ATLANTIC PHILANTHROPIES ANNOUNCES THE PRACTICE CHANGE FELLOWS PROGRAM
Enhancing Leadership in Geriatric Care

The Atlantic Philanthropies is proud to announce its new Practice Change Fellows program supported by a $6.4 million grant approved in December. This program, administered at the Division of Health Care Policy and Research at the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center, is designed to develop health care leaders who can effectively promote high quality care to older adults. Building this cadre of health care professionals who possess the essential leadership skills and understanding of promising innovations in geriatric care delivery will ensure that this country is prepared to meet the health care challenges of an expanding aged population.

Nurses who hold a leadership role in a health organization or institution and have service line or programmatic responsibility for care to older adults are encouraged to apply. Practice Change Fellows receive $90,000 over a two-year program and work with accomplished national mentors to design, implement, and evaluate a new project. This project will ideally focus on an innovative aging-related program or geriatric service line. Fellows will participate in tri-annual meetings where they will receive input on their projects from national program Mentors and Advisory Board Members, join in case-based discussions on how to effectuate change, and attend interactive presentations led by national experts. Completion of formal leadership training (local or national) is another core component of the program. By the end of the two years, Fellows will be able to articulate a vision for what they hope to accomplish in the upcoming five years, and the steps necessary to achieve this vision.

The Practice Change Fellow program is now accepting applications for the 2007 award cycle. Applicants must be senior enough in their organization to have decision-making authority and be able to effectuate change. In addition to nurses, physicians, and social workers are also eligible to apply. Applications and more details are available at www.practicechangefellows.org. The application deadline for the 2007 award cycle is April 4, 2007.

For More Information
For more information about the nursing related activities of The Atlantic Philanthropies, please contact Christopher A. Langston, PhD, Program Executive, U.S. Program on Aging The Atlantic Philanthropies (USA) Inc., 125 Park Avenue, 21st Floor, New York, NY 10017-5581, Tel.: 212-916-7301; e-mail c.langston@atlanticphilanthropies.org.

THE JOHN A. HARTFORD FOUNDATION
2006 Baccalaureate Nursing Curriculum Awards

The John A. Hartford Foundation Institute for Geriatric Nursing, in collaboration with the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), has chosen the winners of the 2006 Awards for Baccalaureate Education in Geriatric Nursing. Now in its ninth year, this national awards program honors nursing programs that exhibit exceptional, substantive, and innovative baccalaureate curriculum. Beyond innovation, programs must also demonstrate relevance in the clinical environment and have the ability to be replicated at schools of nursing across the country. Awards were presented in four separate categories:
• Geriatric Faculty Member Award: Christine A. Mueller, PhD, RN, BC, CNAA, University of Minnesota. Dr. Mueller is also an Editorial Advisory Board member for the Journal of Gerontological Nursing.
• Infusing Geriatrics into the Curriculum Award: Old Dominion University.
• Clinical Settings in Geriatric Nursing Award: University of Missouri Sinclair School of Nursing.
• Stand-Alone Baccalaureate Geriatric Course Award: Johns Hopkins University.

For more information about the awards, visit the AACN website
Nursing Highlights from 2006 Leadership Conference and GSA

The Hartford Geriatric Nursing Initiative (HGNI) held its sixth annual nursing Leadership Conference, November 14 to 16 in Dallas, TX, in conjunction with the Gerontological Society of America Annual Conference. Highlights of the conferences include:

- The Mary Starke Harper Distinguished Lectureship was awarded to Loretta Ford, EdD, RN, PNP, FAAN, FAANP, in recognition of her achievements and contributions to geriatric nursing. Ford, the founding dean of the University of Rochester School of Nursing, was a pioneer in developing nurse practitioner training programs in the 1960s. This Lectureship honors Mary Starke Harper, named a Living Legend by the American Academy of Nursing, and highlights the career of a nurse leader whose outstanding leadership qualities and achievements serve to inspire others.

- The Doris Schwartz Gerontological Nursing Research Award was presented to Meridean L. Maas, PhD, RN, FAAN, Professor Emerita and Co-Director of the John A. Hartford Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence at the University of Iowa. This annual award recognizes a nurse researcher whose outstanding research contributions have led to changes in practice, service, and quality of life for older adults and is presented by the Clinical Medicine Section of the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) in collaboration with the John A. Hartford Foundation Institute for Geriatric Nursing. Dr. Mass’ acceptance presentation is featured in the Spotlight on pages 6 to 8 of this issue.

- The American Academy of Nursing held a symposium on the goals, activities, and outcomes to date of the five Hartford Centers of Excellence in Geriatric Nursing (HCGNE) established to build academic geriatric nursing capacity. Accomplishments include supporting the development of regional consortia to strengthen geriatric nursing education, mentoring regional faculty in geriatric nursing and research, distance mentoring of postdoctoral fellows, and institutional mentoring of colleges of nursing that are seeking to develop a doctoral program in geriatric nursing.

- The John A. Hartford Foundation Institute for Geriatric Nursing highlighted 10 years of improving care of older adults through nursing. The Hartford Institute offers programs in practice, education, research, and policy designed to strengthen both the individual nurse’s competence and the systems in which nurses learn and work.

Online Application for Gerontology Faculty Development Institutes Now Available

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) has announced the dates and locations of the first four Faculty Development Institutes offered through the Foundation-funded Geriatric Nursing Education Consortium (GNEC). The GNEC is an innovative national initiative to enhance geriatric content in senior-level baccalaureate courses. Administered by AACN, this program provides nursing educators with the skills, knowledge, and resources needed to ensure that the "best geriatric practices" are embedded in baccalaureate curricula and subsequently in the clinical care provided by newly educated nurses. Using a train-the-trainer approach, nurse faculty attending the GNEC institutes are expected to serve as leaders and mentors by sharing their new expertise with colleagues. This program is funded by The John A. Hartford Foundation through a $2.6 million grant titled Enhancing Gerontology Content in Senior-level Baccalaureate Courses.

The first four of six Institutes are scheduled for June 27 to 29, 2007 in Portland, OR; October 3 to 5, 2007 in Atlanta, GA; February 27 to 29, 2008 in San Antonio, TX; and October 8 to 10, 2008 in St. Louis, MO. For more information on this program and to apply online, access www.aacn.nche.edu/Education/Hartford/gnec.htm.

About the Foundation

The John A. Hartford Foundation is at the forefront of pioneering advances in medicine and health care, funding research and programs that have revolutionized medicine and shaped the delivery of health care during the past 75 years. The Foundation’s overall goal is to increase the nation’s capacity to provide affordable care to its rapidly increasing older population.

For More Information

For additional information about The John A. Hartford Foundation, including grant announcements, program information, quarterly newsletters, annual reports, staff contact information, and grant guidelines, access the Foundation’s website at www.jhartfound.org.