Established in 1961, the Center for Research and Education, part of the Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging, is one of the nation’s premier and longest-standing centers for applied aging research located in a non-university setting. In accord with the mission of Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging, the Center conducts state-of-the-art research to develop and deliver innovative, high-quality solutions to advance support for older adults and caregivers and to deepen the understanding of their evolving needs in a changing society.

Positioned within a service, research and advocacy organization, the Center for Research and Education is uniquely qualified to collaborate with health and social service providers in translating research findings into evidence-based programs and other useful products and resources. Innovative programs and services are developed by the Center and implemented by Benjamin Rose’s Eldercare Services Institute, as well as other service organizations across the country.

Directed by David Bass, PhD, Senior Vice President for Research and Education, many of the Center’s research studies have focused on coping with chronic illness; family caregiving; dementia and dementia care; and elder abuse identification and prevention. Results of these investigations have been widely published in scientific and clinical journals, such as the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society and The Gerontologist, among others, and have been used to develop innovative programs for older adults and their family members.

A major part of the Center for Research and Education’s portfolio of research focuses on developing evidence-based programs, which are interventions or programs developed, tested and proved by research to achieve beneficial outcomes for consumers. The Center’s two evidence-based programs include: SHARE (Support, Health, Activities, Resources, Education), an early-stage dementia intervention that is designed to engage both a person with early-stage dementia and their care partner in developing a care plan, and BRI Care Consultation, a telephone and e-mail based care coaching program for people with chronic conditions and their family and friend caregivers. Both evidence-based programs utilize innovative technologies throughout the delivery of the program.

The Center for Research and Education also plays a leadership role in advancing knowledge about evidence-based programs by providing consultation and training to other researchers and service providers, including, for example, organizing a special issue of the journal Generations (Spring 2010) on evidence-based programs. Developing and testing evidence-based programs is fundamental to the Center’s mission of translating research findings into useful programs and products for older adults, family caregivers, and service providers.

For more information on the Center for Research and Education, please visit www.benrose.org/research.