

Nurturing Excellence: The Latest in Nursing Education

College of Nursing

June 26, 2025

Nursing degrees

BSN program – 4 or 4 ½ year program

- Direct admission - 88 students admitted as freshman (goal)
- Standard admission - 84 students admitted as juniors with a January start date

RN-BSN program - Online program, 8 courses

- Students have an associate degree in nursing from a community college and are RNs

MSN-Entry into Practice – 20-month program

- Students admitted with a degree in a field other than nursing
- Current enrollment 38 per class



Nursing degrees (continued)

PhD program – 4 or 5+ year program

- 6-7 students admitted each year
- Prepares nurse scientists

MSN program – Health Systems Leadership

Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP)

- Nurse Anesthesia
- Family
- Psychiatric Mental Health
- Pediatric (primary and acute)
- Adult/Gerontology (primary and acute)
- Nurse Executive



Typical BSN nursing class

- 20% first generation
- 8% men (18% in current freshman class)
- 19% underrepresented minorities
- 50% Iowa residents



Class experience

- Lecture classes are in the College of Nursing building in active learning-style classrooms
 - 84 students
- Laboratory style classes are in the Nursing Clinical Education Center
 - University of Iowa Health Care
 - 8 students per group
- Clinical courses
 - The majority are at University of Iowa Health Care
 - 4-8 students per clinical group
 - Some clinicals are in the community and other agencies



Partnerships for BSN students

- University of Iowa Health Care
- 35 clinical agencies
 - Cedar Rapids, Des Moines
 - Community Health Agencies such as Johnson County
 - Long-term care agencies such as Oaknoll
 - Hospice
 - Shelter House, Dream City, Free Medical Clinic, Veterans Affairs, after-school programs...



University of Iowa Health Care

- Unit Partner program
 - Students have a job at UI Health Care when they arrive on campus
 - Hours are flexible (24 hours per month)
 - Position can evolve into other opportunities
- Shared Nursing Clinical Education Center (NCEC)
- Students will also be at UI Health Care Downtown and North Liberty campuses



Student Outcomes

- First-year retention 97.7%
- Four-year graduation rate 90.1%
- Six-year graduation rate 95.8%
 - 97.8% for transfer students
- 97% employment within 6 months of graduation
- 96% pass rate on NCLEX
 - National average 94%
 - State of Iowa average 93.47%
- National average starting salary for RN is \$68,485 (\$52,882 Iowa)



Scholarships

- Number of Scholarship Applications: 436
- 314 scholarships awarded
- \$1,279,040.80 scholarship funding awarded in FY25



Together Hawkeyes UI Campaign

→ UI Campaign

- Goal \$3 Billion
- Progress to Goal : \$2.17 billion (72%)
- As of 6/23/2025 (70.4% time elapsed)

→ College of Nursing Campaign

- Goal \$70 Million
- Progress to Goal : \$52.6 million (75%)
- As of 6/23/2025 (70.4% time elapsed)



What do we want you to know about...

- Career opportunities are endless
 - Variety of specialties: Emergency room, intensive care, neurology, pediatrics, obstetrics, older adult...
 - Variety of careers: insurance companies, pharmaceutical, hospital, forensics, community/public health, health and wellness companies...
- A major reason for the nursing shortage is that the demand for nurses in areas outside the hospital is growing exponentially
- High school preparation
 - Certified nursing assistant is not required, robust science and math preparation is important
- Where do students go to work?
 - 65% *residents* stay in Iowa and 34% *non-residents* stay in Iowa



Opportunities for Student Growth

Research and Scholarship

- Young Nurse Scientist Program
- Selected students are paid to work on an independent research project with faculty
- Volunteer research opportunities for students
- The college selects 10 students to present posters at the Midwest Nursing Research Society meeting
- Nursing Honors program



Community Health Practicum in Eswatini

- Fulfills one of the BSN/RN-BSN program's required courses
- Senior year/final semester
- 12 students with two faculty spend the semester focused on learning about community health in Eswatini
- Two weeks spent over Thanksgiving/Spring Break in Eswatini
- Code family need-based scholarships





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Other opportunities:

- American Association Colleges of Nursing Student Policy Summit
- Interprofessional education with other health science students
- Young clinician programs: Pediatrics, Community, Gerontology
- Student representatives on college committees: curriculum committee, student affairs committee
- Student representatives to numerous college events
- Participation in the mobile clinic



Unique internships

- Mother Prybil Summer Internships in Adult Intensive Care, The College of Nursing Neuroscience Summer Internship, and Sharon Devine Heiple Nursing Internship are paid summer internships at UI Health Care
 - Students work side-by-side with a preceptor
 - 40 hours for 10 weeks
 - Preceptor awarded travel to a professional conference
 - If intern takes a position at UI Health Care post-graduation, they will also receive a professional conference in first year of employment



2024 Undergraduate ranking



2024 Graduate Program USNWR rankings

#4

**Pediatric Primary
Care DNP**

#4

**MSN—Clinical
Nurse Leader**

#4

**Nurse
Anesthesia**

#7

**Adult/Gero.,
Acute Care DNP**

#14

**Family Nurse
Practitioner DNP**

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Rural Health Initiative

Transforming Mental Health Care for Rural Iowa

Daniel Crawford, DNP, ARNP, CPNP-PC, CNE, FAANP

Professor (Clinical) & Associate Dean for Graduate Practice Programs

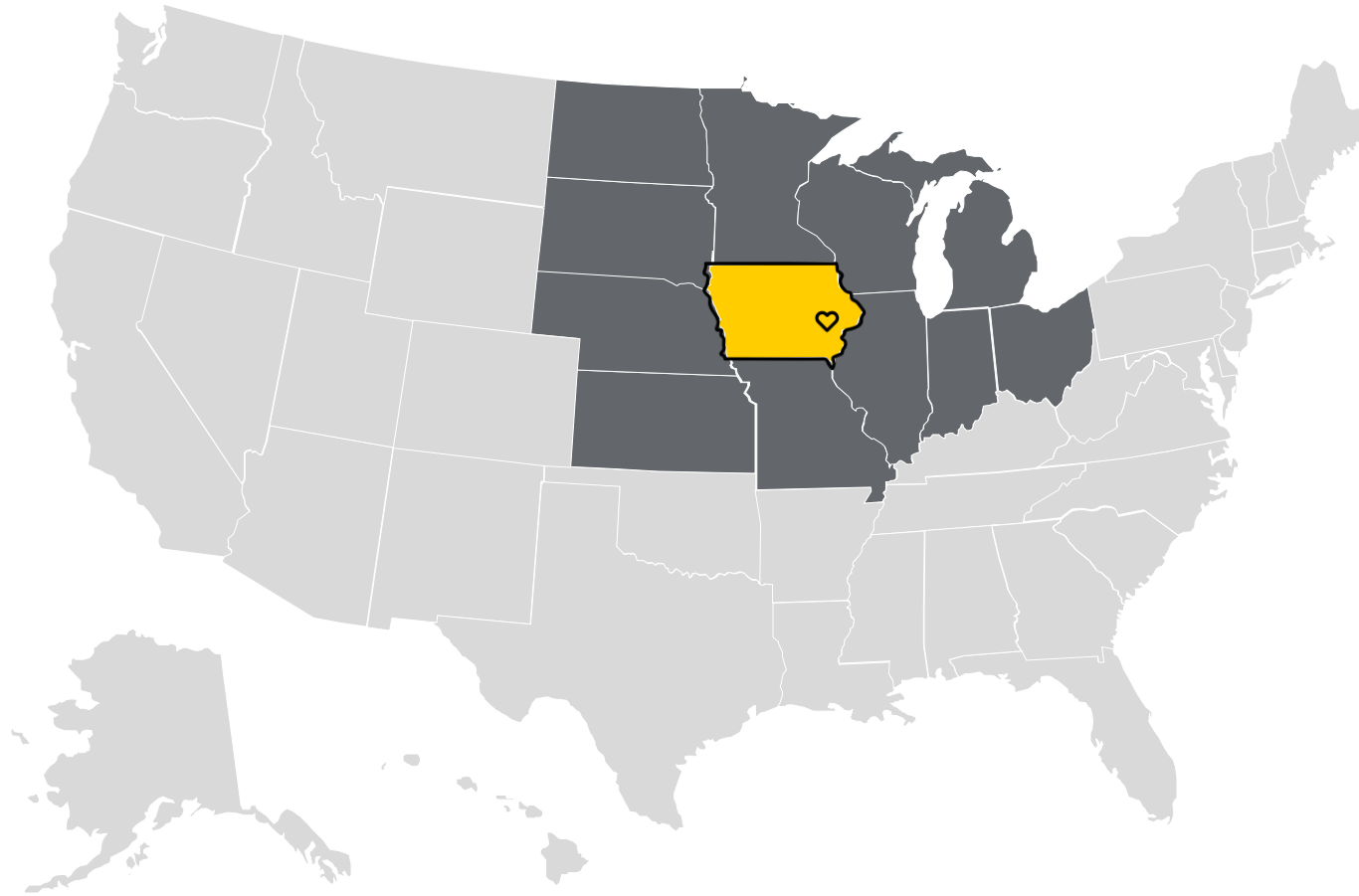
Amalia Gedney-Lose, DNP, ARNP, FNP-C

Associate Professor (Clinical) & Director, Doctor of Nursing Practice
Family Nurse Practitioner Program

June 26, 2025



The Center of the Heartland

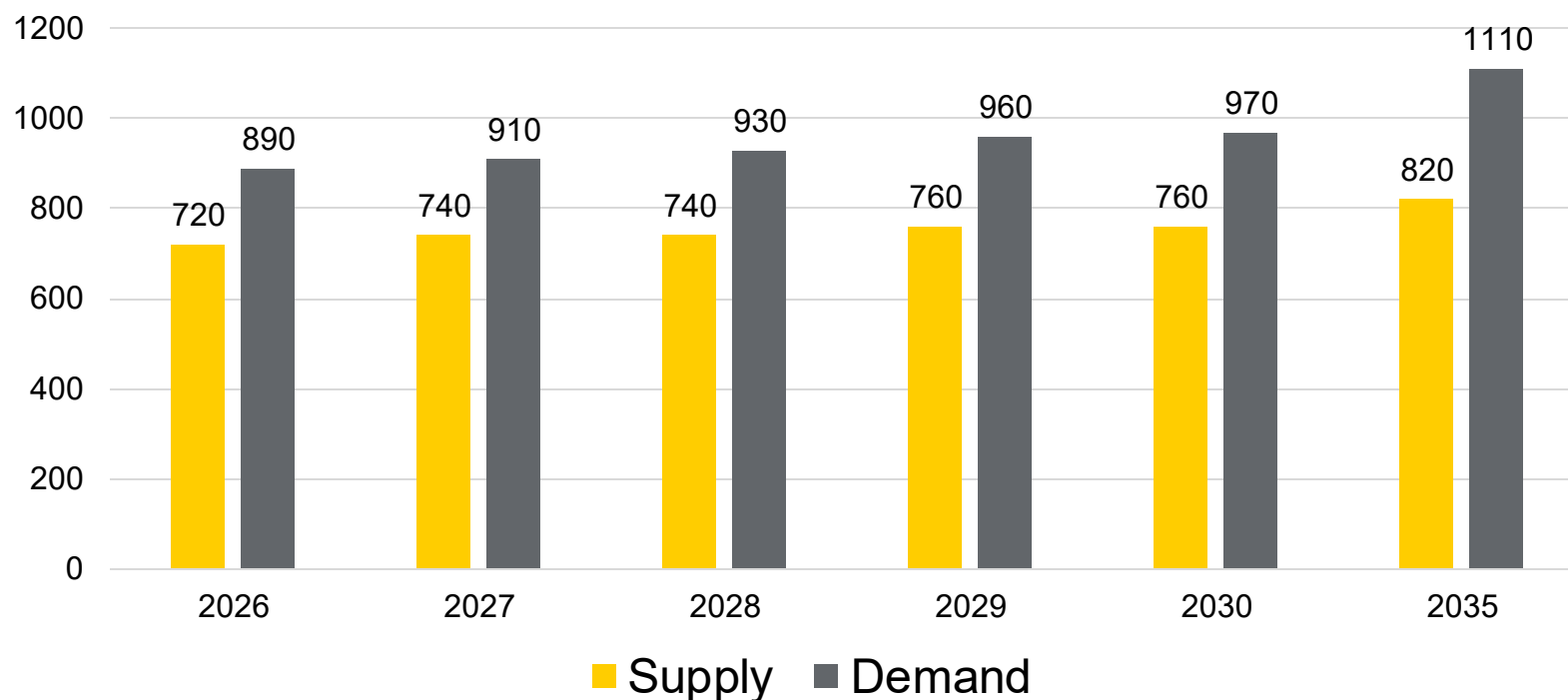


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Workforce Projections

Supply & Demand Needs for Licensed Psychiatry Professionals (MDs, NPs, & PAs) in Iowa



Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners

- Advanced Practice Registered Nurses
- Diagnose and treat mental illnesses
- Provide holistic, patient-centered care
- Deliver over half of all mental health prescriber visits in rural regions nationwide
- In Iowa, APRNs have full practice authority

Widening disparities in care

Access to Care



Exposures



Housing



Transportation



Health Behaviors



Stigma



A sidebar on farming



Agricultural stressors



Cultural beliefs



Succession pressure

Jenna W. (BSN '20, DNP '25)

Dual Nurse Practitioner Program

"I chose the dual program because in my rural community, mental health resources are nearly non-existent. Patients often have to travel long distances or face long waitlists to access care, and many end up turning to PCPs for mental health needs."

Care Gaps

"I realized that I could help bridge this gap by becoming dually certified, so I can provide both comprehensive physical and mental health care under one roof!"

Experience

"My PMHNP program has given me valuable experience in psychiatric medication management and evidence-based therapy - both of which are crucial in rural areas where access to psych providers is limited."

Preparation

"I feel more prepared to meet the complex needs of rural patients, and I am excited to bring this integrated approach to my future practice. It is motivating to know that Iowa is investing in providers who want to serve our rural communities!"

Rural Health Initiative

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Degree Pathways

BSN-DNP

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree
- Licensed as an RN
- 3- or 4-year program

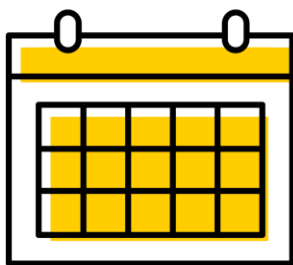


\$105,844

- Master of Science in Nursing or Doctor of Nursing Practice
- Additional population foci to existing certification
- 15-month program

Program Support

5



Year Commitment to
College of Nursing

1.25M



Annual Funding
Awarded

13



Newly Awarded
Scholarships

Student Recipients

Live



Volunteer



Commit



Practice



Student Exemplars

Local Partnerships



**Collaborative Feeding
America, Food Bank & Clinic
Initiative**

Meaningful Work



**Providing Comprehensive
Community-Based Care**

Volunteer Activities

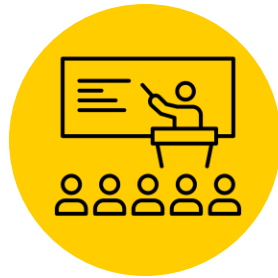


**Advanced Law Enforcement
Rapid Response Training
Simulations**

Educational Aims



**Clinical
Placements**



**Didactic
Seminar**



**Doctoral
Projects**



**Faculty &
Preceptors**

The Hawkeye Way

- Transforming access
- Enhancing care
- Normalizing rural practice
- Opportunity for growth
 - Nurse Anesthesia
 - Family Practice
 - Pediatrics
 - Geriatrics



Nicole G. (BA '07, MSN '11, DNP '25)

“I’ve heard firsthand the real-life stories from my patients about their mental health struggles and those of their loved ones. Like most people, my family wasn’t immune to these struggles either. It was these experiences and stories that compelled me to pursue my DNP. Iowa is my home, and I chose my PMHNP certification as a way to help people in my community, to contribute to the health and well-being of my fellow Iowans.”

College of Nursing
Rural Health Initiative

Questions?

→ nursing.uiowa.edu

Daniel Crawford
Professor & Associate Dean for
Graduate Practice Programs
College of Nursing
Daniel-j-crawford@uiowa.edu

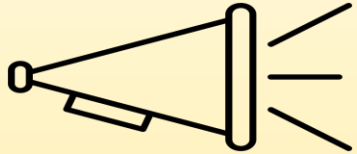
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Csomay Center Presents: Impact and Optimal Aging

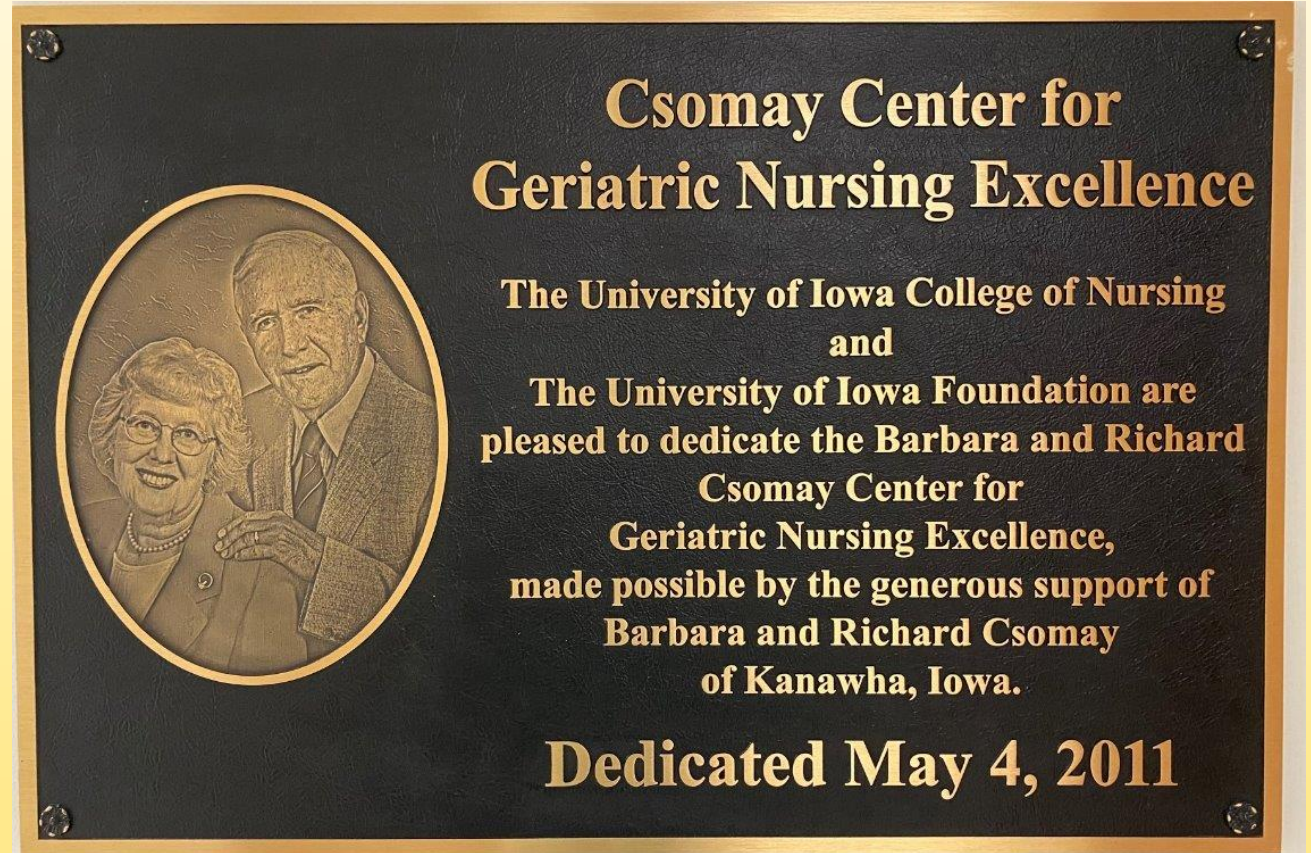
CENTER OVERVIEW

2025

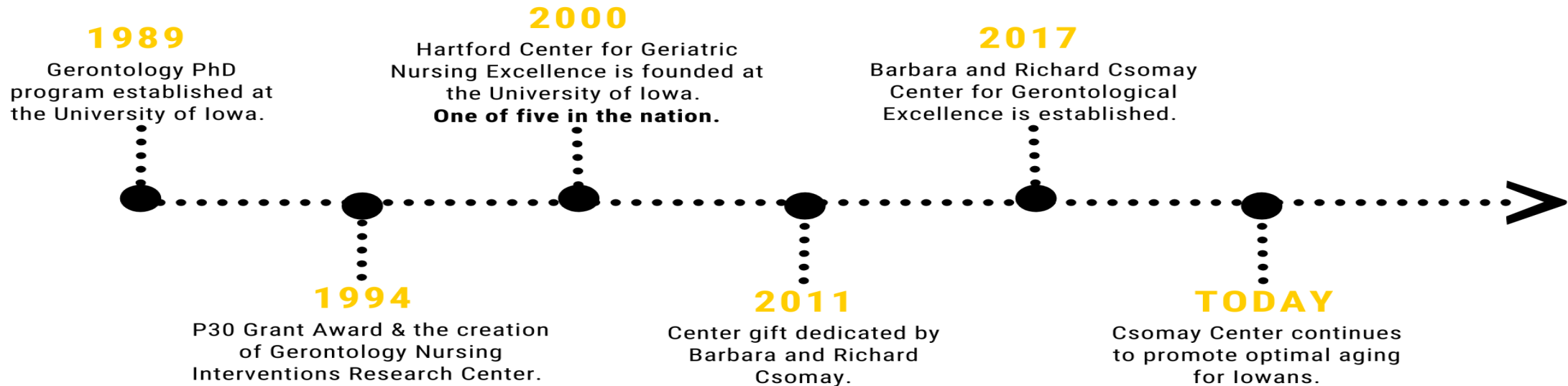
The Csomay Story



→ So - may



Gerontology at Iowa: 30+ Years of Excellence



Aging is impacting you!

Broad Perspective:

In the next 5-10 years, there will be more people over age 65 than under age 18.



The State of Iowa ranks 4th in the nation for people aged 75 and older.



Impact

Connect, Contribute and Create

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Csomay Center

Mission



To advance innovations in research, education, and practice to promote optimal aging and quality of life for all older adults and their caregivers

Vision



Every older adult receives the care they want, when they want

Leadership



Harleah Buck, PhD, RN, FPCN, FAHA, FAAN, Director, Csomay Center



Keela Herr, PhD, RN, FAAN, AGSF, Professor, College of Nursing



Kathleen Buckwalter, PhD, RN, FAAN, Professor Emeritus, University of Iowa College of Nursing



Mercedes Bern-Klug, MSW, PhD, Professor, School of Social Work



Ryan Carnahan, PharmD, MS, BCPP, Professor, Director of Graduate Studies, College of Public Health



Amy Colbert, PhD, Professor of Management and Entrepreneurship, Tippie College of Business



Leonardo Marchini, DDS, MSD, PhD, Professor and Department Executive Officer of Preventive and Community Dentistry, College of Dentistry

Leadership



Michelle Gillitzer, DNP, AGNP, PMHNP, Instructional Track Lecturer, Interim Director, AG-PCNP Program



Juliana de Souza Talarico, PhD, RN, Associate Professor, College of Nursing



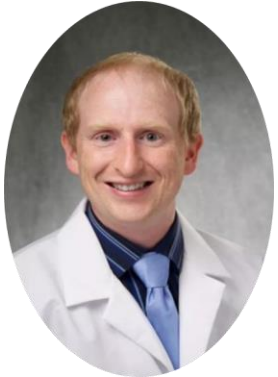
Sato Ashida, PhD, Associate Professor, Dept of Community and Behavioral Health, College of Public Health



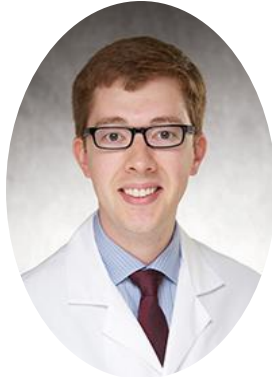
Wen Liu, PhD, RN, Associate Professor, College of Nursing



Kimberly Bergen-Jackson, PhD, RN-BC, FAAN, Associate Professor, College of Nursing



Nicholas R. Butler, MD, MBA, Clinical Associate Professor of Family and Community Medicine



Scott Larson, MD, FAAFP, Clinical Assistant Professor of Family Medicine, Carver College of Medicine



Nadia Sabbagh Steinberg, MSW, PhD, Clinical Assistant Professor; Coordinator for Aging and Longevity Studies Program, School of Social Work



Shalome Tonelli, PhD, RN, Instructional Track Lecturer, Director, Certification Center, College of Nursing

Leadership



Dayna Ballantyne, MSW,
University of Iowa Center
for Advancement, Director
of Development, College of
Nursing

Coming
Soon!

Laura Kome, Director of
Strategic Communications,
Marketing and External
Relations, College of
Nursing

Coming
Soon!

Janel Meintz, BA
Center Coordinator, Csomay
Center



Jennifer E. Jones, MHS-PH,
Program Coordinator Optimal
Aging Initiative, Csomay
Center

Coming
Soon!

Ursula Ferrier, MS, BA,
Administrative and
Communications Coordinator,
Csomay Center

Strategic Plan 2022-2027

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**College of
Nursing**



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Strategic Plan: <https://csomaycenter.uiowa.edu/about-us/22-27-strategic-plan>

Csomay Center



2000 + Contacts



Clinicians in
90 of the 99 Counties



Partnerships with
All major gerontology stakeholders in Iowa.

What value can
the Csomay
Center add to
your project?


Csomay Center Website

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Programs and Projects ▾

Research

Resources ▾

Optimal Aging Initiative

Become a Member



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College of Nursing
Barbara and Richard Csomay
Center for Gerontological Excellence



Connect with the Center



Newsletter

Engage with Us



Membership



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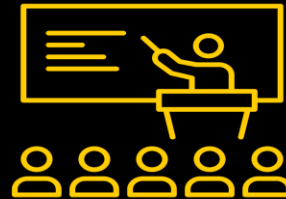
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Contribute and Create

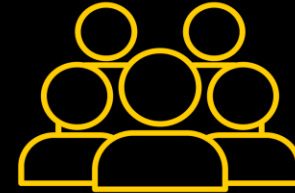
Impact through Investment



Researchers



Students




Collective

Impact: Researchers




Aging Hub

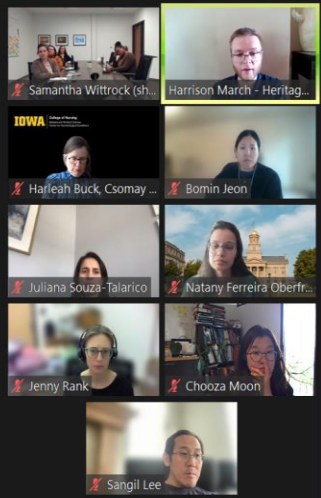


Elder Rights Program

- Consultation > Assessment > Intervention
- Like all Heritage programs, Elder Rights is consumer-driven
- Self-Neglect is our most common type of case
- Community education on scams, fraud



319-398-5559
800-332-5934

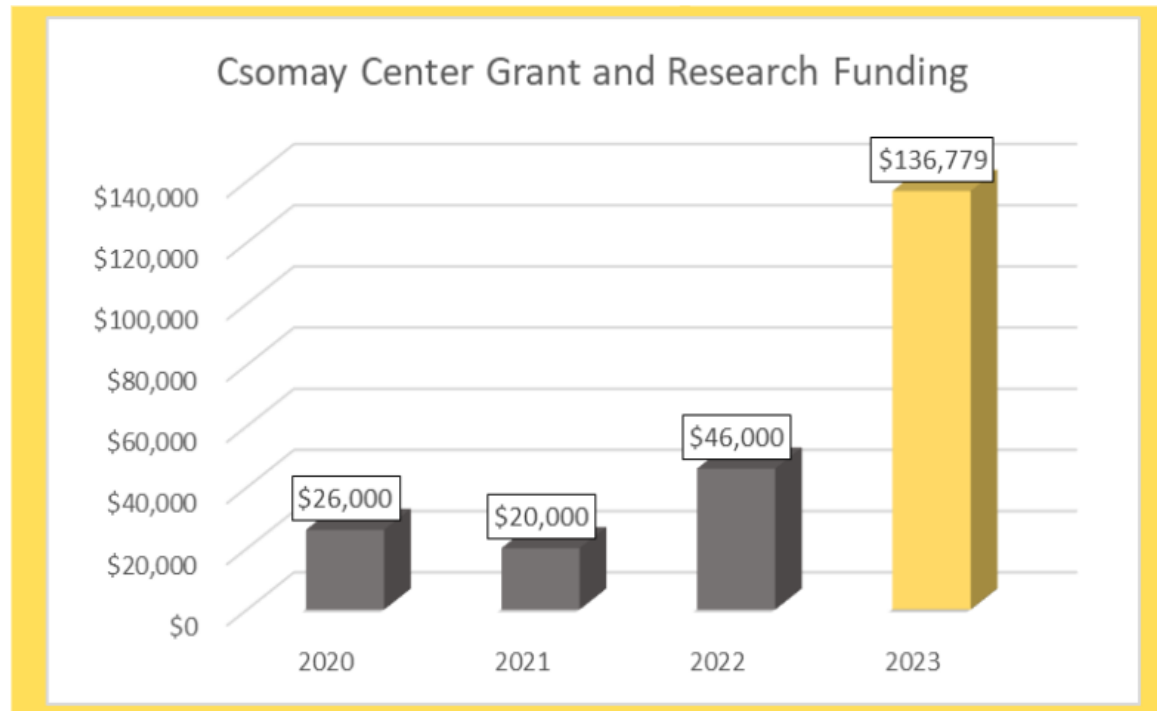


A grid of video conference participants. Visible names include: Samantha Wittrock (sh...), Harrison March - Heritag..., Halfeah Buck, Csomay..., Bomn Jeon, Juliana Souza-Talarico, Natany Ferreira Oberfr..., Jenny Rank, Chooza Moon, and Sangil Lee.

Csomay Community of Scholars

Impact through Grants

Overall Grant and Research Funding



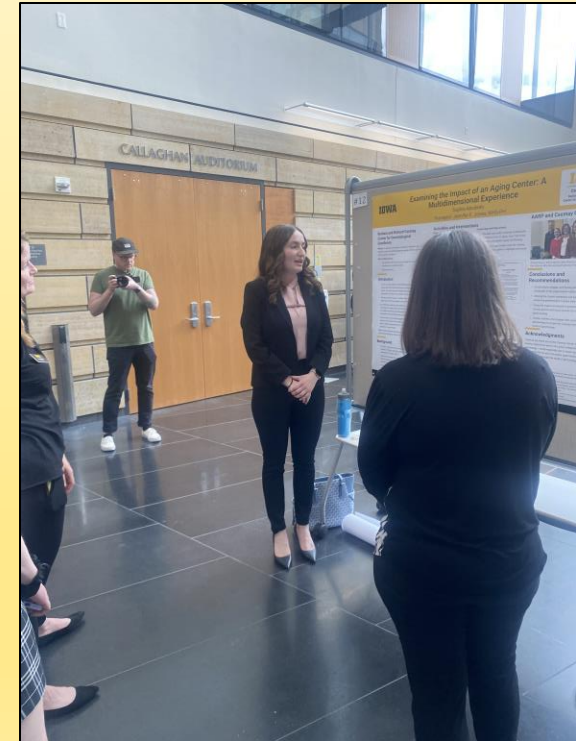
- 4 Standing Grants
- Significant increase thanks to donors

Impact: Students

**Young Gero
Nurse Clinicians
(YGNC)**



**Practicums, internships
and employment**



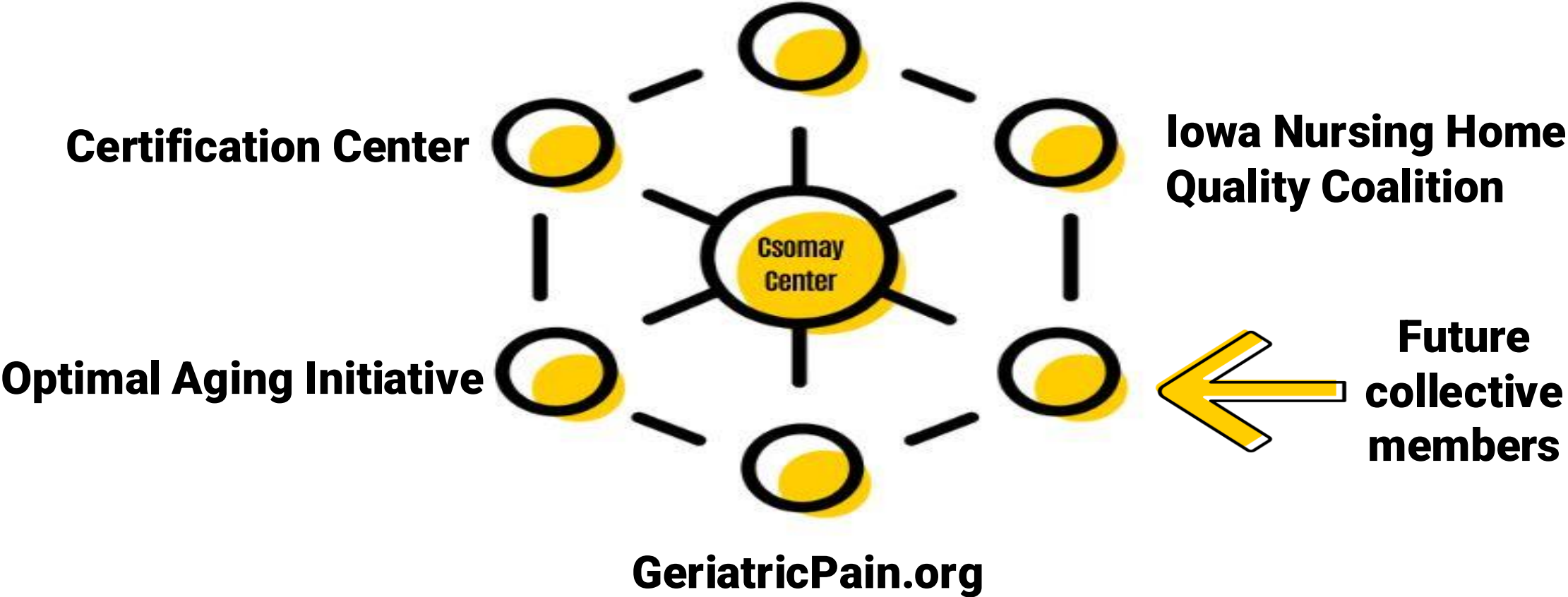
**Office of Undergraduate
Research (OUR) Csomay
Summer Scholars**



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Impact: Csomay Center Collective



Iowa Nursing Home Quality Coalition



Kimberly Bergen-Jackson,
PhD, RN-BC, FAAN, Associate
Professor, College of Nursing

30+ years of experience in long-term care
Specializing in leadership, quality
improvement, shared governance, and
person-centered care.

To ensure every older adult in Iowa receives exceptional care and compassion in the nursing home, fostering a community where dignity, respect, and well-being are at the forefront.

- Quality Improvement
- Emergency Preparedness
- Sharing Best Practices
- Collaboration

Optimal Aging Initiative



**Jennifer E. Jones, MHS-
PH**, Program Coordinator
Optimal Aging Initiative,
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Center for Advancement

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Connecting Resources Providing Support



Health/Caregiver Resource Fairs



Elder/Aging Consortium Meetings & Events



Csomay Center Community
Presentations & Education



Adult Child Caregiver Support Group



Disrupt Aging Classroom Facilitator



Certification Center



Shalome Tonelli, PhD, RN,
Instructional Track Lecturer,
Director, Certification Center,
College of Nursing, Csomay
Center Leadership Team

**Maintains educational
standards and oversees the
credentialing of all direct care
workers in Iowa**



Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals &
Licensing

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GeriatricPain.org

GeriatricPain.org

Q SEARCH



**Keela Herr, PhD, RN,
FAAN, AGSF, Professor,
College of Nursing**

Provides quality pain
resources and tools
to clinicians, older
adults, and family
caregivers



Welcome
to **geriatricpain.org**

The Marilyn H. Bowers Dementia Education and Outreach Fund supports the development and continuance of the GeriatricPain.org's caregiver section

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Impact: Csomay Center Partners

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Center for Advancement

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Tippie College of Business

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College of Public Health

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College of Liberal Arts and Sciences



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Office of Community Engagement

IOWA

Office of Undergraduate Research
Office of the Vice President for Research

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Csomay Center



Board of Regents State of Iowa

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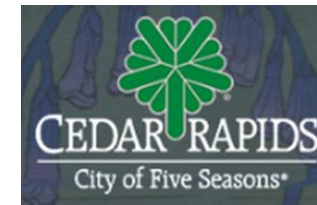


Building Partnerships across Iowa

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Csomay Center

Csomay Center Partners



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Connect with us on social media



facebook.com/CsomayCenter/



Csomay Center for
Gerontological Excellence



**Embracing the Journey
of Aging Podcast**



Contact Us

- Website: CsomayCenter.uiowa.edu
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- Csomay Center Coordinator: Janel-Anderson@uiowa.edu
- Optimal Aging Initiative Program Coordinator:
Jennifer-e-jones@uiowa.edu
- Csomay Center Liaison: Kimberly Bergen-Jackson
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