

Training in Aging Sensitivity

From time to time the Miami Area Geriatric Education Center (MAGEC) receives requests from community agencies or professional groups to provide certain geriatric training programs to their members. Among the most popular of such programs is the "Aging Game" - an aging sensitivity training designed to allow participants to experience simulated age-related declines in function (sensory, physical, and mental). As an important part of the training, participants also discuss the impact of these declines on elders and reach a better understanding of the special needs of older adults. Over the years, MAGEC has been very successful in its efforts to provide aging sensitivity training to medical students, licensed health care providers, law enforcement officers, and elementary and high school students. Currently, we are expanding this training and offering the workshop to for-profit and non-profit institutions such as hospitals, HMO's, and governmental units such as the Department of Elder Affairs.

There are two variations to the training.

1) A 2-hour interactive **aging sensitivity training workshop** designed for larger groups of participants (up to 50). This workshop is suitable for any person providing care or services to older adults.

2) A 4 hour immersion experience called **"The Aging Game"** designed for smaller groups of participants (ideally 8-12). This immersion experience is most appropriate for those involved in the care of institutionalized or more functionally dependent frail elderly.

The basic learning objectives for these workshops are as follows:

- A. Identify common misconceptions about older adults and the aging process.
- B. Recognize sensory losses associated with aging and their impact on quality of life.
- C. Experience how financial and personal losses contribute to feelings of depression and dependency in later life.
- D. Identify strategies to improve communication with older adults and assist older adults to cope with age-related changes.
- E. Appreciate the utility of aging sensitivity training as a tool to effect attitudinal change.

Detailed below are quotes for each of the trainings, based upon the program, the number of participants, the training site, and the number of facilitators required. All fees include training materials and certificates of attendance for each participant.

Aging Sensitivity Training

<u>Number of Participants</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Trainers required</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
10 (minimum)-25	2 hours	1	\$300
26-50 (maximum)	2 hours	2	\$500

This training program can be conducted at any facility. There will be an additional \$100 charge if MAGEC provides the facility. If desired, Continuing Educational credits will be available for most health care disciplines, for a small additional fee per person.

Aging Game

<u>Number of Participants</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Trainers required</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
8 (min)-12 (maximum)	4 hours	5	\$1500 \$1800 with facility

The comprehensive Aging Game program requires a facility with the equipment and resources needed for the activities conducted (including use of Geri-chairs, wheelchairs, and/or beds & gurneys) with each participant. MAGEC has a working relationship with the Miami VA Medical Center and for an additional fee (\$300), will reserve the space and necessary resources. If desired, continuing educational credits may be provided for a small additional fee per person. NOTE: Fees for multiple training sessions with the same agency may also be negotiated.

To schedule your training, please email the following information to Mamie Brisker, MAGEC Training Coordinator, at mbrisker@med.miami.edu . You will receive a response to your inquiry within 48 business hours.

1. Full name, company/agency, contact information (phone & e-mail)
2. Training program requested (Aging Sensitivity Training or Aging Game)
3. Dates requested (please give at least 3 alternate dates and times)
4. Number of participants (approximate)
5. Continuing education credits and discipline(s) requested (additional quote will be provided)
6. Training site with address (will you use your own facility or MAGEC's?)