Dr. Jeffrey Halter honored by Glacier Hills Retirement Community

University of Michigan Geriatrics Center Director Dr. Jeffrey Halter was honored for his significant leadership and commitment to geriatric medicine by the Glacier Hills Retirement Community at a tribute event on Wed., May 20. The event was hosted by Glacier Hills, in partnership with a number of community sponsors, in celebration of the Ann Arbor facility’s 35th anniversary. Dr. Alan Dengiz, medical director of Geriatric Medicine at Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, Ann Arbor, was also honored.

Professor of Internal Medicine and chief of the Division of Geriatric Medicine, Dr. Halter was recognized for his leadership role in the decades-long collaboration between the University of Michigan Health System and Glacier Hills as a community partner. Glacier Hills serves as an important site for training geriatric medicine fellows and clinical research conducted by Geriatrics Center faculty, who provide medical oversight and care to the residents.

“Care at Glacier Hills has advanced due to our sustained association with U-M geriatric physicians,” said Ray Rabidoux, president and CEO of Glacier Hills, Inc. “Dr. Halter has been committed, thoughtful and collaborative in placing the right physician at the right time at Glacier Hills. In particular, Drs. Neil Alexander, Lona Mody and Neal Persky have been of invaluable assistance.”

Tony Denton, senior associate director and COO of the University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers, and Dr. John Del Valle, interim chair of Internal Medicine, presented the tribute award to Dr. Halter at the event.

“The partnership between UMHS and Glacier Hills is a model of the success that can be achieved through such collaborations,” noted Denton. “Dr. Halter’s service illustrates the broad benefit and policy implications of building true partnerships at the community level.”

Dr. Del Valle praised Dr. Halter’s role in addressing the important and growing need for highly specialized geriatric care, both in terms of clinical care and physician training. “The collaboration with community partners is essential in meeting our mission to address the aging population. We are very fortunate to have Dr. Halter’s national leadership and expertise here with us at U-M and available to benefit our immediate community.”

In his remarks, Dr. Halter cited the team of geriatricians and nurse practitioners who are responsible for the success of the Glacier Hills collaboration and the advancement of the Geriatrics Center. He thanked the mentors and colleagues who have helped him throughout his career.

Dr. Halter established the Geriatrics Center as its director in 1987. In 2008, he received the lifetime achievement award from the American Geriatrics Society.