TEAM TITLE: Designing Technology INTerventions for Healthy Aging (TINT) VIP Team

GOALS: Design and develop technology interventions for older adults in retirement communities.

TECHNOLOGIES: Sensing technologies and other physical computing technologies, statistical analysis, database, Android programming.

RESEARCH ISSUES: The number of older adults is estimated to dramatically increase, in which by 2030, older adults will represent 20% of the total population; and by 2050, 50% of older adults who require care will not have children. Retirement communities are an affordable option for older adults but they have been designed before the population they serve following conceptual frameworks not favorable to the current older adult behavior. Among the many technologies that can be designed for older adults (medication optimization, remote patient monitoring, cognitive fitness, assistive technologies, etc) social networking is the major focus. Social isolation/depression is a serious issue among older adults, affecting health and leading to higher mortality rates. This project will focus on addressing the aforementioned issue by designing and implementing interventions for sociability towards answering the research question: can designed technologies aid social interaction among older adults?

TEAM ADVISORS: Professors Claudia B. Rebola (ID) and Patricio Vela (ECE)

PROJECT PARTNER: Lutheran Towers Retirement Community

DESIRED SKILLS OR DISCIPLINES: ID, CS, HCI, DM and ECE

- Arduino + Digital Design
- Android programming
- User interface design (HTML, CSS) and data management (mySQL and PHP)
- Fabrication techniques: laser cutting, 3D printing, CNC machinery.

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