

STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



The Eyes Have It, or Not: Medicare's Blind Spot on Sensory Impairment in Predicting Elderly Depression

Fifth in a Series of Free Professional Seminars to be Held on Nov. 3

For Immediate Release

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Galloway Township, NJ- The fifth in an ongoing series of Continuing Professional Education Seminars presented by the Stockton Center on Successful Aging (SCOSA) and Stockton's School of Graduate and Continuing Studies is scheduled for **Wednesday, November 3, 2010** from **7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.** at the Health Center at Galloway (66 West Jimmie Leeds Road, Galloway, NJ 08205).

The seminar, entitled "The Eyes Have It, or Not: Medicare's Blind Spot on Sensory Impairment in Predicting Elderly Depression," will be presented by Dr. William Cabin, assistant professor of social work. The presentation focuses on a literature review and initial study of neighborhood and individual variables' inter-relationships in predicting elderly depression.

The study is based on data from the Brookdale Demonstration Initiative (BDI) at the Brookdale Center on Healthy Aging and Longevity at Hunter College School of Public Health, NYC. BDI's database contains data from a 24-page, 2008 interview-administered survey of nearly 1,900 NYC senior citizen enrollees in New York City. Results show an eight variable predictive model for elderly depression. The study found that vision and hearing impairment, when combined with six other variables, explained 18 percent of the variation in depression.

The seminars, funded by the Health Center at Galloway, are designed for professionals, para-professionals, and other caregivers who work with older adults and are free of charge and include a full breakfast. Upon completion, participants will receive 1 CE for social workers, marriage and family therapists, and licensed professional counselors. Online advanced registration is required by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 1, 2010. To register, go to www.stockton.edu/scosa. For more information, contact Sherri Ridgway at the Health Center at Galloway (609-748-9100) or SCOSA at 609-652-4311. # # #