Productive aging scholarship and practice gained new momentum in 2015 with the American Academy of Social Work & Social Welfare’s Grand Challenge (http://aaswsw.org/grand-challenges-initiative/12-challenges/advance-long-and-productive-lives/) along with the themes of retirement security, health, and caregiving for the 2015 White House Conference on Aging. The purpose of this Special Issue is to advance our understanding of the many clinical implications with regard to theories, practices, approaches, and techniques in the area of productive aging. Productive aging is defined as any activity by an older adult that produces goods and services for society, whether paid or not (Bass, Caro & Chen, 1993) with employment, civic engagement (formal and informal volunteering) and informal caregiving being the primary foci. This Special Issue aims to recognize the significant achievements of clinical scholarship and practice and will help to shape a vision for the next generation of scholars, educators, and practitioners to situate micro level factors within the broader ecological context.

Submissions should have clear clinical, research, policy, and education implications for the social work and social welfare profession. We are accepting papers that are empirical, conceptual, systematic reviews, or commentaries. Topics of interests that intersect with productive aging include, but are not limited to:

1. Multi-level conceptual frameworks, including psychological, biological, behavioral, sociocultural and environmental
2. Intervention research
3. Health and economic inequity
4. Minority aging and inclusion of vulnerable populations
5. Intersection of productive activities (for example, paid-work and caregiving)
6. Life-course perspectives and/or life narratives
7. Strategies to manage sequel of chronic disease and prevent injury and/or aging in place
8. Global, cross-cultural, and cross-national aging
9. Transdisciplinary; arts and humanities
10. Integrating “Advancing a Long and Productive Life” grand challenge with other grand challenges identified by the Academy of Social Work & Social Welfare (e.g., social isolation, prevention, homelessness)

Before submission, authors should carefully read Author Guidelines located at https://www.springer.com/psychology/journal/10615. Full manuscripts will be evaluated using Clinical Social Work Journal’s usual blind peer review process. Questions can be addressed to Dr. Ernest Gonzales, Assistant Professor, New York University, Silver School of Social Work, productiveaging@gmail.com. Deadline to submit is April 1, 2019.

References