Keith Van Oosterhout receives 2015 Anthony V. DeVito II Memorial Award

Keith Van Oosterhout, M.D., has been selected as the 2015 Anthony V. DeVito II Memorial Award recipient. The award is presented annually by the U-M Geriatrics Center to recognize outstanding service, dedication and commitment to excellence in geriatrics education in Michigan.

A Board Certified Geriatrician, Dr. VanOosterhout has contributed 32 years of care in aging services; over 20 years of which has been in leadership roles. He is known for his quiet yet visionary leadership and ability to identify and fill gaps in the aging services field.

While managing Lakeland Specialty Hospital and two long-term care facilities he implemented southwest Michigan’s first Eden alternative initiatives which quickly became a norm. In the early 1990s he developed new sets of metrics to track and reach goals specific to the senior population such as fall prevention, skin breakdown and bladder catheterization practices. He early-on deemphasized the medication and procedures aspect of care and designed a more adaptive form of treatment which took into account individual patient preferences, needs, and what is appropriate for their stage in life. His recommendations quickly became sought after via consult throughout Lakeland Regional Health System and beyond.

Through his current role as Medical Director of PACE, as well as Program Director for Family Practice Geriatric Fellowship at Lakeland Healthcare and Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, he has created an educational environment focused on helping medical professionals understand the importance of “continuity of care” across living settings. With his growing reputation, up and coming professionals have travelled regularly from as far as Grand Rapids to be a part of learning opportunities within PACE. His commitment to geriatrics as a field is apparent in his unflagging development of vehicles of learning for younger professionals interested in the field of study.