

## **Summit Attendees Call for National Effort to Speed Translation of Evidence-Based Caregiver Programs**

After a full day of presentations from leading researchers in Alzheimer's, Cancer, Rural Caregiving and Transition care demonstrated convincingly that a core set of evidence-based caregiver support programs are available for widespread dissemination, attendees of the First National Summit broke into groups and generated a set of recommendations for how to build a national network for that purpose. The full set of recommendations are now being compiled and will be presented in a monograph that will be a "blueprint" for the National Quality Care Network that is being launched as a bridge between researchers and practitioners in the caregiving field.

Among the recommendations:

- Researchers and Practitioners need to form strong partnerships and cooperative strategies that recognize the value of "practice-based evidence" for translation efforts.
- Careful attention must be paid to language and development of common terms that can be used by researchers, policy makers and practitioners alike. RE-AIM has excellent potential as the basis for a common language.
- Agencies need easy-to-understand information that allow them to better market and make the case for evidence-based programs locally and state-wide.
- Practitioners need templates and tools for collecting and presenting local and state data that demonstrates the need for and the value of evidence-based programs.
- Agencies need tools and strategies to empower staff to make decisions and choose evidence-based programs to implement.
- There is a need for tools to assess readiness, guide implementation and document costs and cost offsets
- There is a need for efforts to assess and enhance the readiness of agencies and communities to adopt evidence-based programs.
- Regional "translators" should be identified who would assist agencies in their area with analysis, marketing and translation efforts.
- There is the need to develop a national clearinghouse that organizes information on evidence-based caregiver supports including cost, implementation guidelines and availability of training.
- There is the need to develop a national web-based learning network for those involved in implementing evidence-based programs.

