**Project Title: The Mayer-Rothschild Foundation Designation of Excellence in**

**Person-Centered Long-Term Care - The National Survey of Independent Older People**

As an older adult living independently (not in a nursing home or assisted living setting) in the United States, you are invited to participate in a research project being conducted by Principal Investigators Dr. Lenard Kaye, Director of the University of Maine Center on Aging; Dr. Jennifer Crittenden, Associate Director of the University of Maine Center on Aging; and Angela Hunt, Chief Innovation Officer at The Cedars of Portland, Maine. This research is part of The Mayer-Rothschild Foundation Designation of Excellence in Person-Centered Long-Term Care project. The goal of the research project is to develop standards of excellence in the delivery of person-centered care at assisted living and nursing home communities across the country. The purpose of this survey is to learn what is most important to older adults who may be future users of long-term care. The information you provide will help to develop the tools that long-term care communities can use to improve the services they provide. Any individual age 60 years or older and living independently in the United States is eligible to be in the study by responding to the survey.

**What Will You Be Asked to Do?**

If you decide to participate, you will respond to an anonymous online survey that will take about 15-20 minutes.

**Risks**

The primary risks of participating are your time and inconvenience.

**Benefits**

While this study will have no immediate or direct benefit to you, this research may help to improve the quality of long-term care in the future. Your input will help to develop the Designation of Excellence Person-Centered Care standards that will support long-term care communities in improving the care they provide.

**Confidentiality**

This study is anonymous (there is no information collected that will identify you). The data will be stored on a password-protected computer indefinitely.

**Voluntary**

Your participation is completely voluntary. You can choose not to proceed with the survey or if you start the survey, you can end at any time, or you can choose not to answer any question, without consequence to you. ***Submitting the survey means you consent to participate.***

**Contact Information**

If you have questions about this study, contact Jennifer Crittenden at um.personcentered@maine.edu or 207.262.7923. If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, please contact the Office of Research Compliance, University of Maine, 207-581-2657 (or e-mail umric@maine.edu).