**Sample Letter to Request Undergraduate Student Involvement at your Fall Prevention Event**

***Please Note:****This letter was designed to assist clinicians who are organizing fall prevention events to reach out to pre-PT and other undergraduate students in order to promote student involvement. Please modify as needed to suit your specific needs.*

Dear contact person undergraduate program,

I am seeking involvement of undergraduate type of health professional students and faculty to assist in our name of your fall prevention event, which will take place on date at location from start time – end time.

Falls are the leading cause of fatal and non-fatal injuries for older adults. Falls threaten the safety and independence of these individuals, generating enormous economic and personal costs. However, falling is not an inevitable result of aging. Through practical lifestyle adjustments, evidence-based falls prevention programs, and clinical-community partnerships, the number of falls among seniors can be substantially reduced. Every September, the National Council on Aging (NCOA) sponsors the National Fall Prevention Awareness Day (NFPAD) campaign to reduce falls in our aging adults. Our event, which we seek assistance with, will commemorate NFPAD.

Volunteering at our fall prevention event is an excellent service-learning opportunity for all involved. Potential benefits for student volunteers include, but is not limited to:

* Learn how to appropriately interview aging adults for a history of falls
* Become proficient in identifying medications linked to falls
* Gain a deeper understanding of intrinsic and extrinsic factors related to fall risk
* Learn how to assess, identify, and provide interventions for aging adults with all levels of fall risk based on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ‘s (CDC) Stopping Elderly Accidents, Deaths, and Injuries (STEADI) initiative ([link](https://www.cdc.gov/steadi/index.html))
* Work alongside active clinicians from the community to gain a greater sense of community within the health care realm
* Learn about and educate aging adults on evidence-based recommendations for fall risk factors
* Gain an appreciation for both interprofessional roles as well as the role of physical therapy in fall prevention
* Obtain community services hours required for graduation
* Develop a great understanding of one of the many roles that physical therapists play in community involvement and education

Students interested in volunteering will be trained in the STEADI Toolkit on-site prior to the start of our fall prevention event. Those who wish to prepare ahead of time can partake in the CDC’s *STEADI Older Adult Fall Prevention Online Training for Providers*, which is a free 1-hour webinar available to all healthcare clinicians. Please click [here](https://www.cdc.gov/steadi/training.html) for more information.

Although the incidence and prevalence of falls is extremely high, we can significantly lower the risk of falls among aging adults with proper screening, assessment, and interventions.  At the same time, students participating in our fall prevention event will mutually benefit through a positive hands-on learning experience. Those interested in volunteering can contact us at your email address. Looking forward to assisting our older adults by preventing one fall at a time!

Respectfully,

Your name

Title, name of organization you are representing