

Facts

- 30% of community-dwelling adults over age 65 fall each year
- Falls are leading cause of accidental death and disability for seniors
- One-third of all falls by seniors involve environmental hazards in the home



Aims of Feasibility Study

1. Develop community-university partnership to meet a community need
2. Develop home evaluation and intervention program for home-bound seniors
3. Assess student learning through participation in the project

Project Plan

- Meals on Wheels case managers will refer 20 high risk clients (recent falls, declining function, recent illness)
- UTHSCSA OT faculty will complete home evaluation
- Provide intervention of adaptive equipment and education
- Gather data for needs assessments regarding additional home modifications needed

Participants

- Range from 70 – 92 years of age
- Present with multiple health conditions and chronic pain
- History of falls with major injury
- Many live alone
- Limited financial resources



Intervention

- Meet with client in home
- Complete home evaluation based on daily activities
- Discuss recommendations and co-create plan
- Provide adaptive equipment at and train at no cost
- Gather information for MOW about home modifications
- Follow-up with client

Next Steps

1. Complete feasibility study
2. Continue as pilot study
 - What is the meaning and benefit to clients?
 - What are the outcomes and impacts of the partnership intervention program for home-bound seniors?
3. Seek additional funding