



## Research, Education and Community Outreach

Aging affects everyone, and the Clemson University Institute for Engaged Aging (IEA) works to support an optimal aging experience by keeping people meaningfully engaged in life— regardless of their social, economic or health status. The IEA brings together faculty and students from a variety of disciplines across six colleges in order to create synergies to discover, develop and disseminate best practices for engaged aging through research, education and community outreach.

Enabling older adults to live independently and to enjoy a high quality of life is one of the major challenges of our state as it experiences rapid growth of the population over 65 years of age. By 2030, for the first time in United States history, there will be more people over the age of 65 than under the age of 18. In South Carolina, 22 percent will be over the age of 65 – compared to 20 percent nationally. 28 percent will be aged 60 or older.

The IEA provides a unique opportunity for collective efforts between individuals, foundations, health care systems and corporations to leverage resources in the promotion of older adult quality of life. To this end, the IEA has many active initiatives, such as fall prevention, hypertension self-management and dementia caregiving.

The goals of IEA directly align with those outlined in the *ClemsonForward Strategic Plan*, which states that Clemson will make a “real impact on the greatest challenges of our time” by developing “real solutions to real problems facing our state and nation.” The Institute is doing just that – developing and implementing strategies that will meet the needs of a growing older population.

## Why Give Now

We need your support to build upon the foundation established by the IEA. It has successfully forged a multidisciplinary team of professors and students dedicated to improving the quality of life for older adults

in our state. It is now at a stage of maturity where sustained support is needed to grow its programs in order to increase its impact in the state and beyond.

## Opportunities for Support

The IEA has established several priorities for funding that will significantly impact its ability to meet the needs of a diverse adult population.

- **Professorship**
- **Graduate assistantships**
- **Funding for pilot projects**
- **Workshops**
- **Extension programs**

## The Impact

The impact of your support will be crucial as the Institute continues to address challenges to meet the diverse needs of older adults in South Carolina, providing them with the knowledge and skills needed to live independently and enjoy a high quality of life. The IEA programs are currently making a difference in the lives of our aging population in the Upstate. Your support is essential to maintaining and building upon these programs that are impacting a significant percentage of the population – a percentage that will continue to grow.

Your contribution to the IEA will directly impact Clemson students and professors, address and help solve the problems associated with aging and make a difference for family caregivers across our state. Your impact will be widespread – and immeasurable to those who benefit from the Institute and its research, programs and outreach.

If you are interested in supporting the Institute for Engaged Aging, please contact Ben Grandy at [bgrandy@clemson.edu](mailto:bgrandy@clemson.edu) or 803-920-1161.