



Centers of Excellence Application

Approved by the Centers of Excellence Commission January 5, 2010

I. Requesting Institution or Foundation:

NOTE: Boxes will expand as information is entered.

Name of Requesting Institution or Foundation:

Project Title:

Amount of Request:

Amount of Matching Funds:

Number of New Private Sector Jobs to be Created:

List Private Sector Participants:

Campus contact person or principal investigator

Name:	<input type="text" value="Dr. Neil Nordquist, PI"/>	Title or Position:	<input type="text" value="Dean, College of Education and Health Sciences"/>
	<input type="text" value="Dr. Linda Cresap, Contact"/>		<input type="text" value="Dean, Sponsored Programs"/>

Mailing Address:

Telephone Number:	<input type="text" value="701-858-3150"/>	Fax Number:	<input type="text" value="701-858-4286"/>
	<input type="text" value="701-858-3250"/>		

E-mail Address:

Name of local developer (if any) familiar with project:

Essential Qualifying Factors:

1. The center must be an institution of higher education under the control of the State Board of Higher Education or a non-profit university-related or college-related foundation of an institution of higher education under the control of the board. All applications must go through the process established by their university or college and be signed by their institution's president. Each campus may submit up to two applications per round of funding.
2. The institution or foundation must be working in partnership with the private sector and create high value private sector employment opportunities.
3. Two dollars of matching funds are required for each dollar of state funds. These matching funds cannot be state funds and must be either funds from private sector partners or funds facilitated through the collaboration of the private sector partners with other funding entities. Of the two dollars of matching funds, at least one dollar must be cash, of which at least fifty cents must be from the private sector.
4. Funds cannot be used for infrastructure, to supplant funding for current operations or academic instructions, or to pay indirect costs.
5. Workforce may not be the primary need addressed by a Center.

II. Approval by Institution:

The approval and recommendation by the president/dean of the university or college is required to insure the funding request is consistent with the mission and development plans of the institution. Please sign below to indicate your approval and recommendation.
(Please type in name of President/Dean when submitting electronic copies)



Dr. David Fuller, President
Minot State University

March 12, 2010
Date

Executive Summary (limited to one page)

Minot State University and Trinity Health will establish a Geriatric Research Center of Excellence.

Through this Center, teams of MiSU faculty/students and Trinity Health professionals will investigate geriatric health-related issues, seeking solutions to problems and identifying best practices in health care for this growing population in our region. Innovations developed from this research will spawn employment opportunities and possible business ventures. Center research will be multidisciplinary, studying geriatric health care from a holistic approach. Cognitive, behavioral (including communication and social welfare), and physical health will be investigated. Current geriatric health-related services provided through both MiSU and Trinity Health will serve as the venues for many of the research projects. Examples of potential projects include a study of the effects of multiple medications commonly prescribed to seniors, a study of the medical and behavioral health concerns of rural elderly and how to improve their quality of life, and research into the best ways to rehabilitate the disabled to perform normal household functions following illness, stroke or surgery.

The Center will be located on the MiSU campus. A full-time director, well versed in gerontology issues and research, will be hired to coordinate Center activities. Faculty from various disciplines will be granted release time to participate with their counterparts from Trinity Health, and faculty will engage both undergraduate and graduate students in the evidenced-based research projects.

The outcomes and long-term role of this multidimensional Center will be to discover and implement new and improved services and products based on research findings. Trinity Health will be guided by these findings to improve existing services or create new services benefiting the large and ever-growing geriatric population in the state and region. Trinity Health anticipates hiring new staff and developing valued-added services for this age group. The collaborative research of the Center will also result in increased economic development in the creation of new jobs and new services. The collaborative effort between a university and a health care facility will make the Center eligible for a variety of local, state, and federal grants to support ongoing research.

III. Private Sector Partner(s):

A completed "Verification of Private Sector Participation" form from every private sector partner should be attached to the proposal.

IV. Center Description:

- Proposals shall include a description of the center and the purpose(s) toward which the requested funds will be applied.

The MiSU/Trinity Health Geriatric Research Center of Excellence will engage teams of faculty/students and Trinity Health professionals in the investigation of geriatric health-related issues, seeking solutions to problems and establishing best practices in health care for this growing population in our region. Center funding will support the research center director and the research teams and support staff.

- What makes the project or program a center of excellence?

The purpose of the Center is a collaborative research effort between the university and the private sector partner focused on identifying health-related issues of the region's growing senior population. The goal of the research is to identify service concerns related to seniors and then identify solutions for new and improved services or new products to support enhanced geriatric health care; these services will result in the creation of new jobs, and new treatment services, for Trinity Health. Research findings will be of importance to the whole field of gerontology

- Brief section on history of the center including stage of development: already well established; in the early stages of being developed; in planning stage.

The Center, itself, is a new concept for our region. If funded, the first six months of operation will include strategic planning between the partners and guided by the Center Director.

Collaboration between MiSU and Trinity Health is not new; MiSU faculty and Trinity

Health professionals already work together in some disciplines to enhance students' educational experiences. Expanding our partnership and defining a mission has been discussed informally. Further, MiSU faculty have experience in securing and carrying out grant sponsored research projects. Examples include "Active and Ageless" which focused on issues of physical wellness in an aging population, an NIH grant supporting the study of alcohol's effects on people in a social setting, and an MiSU Faculty Research grant to study the impact of energy drinks on human behavior.

- The Centers of Excellence Commission is required to determine whether the applicant has conducted the due diligence necessary to put together a viable proposal. Please explain the process that was undertaken to determine that this is a viable proposal.

While gathering input for an earlier grant application, College of Education and Health Sciences faculty identified several research areas related to geriatric health care. Although this prior grant did not materialize, the ideas prompted faculty to consider other means for achieving these research goals. Trinity Health's Sports Medicine already collaborates with MiSU in their Athletic Trainer program, and conversations with personnel involved in that part of Trinity's operation indicated that collaboration on issues of geriatric problems would be an idea of interest to Trinity. MiSU President Dr. David Fuller learned of this interest, visited with faculty members, and eventually discussed with John M. Kutch, President/CEO of Trinity Health the idea of expanding and formalizing collaboration with Trinity Health. The Center has potential value for both institutions as well as the entire industry related to geriatric services. This partnership will lead to improved services for seniors and will also result in expanded employment opportunities. There are models in existence where this kind of collaborative research partnership exists and while we have not identified a North Dakota center that collaboratively focuses on a multidisciplinary approach to geriatric

research; we are familiar with similar research centers at the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Washington.

State and private sector support will be used to establish the research center. Once the initial structure is in place, federal grants for research efforts will be sought to support the Center with a goal of becoming self-sufficient at the end of the external funding.

V. Funding Request – Required Information:

1. Amount of center of excellence funding being requested?

\$500,000

2. Amount of matching funds by source and type?

a. Private Sector Business Match

- i. Cash to be given to the Center

\$1,000,000

- ii. Cash reserved by the private sector partner to be expended on behalf of the project

n/a

- iii. In-Kind Assets allocated for the benefit of the project

n/a

b. Other Funds Facilitated Through the Collaboration of the Private Sector Participants

- i. Local Economic Development Funds

1. Cash to be given to the Center

n/a

2. Cash reserved to be expended on behalf of the project

n/a

3. In-Kind Assets allocated for the benefit of the project

n/a

- ii. Community Funds

1. Cash to be given to the Center

n/a

2. Cash reserved to be expended on behalf of the project

n/a

3. In-Kind Assets allocated for the benefit of the project

n/a

iii. Other Private Organizations

1. Cash to be given to the Center

n/a

2. Cash reserved to be expended on behalf of the project

n/a

3. In-Kind Assets allocated for the benefit of the project

n/a

iv. Federal Funds

1. Cash to be given to the Center

n/a

2. Cash reserved to be expended on behalf of the project

n/a

3. In-Kind Assets allocated for the benefit of the project

n/a

c. Total Matching Funds:

\$1,000,000

3. Degree of certainty and time-line of when matching funds will be available?

The Board of Directors of Trinity Health has unanimously approved the match of \$1,000,000 over four years for supporting this Center of Excellence.

4. Amount of other funds already invested, or which will be invested, but not eligible for match?

a. State Funds

n/a

b. Other Funds Secured (but not in collaboration with private sector participants)

n/a

c. Total Funds Not Eligible for Match

n/a

5. Please attach a one-page budget, and a budget narrative, detailing how the funds would be expended and a tentative timeline for the expenditures.
6. For any in-kind match, please attach documentation detailing the valuation.

VI. Criteria for Funding:

Provide the following information:

A. Legislatively determined factors:

In considering whether to approve or disapprove an application, the Commission shall consider whether the center will:

1. Use university or college research to promote private sector job growth and expansion of knowledge-based industries or use university or college research to promote the development of new products, high-tech companies, or skilled jobs in this state.

The results of Center-sponsored research projects will guide Trinity Health in expanding their existing services and potentially adding new services benefiting the state and region's large and growing geriatric population. Trinity anticipates hiring new staff, thus increasing the number of jobs in our community and region while adding valuable services for our aging population. Research findings hold great potential for new forms of service to our aging population both in terms of new improved practices and also potential products to improve the care and well being of seniors. Because the research will focus on almost every facet of geriatric wellness there is no limit to the products and services that could be identified.

2. Create high-value private sector employment opportunities in this state.

With research into how to improve geriatric wellness from almost all aspects of health and wellness, the probability of new high value services and/or products is high.

3. Provide for public-private sector involvement and partnerships.

The outcomes and long-term role of the Center are to discover and implement new

and/or improved services and products based on research findings. Geriatric service providers in the area are excited about the potential of the center. Two of these organizations provided letters of support and have indicated a desire to participate in the research.

4. Leverage other funding, including cash from the private sector.

Trinity Health's contribution will support research team expenses and provide access to facilities and advanced technology for use in research projects. Trinity Health also has many state-of-the-art facilities (including some of the most sophisticated medical equipment in the state) that along with the talents of their health and service professionals will add to MiSU faculty talents in a symbiotic collaboration.

Often grants to support research come from private foundations, and a center of this type will enhance opportunities to garner some of those funds for use in North Dakota settings.

5. Increase research and development activities that may involve federal funding from the national science foundation experimental program to stimulate competitive research.

Local, state, and federal funding opportunities for geriatric-related research are numerous. The Center will be eligible to seek funding from Health Resources & Services Administration, National Institutes of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control, for example, to support research projects.

6. Foster and practice entrepreneurship.

Goals of the Center's research include problem solving and creation of best practices in geriatric research. Partners anticipate a result of accomplishing these goals will be the discovery of new and/or improved techniques, treatments, or

products. While research under the Center will be limited to Center objectives, researchers will be encouraged to embrace discoveries and continue the research beyond the initial projects, potentially advancing the discoveries further and realizing entrepreneurial opportunities.

7. Promote the commercialization of new products and services in industry clusters (advanced manufacturing, energy, information and technology, tourism, value-added agriculture, or an industry, including the aerospace industry, specifically identified by the Department of Commerce as an industry that will contribute to the gross state product).

Research and collaboration from this Center will result in increased economic development in the creation of new jobs, new services, and new products within several health care areas, including increased knowledge (information) and technology applications. For example, one of the areas identified for collaboration is a study of “Smart Home Technology” to support the rehabilitation of geriatric patients. Smart Home Technology is a home or building that is equipped with special structured wiring to enable occupants to remotely control or program an array of automated home electronic devices by entering a single command. Center research does not directly promote commercialization or development of new products, but it does promote the identification and development of new and/or improved services within health care that could have commercial interest.

8. Become financially self-sustaining.

Local, state, federal, and foundation grant funding will be sought to extend the support for Center research. As the Center grows, a possible result will be a stand alone facility and the opportunity to offer limited patient services and services to other health care providers, specifically as such service relates to new findings from the Geriatric Research Center projects.

9. Establish and meet a deadline for acquiring and expending all public and private funds specified in the application.

Please review the Budget (attached) for intended expenditures and timelines.

B. Centers of Excellence Commission determined factors:

10. Community support.

Community support for this project is enthusiastic! Included with this application are two letters of support from community organizations who provide support to our geriatric population.

11. Collaboration among institutions.

The kind of research this center will engage in will be of interest to our faculty colleagues and also other health professionals, thus expanding the opportunity for further collaborative work. Many of our MiSU faculty already correspond with their colleagues across the state and this research opportunity will be a great chance to continue sharing research results collaborating on future projects.

VII. Accountability and Reporting:

Proposals shall include:

1. A description or listing of the sources and/or metrics to be used to measure the extent to which the criteria listed in Section VII will be achieved.

Measures of success will include

- Number of public presentations, including an annual symposium presented by the Center (also attendance and audience demographics) and publications in reputable journals
- Number of adjustments made in the treatment of seniors
- Number of new jobs created both directly from research findings and from

possible new services

- Number of grant supported research projects that result from the center's activity
- Increase in patients served by Trinity Health

2. The major results expected and a time-line for the expected results.

Upon Center approval and funding, an advisory board made up of MiSU and Trinity Health representative will be established. The grant PI will lead this board until the Center Director is hired. The Board will prepare a job description and conduct the hiring process with a goal of hiring the Center Director within two months.

The Center Director will work with the Board to create a strategic plan for the Center and will also work with interested faculty and Trinity Health professionals to identify research interests and establish research teams. At the end of the six months, the Center strategic plan, including Center operations and procedures and major research initiatives, will be in place. As well, initial research teams will begin to take shape. Center research projects will begin no later than January 2011.

Research projects will be ongoing with new projects starting at any time. The Center Director will continue to coordinate Center activities, be a spokesperson for the Center, engage in grant writing, and manage the grant.

Each six months the Center Director will submit a report on center operations (research projects, applications of center findings, jobs created as a result of center operations). A symposium to showcase research findings will be held in January of 2012.

3. Measurable goals and objectives for the Center's first year in operation. Each approved Center will be required to submit annually measurable goals and

objectives for the upcoming year and an update on the previous measurable goals and objectives.

During the first year the following objectives will be met:

Establish Advisory Board

Hire Center Director

Develop strategic plan

Establish Center operations and procedures

Initiate a minimum of five research projects

The overall goal for Year 1 is to establish the Center and its operations and to support the organization and start up of at least five research initiatives. At the end of year 1, a Center Symposium will be held to showcase to the community the work of the Center to date.

4. Provisions to comply with the monitoring policies of the Commission including submission of annual progress reports.

MiSU's Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, along with the business office director of grants, will assume fiscal responsibility for the grant award. The Center Director will be responsible for other annual reporting requirements.

5. The Commission is required by statute to monitor each Center's activities for a period of six to ten years in order to determine whether the Center is having the desired economic impact. As a condition for receipt of funds, each Center shall agree to provide the Commission with the information necessary to monitor the postaward activities of the Center.

VIII. Proposal Submission:

1. Proposals shall be no more than 20 pages in length, double-spaced and with no less than 12-point type, plus any attachments, with the first attachment being the one-page budget.

2. Applicants are encouraged to submit proposals electronically.
3. Two copies of the proposal shall be submitted initially for review regarding completeness and compliance with legislative requirements.

Electronic copies are to be sent to Justin Dever (jdever@nd.gov) at the North Dakota Department of Commerce.

If submitting applications by hard copy, send to:

Justin Dever
North Dakota Department of Commerce
P.O. Box 2057
Bismarck, North Dakota 58502-5300
701.328.7258

5. Ten copies of the final proposal (as opposed to the initial proposal referred to in paragraph four above) shall be sent to the Department of Commerce to be forwarded to the Centers of Excellence Commission. If the proposal is being submitted electronically, send single electronic copies to Justin Dever at the email addresses listed above.

IX. Process/Time-line:

See last page of application for the time-line for the spring 2010 round of Centers of Excellence funding.

X. Evaluation:

The Commission will evaluate each application using the criteria contained in Section VII. Special emphasis will be placed on creating high-value employment opportunities in the state and less emphasis will be placed on community support, collaboration among institutions, and establishing and meeting a deadline for acquiring and expending all public and private funds specified in the application. All other criteria will be judged with equal emphasis. The legislation allows flexibility for the commission to evaluate based on the above criteria as well as any other factors deemed necessary.

The Commission may also call for an independent, expert review of the application to determine whether the proposed center is viable and whether the proposed center is likely to have the desired economic impact.

XI. Grant Agreements:

Any successful proposals will be required to enter into a grant agreement prior to receiving any funds. This grant agreement will include a statement of the recipient's responsibilities

and actions the Commission may take if the recipient does not comply with state law or their responsibilities outlined in the agreement.

XII. Previously Funded Centers:

Additional information may be requested by the Commission if a previously funded Center of Excellence is applying for additional funds.

TIME-LINE FOR SIXTH ROUND OF CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE FUNDING

January 5, 2010

Time-Line:

January 21, 2010: Application form, with any revisions, forwarded to colleges and universities.

January 21 – March 12, 2010: Colleges and universities utilize their own process to determine which two proposals are submitted for consideration by the Centers of Excellence Commission. Each proposal must contain the college or university president's signature.

February 10, 2010: According to State Board of Higher Education policy, colleges and universities are required to submit a brief synopsis to the Chancellor of any applications they plan to submit.

March 12, 2010: Deadline for submission of proposals (to be reviewed for completeness and compliance) to be considered during the spring 2010 round of applications.

March 15 – April 2, 2010: Commerce staff conducts due diligence on the applications including visiting with applicants and private sector partners when appropriate.

April 5, 2010: Finalize review comments regarding completeness and compliance.

April 6, 2010: Review comments forwarded to colleges and universities.

April 23, 2010: Deadline for submission of final proposals to be considered during the spring 2010 round of applications.

April 26, 2010: Proposals forwarded to Commission for review along with a due diligence report from the Department of Commerce.

Week of May 3 - 7, 2010: Commission conference call meeting to determine if any independent, expert reviews or additional due diligence is needed.

Week of May 10 - 14, 2010: Presentations on Centers of Excellence proposals before the Centers of Excellence Commission.

Week of May 24 - 28, 2010: Centers of Excellence Commission meeting to act on applications.

Week of May 31 – June 4, 2010 (estimate): North Dakota Economic Development Foundation Board meeting to act on Commission-approved proposals. Decisions subsequently forwarded to the State Board of Higher Education (SBHE).

Week of June 7 - 11, 2010 (estimate): SBHE meeting to act on Commission-approved proposals. Decisions on proposals subsequently forwarded to the Budget Section.

Week of June 7 - 11, 2010 (estimate): Emergency Commission meeting to review proposals and make recommendations to Budget Section.

June 11, 2010 (estimate): Proposals e-mailed to Budget Section.

Week of June 21 - 25, 2010 (estimate): The Budget Section will meet and could approve, disapprove, or rerefer proposals which have been approved by the Commission, Foundation and SBHE.

July thru September, 2010: Centers of Excellence funds could be made available to the colleges and universities.

MSU/Trinity Health Geriatric Research Center of Excellence

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Item	Expense	Expense	Expense	Expense
Salaries				
Director/Office Manager (Base salary of \$55,000; MSU assumes a 5% increase per year)	\$55,000	\$57,750	\$60,638	\$63,669
Administrative Assistant (Base salary of \$25,000; MSU assumes a 5% increase per year)	\$25,000	\$26,250	\$27,563	\$28,941
Fringe benefits (41.19%)	\$32,952	\$34,600	\$36,330	\$38,146
Total Personnel Costs	\$112,952	\$118,600	\$124,530	\$130,756
Other Expenses				
Faculty release time (Using \$3000 adjunct pay to cover release, Year 1 = \$3,000*15 faculty*2 releases; Year 2=\$3,000*15 faculty*2 releases; Years 3 & 4=\$3000*20 faculty*2 releases)	\$90,000	\$90,000	\$120,000	\$120,000
Undergraduate Student Stipends @ \$8.00/hour: Year 1, 1200 hours; year 2, 2400 hours; years 3-4, 3600 hours	\$9,600	\$19,200	\$28,800	\$28,800
Graduate Student Stipends @ \$2500/semester for 10 hours per week: Year 1, three stipends; Years 2-4, six stipends	\$7,500	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
Research Team project expenses (travel, supplies, equipment etc.)	\$112,500	\$100,000	\$70,000	\$66,000
Center office operating expenses	\$17,128	\$11,864	\$6,318	\$6,074
Public Information/Marketing of New Results	\$25,000	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$8,000
Risk Management Fee (MSU pays an annual premium to ND's State Risk Management fund based on salary; rate used is .40%)	\$320	\$336	\$353	\$370
Cash required per year	\$375,000	\$375,000	\$375,000	\$375,000
Total per year state request	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$125,000
Total per year match	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000
Total Project Cost per Year	\$375,000	\$375,000	\$375,000	\$375,000

Total Project Cost over four years	\$1,500,000
Total Request from State	\$500,000
Total Match required	\$1,000,000

MSU/Trinity Health Geriatric Research Center of Excellence

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Item	Expense	Expense	Expense	Expense
Salaries				
Center Director/Office Manager will have administrative responsibility for all Center activities and will serve as grant PI, with a base salary of \$55,000. (MSU assumes a 5% increase per year)	\$55,000	\$57,750	\$60,638	\$63,669
Administrative Assistant will assist the Center Director and provide clerical support for the Center with a base salary of \$25,000 for 12 months. (MSU assumes a 5% increase per year)	\$25,000	\$26,250	\$27,563	\$28,941
Fringe (MSU's annual rate for staff is 41.19%)	\$32,952	\$34,600	\$36,330	\$38,146
Total Personnel Costs	\$112,952	\$118,600	\$124,530	\$130,756
Other Costs				
Faculty release time (MSU faculty in health-related disciplines will be provided release from their regular duties in order to lead and participate in research studies. Funds will be used to 'buyout' a portion of faculty contracts and the savings of appropriated funds will be used to hire adjunct faculty to fill the released portion of the contracts. Using \$3,000 avg to cover each release, Year 1 = \$3,000 * 15 faculty * 2 releases; Year 2 = \$3,000*15 faculty*2 releases; Years 3 & 4 = \$3,000*20 faculty * 2 releases.)	\$90,000	\$90,000	\$120,000	\$120,000
Undergraduate student wages (Undergraduate students will participate in research projects and be paid a rate of \$8.00 per hour. Several students may work on one research study. Estimated student research hours are Year 1, 1200; Year 2, 2400; Years 3-4, 3600.)	\$9,600	\$19,200	\$28,800	\$28,800
Graduate Student Wages (Graduate students will also participate in the research projects, often as project leaders under the faculty, hired as Graduate Research Assistants at the established campus rate of \$2500 per semester for ten hours per week. Estimated graduate assistants are Year 1, three; Years 2-4, six)	\$7,500	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
Research Team Project Expenses (Expenses will vary per research project, and will include equipment, rental expenses, supplies, travel and travel related costs, etc.)	\$112,500	\$100,000	\$70,000	\$66,000
Center Office Expenses (Copy machine and two desktop computers in year one as well as paper, printing, daily use items, etc.)	\$17,128	\$11,864	\$6,317	\$6,074
Public Information/Marketing (Funds will be used to promote and educate the public about the Center research and activities. Outreach to other communities and regions may also encourage other health care systems to consider working with the Center.)	\$25,000	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$8,000
Risk Management Fee (MiSU pays an annual premium to ND's State Risk Management fund based on salary; rate used is .40%)	\$320	\$336	\$353	\$370
Cash Required Per Year	\$375,000	\$375,000	\$375,000	\$375,000
Total Per Year Match	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$125,000
Total Project Cost Per Year	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000

Total Project Cost Over Four Years	\$1,500,000
Total Request from State	\$500,000
Total Match Required	\$1,000,000

Verification of Private Sector Participation

*To be completed by the Private Sector Partner

Any sections that are not applicable should be stated as such.

A. Contact Information

*NOTE: Boxes will expand as information is entered

1. Identify an individual whom the Department of Commerce may contact while performing due diligence during the application phase.

Company Name:	Trinity Health
Contact Person:	John M. Kutch
Title:	President/CEO
Address:	1 Burdick Expressway West, Minot ND 58701
Phone:	1-701-857-5114
Fax:	1-701-857-5772
Email:	alison.repnow@trinityhealth.org

B. Project Description

1. Briefly describe your company's project and its collaboration with the University. Include an explanation of your company's desired results.

Minot State University and Trinity Health will establish a Geriatric Research Center of Excellence. Through this Center, teams of MSU faculty/students and Trinity Health professionals will investigate geriatric health-related issues, seeking solutions to problems and best practices in health care for this growing population in our region. Innovations developed from this research will spawn employment opportunities and possible business ventures. Additionally, the opportunity to engage in research with university faculty and students will create a new incentive for attracting medical professionals to the area. Center research will be multidisciplinary, studying geriatric health care from a holistic approach. Cognitive, behavioral (including communication and social welfare), and physical health will be investigated. Current geriatric health-related services provided through MSU and Trinity Health will serve as the venues for many of the research projects.

C. Matching Funds

1. Complete the table below outlining your company's matching contribution to the Center. There are three categories of matching funds:
 - Cash to be given to the Center
 - Cash Reserved by the company to be expended on behalf of the project
 - In-Kind assets allocated for the benefit of the project

	Cash	Cash Reserved	In-Kind
Year 1	\$250,000	n/a	n/a
Year 2	\$250,000	n/a	n/a
Year 3	\$250,000	n/a	n/a
Year 4+	\$250,000	n/a	n/a
Subtotals			
Total Contribution: \$1,000,000			

2. Complete the table below outlining the source(s) of the matching funds that you have just identified. Include an explanation of how the values of In-Kind contributions were determined and how the Cash Reserved will be spent on behalf of the project. Applicable supporting documentation should be attached.

	Source of Funds
Cash	\$1,000,000
Cash Reserved	n/a
In-Kind	n/a

3. Explain any factors that may positively or negatively affect the availability of the matching funds to be contributed by your company.

Community growth due to military and oil activity and the successful recruitment of new physicians will be positive factors affecting the availability of the matching fund contribution. Health care reform and shrinking reimbursements will be negative factors that could affect the match.

D. Job Creation/Retention

1. Use the table below to provide a projection of jobs that will be created over time at your company and located in North Dakota as a result of this project.

	0-1 years	2-4 years	5+ years
Jobs	0	50-75	
Avg Salary		\$50,000	

2. In the absence of job creation, explain how job retention at your company may be enhanced through its involvement in this project.

Current Trinity Health professionals will have a new opportunity to engage in Center supported research with university faculty and students, providing them an incentive to remain in the area.

3. Explain any variables that may positively or negatively influence job creation and/or job retention.

Trinity Health is currently having success in recruiting from economically depressed areas of the country. As the economics return to these areas, retention of recruited staff will be essential. This project will help to recruit and retain staff.

4. How many employees does your company currently have located in North Dakota?

2,700

E. Commercialization

1. Are any new products expected to be commercialized as a result of your company's participation in the Centers of Excellence Program? If yes, explain.

A goal of the Center is to provide a venue for the development of new services to improve geriatric health care. Along with enhanced services, there is potential for development of new products, but identification of such products is not possible until actual research projects are identified.

2. Explain any factors that may positively or negatively impact commercialization efforts.

Should any products be developed and require commercialization, we will need assistance from a third party for patent registration.

F. Increased Competiveness

1. Explain any expected areas of improvement to your company's operations that will increase its overall industry competitiveness (e.g. increased manufacturing efficiency, product improvement, etc.).

With the aging demographics of North Dakota, any competitive advantage of improving the health of the geriatric population should result in an increase in services provided. This will enhance net income with a program that is focused solely on geriatric patients. Efficiency in costs can also be expected from standardization and patient treatment programs.

G. Required Documents

1. The following documents are required to be submitted along with the application.

	Office Use Only
A business plan relating to this project	<input type="checkbox"/>
Resumes of key management personnel associated with this project	<input type="checkbox"/>
Documentation of any federal grants/contracts to be used as a match	<input type="checkbox"/>
Financial Statements	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Balance Sheet: 3 years historical & 3 years projected	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Profit & Loss Statement: 3 years historical & 3 years projected	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Cash Flow Statement: 3 years historical & 3 years projected	<input type="checkbox"/>

H. Submission

1. This document should be forwarded to the University for its inclusion with the application that is to be completed by the University. All materials shall be submitted to the Department of Commerce in compliance with the instructions found within the Centers of Excellence Application.

I. Confidentiality

1. Under N.D.C.C. § 44-04-18.4 trade secrets, proprietary, commercial and financial information is confidential if it is of privileged nature and not previously publicly disclosed. The Department of Commerce is willing to enter into a confidentiality agreement to address your company's privacy concerns. To initiate a confidentiality agreement, contact Justin Dever (jdever@nd.gov) at the Department of Commerce.
2. Any of the required documents identified above may be submitted directly to the Department of Commerce. If you choose to do so, send to:

Justin Dever
North Dakota Department of Commerce
P.O. Box 2057
Bismarck, North Dakota 58502-2057
701-328-7258

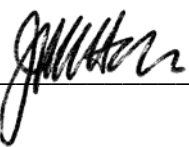
J. Additional Information

1. The Department of Commerce may contact you to request additional information in order to validate assertions made throughout the application process.

K. Acknowledgements

1. By signing below, I acknowledge the following:

- That to the best of my knowledge and belief the information contained in this form is true, correct and complete.
- My company is working on a collaborative project with a North Dakota university or a related foundation which is applying for a Centers of Excellence grant.
- The Department of Commerce may contact my company while performing due diligence during the application process.
- My company will cooperate with the Department of Commerce's efforts to verify information and address potential questions.

Signature 

3-11-10
Date

John M. Kutch President/CEO
Printed Name/Title



Marla Ludwig Kulig, Executive Director
Jay Klabunde, Assistant Director
Jeanine Kabanuk, Financial Coordinator

March 11, 2010

Dear Dr. Nordquist,

On behalf of Rehab Services, Inc. and The Wellington Assisted Living I am pleased to strongly support the collaborative effort being submitted for a geriatric research center. There are numerous areas and an unlimited number of people that may be benefitted through this center.

The proposed initial partners are progressive leading organizations with solid standing and history of partnering with other community/state organization. Our past history has allowed us to work with both Minot State University and Trinity. We currently have an MSU intern working in our drug/alcohol program.

Through our service delivery of 22 years we have indentified many unmet needs to be addressed for people with disability/aging population. Three of the many areas are:

- *geriatric treatment for alcohol and medication addiction
- *researching innovative models of care
- *management and direct care for people with Alzheimer's disease

We sincerely believe you will find merit in this proposal. It can mean a greater quality of life for a population who gave us so much , now it is our turn.

Sincerely,

Marla Ludwig Kulig, Executive Director

Rehab Services, Inc.



Minot Commission on Aging Inc.

21 First Avenue SE OFC
Parker Senior Center
Minot, ND 58701-3910

Phone: 701-852-0561

FAX: 701-852-0564

www.minotcoa.org

"There's No Place Like Home"

March 10, 2010

Dr. Neil Nordquist, Dean
College of Education and Health Sciences
Minot State University

Dr. Nordquist

As the Executive Director of the Minot Commission on Aging, I am please to write a letter in support of the application of Minot State University and Trinity Health for a Center of Excellence involving Geriatric Research. The growing portion of seniors in our area supports the need for research into issues involving their care and quality of life. We have found that the majority of our seniors will age in place and want to remain in their homes and communities, but this will require additional services. These services such as this center would study and any research that could result in improved methods of care or products to make their lives better would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Roger A. Reich
Executive Director



We Are An Equal Opportunity Employer