

THE CENTER FOR HOME CARE POLICY & RESEARCH

**TABLE: 2023 ACTIVE PROJECTS**

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER BY NAME OF PROJECT) – AS OF 1/15/2023

Project Name		Funder	VNS Health Research Staff	Main Focus Area	Project Dates
1	<p>AdvantAge Initiative</p> <p><b>Description:</b> 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. With funding from the Fan Fox and Leslie R Samuels Foundation, a survey of older adults in Central Harlem is the most recent initiative.</p>	Originally grant funded; now contracts with community-based organizations and a grant from the Fan Fox & Leslie R Samuels Foundation, Inc.	Oberlink Stern	Supporting Communities	Ongoing
2	<p>Beatrice Renfield Nursing Research Program</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The main activities funded with foundation support are promoting nurse scientist and nurse involvement in research.</p>	Beatrice Renfield Foundation	Bowles Topaz	Quality & Outcomes	06/01/03-ongoing
3	<p>CAPABLE: Reducing disability following hospital discharge in vulnerable older adults: the CAPABLE intervention</p> <p><b>Description:</b> 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.</p>	National Institute on Aging (NIA); <i>subcontract with Johns Hopkins School of Nursing</i>	Bowles Shah Sridharan Onorato Vergez Vasquez	Quality & Outcomes	09/01/17-04/30/23
4	<p>Center for Improving Palliative Care for Vulnerable Adults with MCC (CIPC)</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The <u>C</u>enter for <u>I</u>mproving <u>P</u>alliative <u>C</u>are 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 that care is consistent with their personal preferences and reduces burdensome treatments and transitions.</p>	National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR); <i>subcontract with Columbia University</i>	Topaz McDonald Ryvicker Barrón-Vayá Feldman Sridharan	Workforce Training/Quality & Outcomes	08/08/18-05/31/23

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5	Center Pilot: REFLECTION (identify pREference of paLLiative care through ConversaTION) <b>Description:</b> Aims: 1. Identify palliative care (PC) preference contents in patient-case manager verbal communications; 2. Develop and test prediction algorithms to identify patients' PC preference; 3. Explore associations between self-reported fatigue and pain and PC preference.	National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR): <i>Subcontract with Columbia University</i>	Topaz	Quality & Outcomes	06/01/22-05/31/23
6	Consumer Health Information Technology to Engage & Support ADRD Caregivers: Research Program to Address ADRD Implementation Milestone 13.1 <b>Description:</b> 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 VNS Health 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): <i>Subcontract with Johns Hopkins University</i>	Burgdorf	Quality & Outcomes	10/01/21-06/30/23
7	Developing and Piloting a Multi-Component Technology-Based Care Intervention <b>Description:</b> This study seeks to develop, and pilot test a multi-component technology-based care intervention, i.e., Improving Home hospice Management of End-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); <i>subcontract with Weill Cornell Medicine</i>	Shah Vasquez Kapela	Quality & Outcomes	05/01/20-04/30/24
8	Developing and Pilot Testing Culturally Based Educational Videos for Puerto Rican and African American Home Hospice Caregivers <b>Description:</b> 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); <i>subcontract with Weill Cornell Medicine</i>	Shah Vasquez Kapela	Quality & Outcomes	09/08/21-09/07/23
9	Development and Testing of the Palliative Care related, Knowledge, Attitudes, & Confidence in the Home Health Care (PC-KAC in HHC) Questionnaires. <b>Description:</b> This pilot project is aimed at developing and evaluating the psychometric properties of instruments that measure palliative	Columbia University Intramural Grant	McDonald King	Quality & Outcomes	02/01/21-01/31/23

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	care knowledge, attitudes, and confidence among clinicians, patients and informal caregivers in the home healthcare (HHC) setting.				
10	<p>Disparities in Infection in Home Health and Patients/Caregivers' Perceptions (Dis-Infection in HHC)</p> <p><b>Description:</b> 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.</p>	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ): <i>subcontract with Columbia University</i>	McDonald Russell Barrón-Vayá Sridharan Onorato Vergez	Quality & Outcomes	09/03/21-08/31/26
11	<p>Effects of Family Caregiver Availability and Capacity on Home Health Care for Older Adults with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias</p> <p><b>Description:</b> Aims: 1. Characterize caregiver role (including types of assistance provided, availability and capacity) during HH for patients with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD); 2. Determine the impact of caregiver availability and capacity on home health care delivery for patients with ADRD; 3. Assess the impact of caregiver availability and capacity on home health outcomes for patients with ADRD.</p>	National Institute on Aging (NIA)	Burgdorf Barrón-Vayá	Quality & Outcomes	09/01/22-08/30/24
12	<p>Enhancing Dementia Instruction and Toolkit in Home Hospice Care (EDITH-HC)</p> <p><b>Description:</b> 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.</p>	National Institute on Aging (NIA); <i>subcontract with Rutgers, The State University</i>	McDonald Barrón-Vayá Kapela Vasquez	Quality & Outcomes	09/01/21-02/28/24
13	<p>Gender Affirmation, Quality of Life, and Access to Care: A Mixed-Method Longitudinal Investigation</p> <p><b>Description:</b> 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-</p>	National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR): <i>collaborating with University of Pennsylvania &amp; Columbia University</i>	Ryvicker Bowles Barrón-Vayá Cheruvillil Sridharan Kapela	Supporting Communities	07/01/21-04/30/26

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	affirming surgery, informing the development of future home- and community-based healthcare interventions to promote their health and wellbeing.				
14	<p>Homecare CONCERN: Building risk models for preventable hospitalizations and emergency department visits in home care</p> <p><b>Description:</b> 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.</p>	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)	Topaz Bowles McDonald Barrón-Vayá Sridharan Evans Kapela Davoudi	Quality & Outcomes	09/30/20–07/31/24
15	<p>Home Health Aide Continuity Among Home-Based Long-Term Care Clients and its Relationship with Health Outcomes</p> <p><b>Description:</b> 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.</p>	National Institute on Aging; <i>subcontract with Mount Sinai Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center</i>	Russell	Quality & Outcomes/ Workforce	07/01/21-06/20/23
16	<p>IMPACT Collaboratory: Barriers to Hospice Care Transitions for Diverse Persons Living with Dementia</p> <p><b>Description:</b> Aims: 1. Explore perspectives of care partners, HHC staff and providers about barriers to hospice transitions for racially and ethnically diverse PLWD; 2. Survey care partners, HHC staff, and providers about key components of a transitional care checklist intervention that will guide hospice transitions for diverse PLWD; 3. Design a novel culturally sensitive hospice transitions checklist to guide transitional care to hospice from HHC for PLWD and their care partners.</p>	National Institute on Aging; <i>subcontract with New York University</i>	McDonald	Quality & Outcomes	01/01/23-12/31/25
17	<p>The Impact of COVID-19 on End-of-Life Care for Vulnerable Populations</p> <p><b>Description:</b> 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</p>	National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR); <i>subcontract with Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai</i>	McDonald Barrón-Vayá	Quality & Outcomes	07/12/21-03/31/24

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	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.				
18	<p>Improving TRAnsitions anD outcomeS oF sEpsis suRvivors (I-TRANSFER)</p> <p><b>Description:</b> 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).</p>	National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR); <i>subcontract with University of Pennsylvania</i>	Bowles Barrón-Vayá Ryvicker	Workforce Training/ Quality & Outcomes	12/01/20-11/30/25
19	<p>Leveraging Home Health Aides to Improve Outcomes in Heart Failure</p> <p><b>Description:</b> 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. VNS Health investigators are advisors to this study and will help with the logistics of pilot testing of the intervention.</p>	National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI); <i>subcontract with Weill Medical College of Cornell University</i>	Feldman McDonald Vergez	Workforce Training/ Quality & Outcomes	12/15/19-11/30/24
20	<p>Making health care safer for older adults receiving skilled home health care services after hospital discharge</p> <p><b>Description:</b> 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</p>	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); <i>subcontract with Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine</i>	Bowles McDonald Sridharan Vergez	Quality & Outcomes	08/01/19-05/31/23
21	<p>Making health care safer for older adults receiving skilled home health care services after hospital discharge – COVID-19 supplement</p> <p><b>Description:</b> 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.</p>	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); <i>administrative supplement subcontract with Johns Hopkins University</i>	Bowles McDonald Sridharan	Quality & Outcomes	09/01/20-05/31/23

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22	<p>A Pragmatic Randomized Control Trial of Nurse-Delivered Brief Meaning Centered Psychotherapy for Homebound Palliative Care Patients</p> <p><b>Description:</b> 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.</p>	National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR); <i>subcontract with Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research</i>	McDonald Onorato Kapela	Quality & Outcomes	09/01/21-07/31/23
23	<p>PREVENT: Improving patient prioritization during hospital-homecare transition: A mixed methods study of a clinical decision support tool</p> <p><b>Description:</b> 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.</p>	National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR); <i>subcontract with Columbia University School of Nursing</i>	Topaz McDonald Bowles Barrón-Vayá Sridharan Onorato King	Quality & Outcomes	09/25/19-07/31/23
24	<p>Qualitative Interviews with Clinicians who Provide Care to GAP Patients</p> <p><b>Description:</b> In this project, Research Center staff will interview 50 VNS Health clinicians who provide care to VNS Health 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.</p>	NYC City Council	Oberlink Cheruvillil Stern	Workforce Training/ Quality & Outcomes	12/01/21-06/30/23
25	<p>Translating Data Science to Palliative Care Practice: Improving Integration of a Claims-Based Algorithm and Palliative Care Uptake</p> <p><b>Description:</b> Aims: 1. Engage PC experts to document their decision-making processes and identify factors important in determining PC eligibility and useful formats for integrating algorithm results into CBPC practice; 2. Empirically test if feedback from Aim 1 is consistent with current practice using multivariate logistic regression analyses.;3. Complement existing 12-month mortality algorithm with a second model that discriminates between geriatric members and those needing palliative care.</p>	Rutgers University (NJ ACTS Pilot Program); <i>subcontract with Rutgers University</i>	Bowles	Quality & Outcomes	03/01/23-02/29/24
26	<p>VNS Health Veterans Outreach Project</p> <p><b>Description:</b></p>	Mother Cabrini Health Foundation	Stern	Supporting Communities	01/01/20-12/31/23

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	<p>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.</p>				