health care services after hospital discharge **Description:** This study seeks to address critical gaps in the understanding of safety issues during the high-risk hospital to home health care transition. This project will analyze threats, refine and then pilot test a bundle of interventions	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); *subcontract with Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine*	Bowles McDonald Sridharan Vergez	$225,883	08/01/19-05/31/22
24	Making health care safer for older adults receiving skilled home health care services after hospital discharge – COVID-19 supplement **Description:** The goal of the supplement is to identify how the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic has impacted (1) care transitions experiences of older adults after coming home from the hospital and their home health providers, and (2) organizational structure and processes of participating SHHC agencies in two geographic areas.	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); *administrative supplement subcontract with Johns Hopkins University*	Bowles McDonald Sridharan	$305,143	09/01/20-05/31/22
25	MC-ICON (Clinical Meaningful Concept in Communication) **Description:** This project involves NLP methods and annotation of clinical conversations and home health care (EHR) clinical note, that aim to predict whether patients will experience deterioration and ultimately end up back in hospital or emergency department.	Columbia University Intramural Grant	Topaz Sridharan Vergez	$7,300	02/01/21-01/31/22
26	Nurses' documentation of patient diagnoses, symptoms and interventions for home care patients with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD): A natural language processing study **Description:**	National Institute on Aging (NIA)	Ryvicker Topaz Shah Barrón-Vayá	$473,257	08/01/20-05/31/22

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	This study will allow us to examine HHC nurses' practices, which are often difficult to observe systematically, and identify strategies to address the complex needs of their patients with ADRD and un-diagnosed patients who may be on a path toward ADRD diagnosis. The long-term goal of this research is to develop a home-based intervention that aims to improve quality of life for patients and caregivers along the ADRD trajectory.				
27	A Pragmatic Randomized Control Trial of Nurse-Delivered Brief Meaning Centered Psychotherapy for Homebound Palliative Care Patients **Description:** The primary aim of the proposed project is to determine if homecare nurses, the frontline clinicians who typically serve this vulnerable patient population, can effectively deliver meaning centered psychotherapy for palliative care and reduce psychological suffering in their advanced cancer patients.	National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR); *subcontract with Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research*	McDonald Kapela	$152,667	09/01/21-07/31/23
28	PREVENT: Improving patient prioritization during hospital-homecare transition: A mixed methods study of a clinical decision support tool **Description:** This study is a rigorous effectiveness trial evaluating an innovative clinical decision support system (CDSS) called PREVENT, PREVENT assists home care agency schedulers and nurses in prioritizing patients in need of immediate first homecare nursing visits.	National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR); *subcontract with Columbia University School of Nursing*	Topaz McDonald Bowles Barrón-Vayá Sridharan Onorato Song	$594,088	09/25/19-07/31/22
29	Qualitative Interviews with Clinicians who Provide Care to GAP Patients **Description:** In this project, Research Center staff will interview 50 VNSNY clinicians who provide care to VNSNY patients that are undergoing gender affirmation surgery. The purpose of the project is to learn more about clinicians' knowledge and training, as well as their attitudinal awareness and comfort level in working with this population, and how these factors impact care.	NYC City Council	Oberlink Cheruvillil Stern	$48,893	12/1/22-6/30/22
30	Using Speech and Language to Identify Patients at Risk for Hospitalizations and Emergency Department Visits in Homecare **Description**: Building on Doyle pilot work done by M.Zolnoori and M.Topaz, this study expands the study of verbal communication between health providers and patients. Specifically, advanced artificial intelligence methods will be applied to explore whether audio	Amazon; *subcontract with Columbia University*	Topaz Sridharan Vergez	$74,557	01/01/21-06/30/22

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	recorded nurse-patient communication during routine home healthcare (HHC) visits can inform the identification of patients at risk for hospitalization or ED visits.				
31	VNSNY Veterans Outreach Project **Description:** The Research Center's role in this project is to provide data collection support and conduct an evaluation of the Veteran Liaison Program, which strives to expand healthcare access to veterans and their families; assist veterans in accessing benefits and community resources to ensure they are receiving the care and services to which they are entitled; help bridge the transition into the community from in-patient facility settings; and provide educational sessions for nurses, social workers, and home health aides to sensitize them to the special needs of veteran patients.	Mother Cabrini Health Foundation	Stern	$21,910	01/01/20-12/31/22