



Independent, Assisted Living, & Memory Care Communities



Collaborate. Educate. Innovate.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Heritage Senior Living partners with UW-Milwaukee to give students unique opportunity to work with emerging technology in senior living environments

Students to participate in five technology-based projects designed to address top senior issues

WEST ALLIS, Wis. (August 16, 2018) – Heritage Senior Living announced today a partnership with the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee’s Partners for Health. The partnership will allow students from the College of Health Sciences and College of Nursing the opportunity to work with residents of Heritage Senior Living communities to research which emerging technologies can improve the health and quality of life for seniors in assisted living and memory care communities.

This unique partnership will link students with older individuals through education and provide real-life work experiences for students. Student projects will focus on some of the top issues affecting seniors, including transfer trauma, transitions, fall prevention, and loneliness and depression.

During their practicum, students will use virtual reality, an innovative therapy mat, telehealth programs and a robot named Jibo, the world’s first social robot for residential use. Using artificial intelligence, the robot engages seniors in conversation, helping them combat the feelings of loneliness.



“At Heritage Senior Living, we’re always looking for ways to lead the health care industry and efforts to move away from a social model to a medical model of care in senior living communities,” says Heritage Senior Living’s Vice President of Quality and Clinical Operations, Jaime Schwingel. “The research will help drive future technological initiatives for Heritage Senior Living and encourage nursing and therapy students to consider careers working with the nation’s largest growing population, people over age 65.

This is a mutually-beneficial partnership beginning with five nursing students who will participate in the two-semester practicum during clinical hours and will receive course credit for their work.

“We are thrilled to form this partnership with Heritage Senior Living,” says Kim Litwack, dean of the UWM College of Nursing. “We want to ensure that our students join the workforce armed

with knowledge of the best practices for using technological tools that can improve care to seniors."

"Working in a senior living community offers our students a relevant research environment in which to evaluate the best tools from the wave of technology options available," says Ray Fleming, interim Dean of the UWM College of Health Sciences.

The nursing students will begin their practicum work September of 2018 and complete their projects May of 2019. The partnership will increase in Fall of 2019 to include speech, occupational and physical therapy students.

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About Heritage Senior Living

Headquartered in West Allis, Wisconsin, Heritage Senior Living was founded in 2000 by Milo Pinkerton to provide residents with the highest quality of care possible, while at the same time promoting independence and maintaining dignity. Heritage Senior Living has 15 senior living communities throughout Wisconsin – plus one currently under development – that are home to more than 2,000 seniors. Most Heritage Senior Living communities offer several levels of care, from independent living to assisted and enhanced assisted living and memory care units, so that residents can embrace life's journey from the comfort and convenience of one location that meets all of their physical, mental and emotional needs. For more information, visit: <http://heritagesenior.com/>.

About Partners for Health

The [UWM Partners for Health](#) initiative brings together College of Nursing, College of Health Science and Joseph J. Zilber School of Public Health at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee to provide a multidisciplinary platform for solving health challenges. Together the schools enroll more than 4,000 students, offer 30-degree programs, and have 40 labs, clinics and centers. It includes Wisconsin's largest college of nursing, its only nationally accredited school of public health and a college of health sciences that offers the most health-related degree programs in the state.

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