

# **Stockton Offers Free Depression Screening and Information Session for Older Adults**

***September 14, 2011 at 11:30am at the Hammonton Senior Center on 310 Bellevue Avenue in Hammonton to address depression diagnosis and treatment among older adult population.***

## ***For Immediate Release***

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**Contact: Tim Kelly  
Office of Public Relations  
Galloway Township, NJ 08240  
Tim.Kelly@stockton.edu  
(609) 652-4950**

**Galloway Township, NJ-** The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey will offer a free screening and information session for older adults who may be suffering from depression.

Offered through the development of a series of workshops directed by Dr. Christine Ferri, Associate Professor of Psychology and Education Chair for the Stockton Center on Successful Aging, the event is designed to address depression among older adults in the community. It is made possible by a grant from The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey. The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey's mission is to promote health, well-being, and quality of life in New Jersey's communities. The last session in the series is scheduled for September 14, 2011 at 11:30am at the Hammonton Senior Center on 310 Bellevue Avenue, Hammonton, 609-567-3200 (x37).

The program is designed to address three barriers toward treatment of depression in older adults: lack of education about depression, limited access to information about mental health providers who take Medicare patients and the various challenges associated with depressed individuals' willingness to follow through with referrals.

The Depression Screening Program will address these barriers by presenting an information session, depression screening, and providing a list of mental health providers who treat Medicare patients. Professor Ferri will also make follow-up phone calls to determine if participants made an appointment, with support and encouragement to get professional help.

For more information contact Dr. Christine Ferri at Stockton Campus - H-255, 609-626-6040, [Christine.Ferri@stockton.edu](mailto:Christine.Ferri@stockton.edu). Visit the SCOSA website at [www.stockton.edu/scosa](http://www.stockton.edu/scosa) for a schedule of events and updates.

