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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**New Adult Entrepreneurship Program Begins at Concordia University in July 2017
Oak Park Township Forms Partnership to Facilitate Client Referrals**

Oak Park Township is proud of our partnership with Concordia University in River Forest for a series of workshops geared to adults 50+ who are interested in entrepreneurship. The program **“Work for Yourself@50+”** begins Monday, July 31st in Concordia’s Christopher Center, 7400 Augusta Room 200, from 6:00pm-8:00pm.

Concordia University was selected to receive a national grant through the AARP Foundation to offer these free workshops to help interested older adults understand the pros and cons of self-employment and support them through the early steps that can lead to success. Please register by calling **888-339-5617**. Additional information may be found at: aarpfoundation.org/workforyourself.

Workshop attendees will receive referrals to many resources, including Oak Park Township Senior Services, to help them achieve their goal of owning their own business. As Director of Senior Services, Pamela Mahn, explains, “Senior Services is the designated Aging and Disability Resource Center for the Oak Park & River Forest area. Attendees may contact our offices for information and referrals on programs and services available in the area, assistance with completion of public benefits applications, as well as nutrition, case management, transportation and caregiver support services.”

“Concordia University Chicago’s Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship is pleased to have this opportunity to partner with Concordia’s Center for Gerontology and the AARP Foundation to provide these free, beneficial entrepreneurship workshops to the Oak Park/River Forest and surrounding communities, where 28% to 40% of our residents are aged 50+. People 55 to 65 are the only age group with rising rates of entrepreneurship and twice as many successful entrepreneurs are over 50 than under 25,” stated Dr. Claudia Santin, Dean – College of Business.

About Concordia University - Chicago

Concordia University Chicago, (CUC), is a distinctive, comprehensive university based in the liberal arts, which equips men and women to serve and lead with integrity, creativity, competence and compassion in a diverse, interconnected and increasingly urbanized world. CUC is one of the few educational institutions in the country to have dedicated community outreach centers in the fields of both gerontology and entrepreneurship. The Work for Yourself@50+ program will allow CUC to address the pressing need for entrepreneurship education for older adults in our region.

About Oak Park Township

Oak Park Township designs and administers services, grants, and partnerships that benefit senior citizens, at-risk youth, and financially challenged community members; assists in planning and funding local mental health services; and provides voter services, property tax information, and appeal assistance.

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