



HARTFORD INSTITUTE FOR GERIATRIC NURSING
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NURSING

May 23, 2008

Dear Nursing Home Leaders:

The Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing (Hartford Institute), New York University College of Nursing, encourages and supports the Campaign for *Advancing Excellence in America's Nursing Homes*. The Hartford Institute, through its practice, education, research, policy and consumer initiatives, seeks to imbed geriatric knowledge and principles of care throughout America's nursing profession. Strategic partnerships with multiple stakeholder organizations, such as are represented in the *Advancing Excellence* campaign, maximize collaborative solutions to the challenges of providing consistent quality of care and life for those who live and work in America's nursing homes. The Hartford Institute is encouraged that early data show participating nursing homes have better outcomes on most clinical goals than nursing homes that do not join the campaign and that the campaign will continue indefinitely.

Hartford Institute initiatives that support the campaign include the monthly Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing e-newsletter (6000 circulation), the "Try This" series, and the web site (www.hartfordign.org) which together provides practice and policy information to nurse educators and practicing nurses nationally. The www.ConsultGerIRN.org website provides free up-to-date, evidence based, clinical information for nursing home nurses and an opportunity for continuing education. Presentations by Hartford Institute staff at meetings such as at the Gerontological Society of America will help maintain broader support for campaign work. Seven out of eight geriatric nursing organizations in The Coalition of Geriatric Nursing Organizations (CGNO), which is under the Hartford Institutes' aegis, are active steering committee members of the *Advancing Excellence* campaign. The CGNO coordinator will continue to provide avenues to strengthen nursing's voice within the campaign.

Sincerely,

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