



## **Forum on Technology and Design for Healthy Aging: What You Can Do NOW**

### **Conference Objectives:**

The primary goal of this forum is to introduce professionals in gerontology, long-term care, architecture and design, and computer science to advances in the field of technology and design that can be applied to the residential settings of older adults to promote healthy aging. The innovations in design, “virtual communities,” electronic monitoring, and other areas to be discussed at the forum all aim to enhance elders’ control over their living environments and to improve their quality of life, whether they live independently in the community, or with some assistance in a long-term care facility. Through this forum, professionals who work with and for older adults will gain a better of how currently available design and technology solutions can serve the growing population of elders in modern society.

### **Specific Objectives:**

- (1) To introduce examples of physical design and technology that are currently available to help live securely and independently.
- (2) To illustrate how electronic monitoring of daily activities and health can assist and in some cases guide elders.
- (3) To discuss how these design features and technologies can help older adults maintain autonomy in long-term care settings.
- (4) To present examples of design features and technologies can assist elders who live in their own homes remain independent while assuring their safety and security.
- (5) To describe innovations in community and housing design that allow older adults to age in place.
- (6) To present research findings on the efficacy of some technological interventions in enhancing elders’ quality of life.
- (7) To discuss the responses of elders and their family members to electronic monitoring in their homes.
- (8) To provide opportunities for professionals in diverse fields to interact with each other on the application of innovative technology and design to older adults’ lives.