

August 15 2005 - Rep. Slaughter Celebrates \$2 Million Grant for Geriatrics Program at The University

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Congresswoman Joined by Doctors in Support of the Finger Lakes Geriatric Education Center

Washington, DC - Rep. Louise M. Slaughter (D-Fairport), Ranking Member of the House Rules Committee, joined doctors at the Finger Lakes Geriatric Education Center of Upstate New York (FLGEC-UNY), a consortium headed by the University of Rochester, for a press conference on Monday to celebrate a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

"I am very pleased to announce that this consortium, headed by the University of Rochester, has earned a five-year, \$2 million grant from the Department of Health and Human Services to support its critical education programs," said Rep. Slaughter. She continued, "This funding will allow the Center to continue its innovative techniques to effectively respond to America's growing elderly population. Because of the Center's projects, our aging loved ones will receive quality health care and live longer lives."

FLGEC-UNY has been granted \$2 million over a five-year period by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for its work in geriatric medicine and care. Launched in 1997, FLGEC-UNY improves health care delivery to older adults by enhancing geriatric education of health professionals who care for the elderly.

The elderly are one of the fastest growing populations in the state of New York and around the country. Approximately 1 in 8 Americans is over the age of 65 and, the population of those aged 85 years and older will more than double over the next 25 years.

Rep. Slaughter stated, "...the way we practice health care must also be transformed. If we want to ensure our aging family members have the best quality of life, they must receive quality care that addresses their specific health conditions." She added, "It can be said without exaggeration that this skilled facility is one of the treasures of New York's 28th Congressional District."