

Stockton to Host Conference for Professionals and People Affected by Hoarding on May 18

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Contact: Maryjane Briant
News and Media Relations Director
Galloway Township, NJ 08205
Maryjane.Briant@Stockton.edu
(609) 652-4593

Galloway Township, NJ - Stockton University will host a full-day conference, "Perspectives on Hoarding," on **Monday, May 18** to focus on what happens when people's possessions take over their lives. The event is co-sponsored by the Mental Health Association in Atlantic County and the Atlantic County Division of Public Health.

Participants will examine hoarding from various perspectives: a professor of Psychology, a housing official, a person who has lived the hoarding experience, and a family member. Clinicians and building code officials will identify strategies and resources to address the related struggles from clutter and hoarding disorder.

Individuals and family members of people overwhelmed by too many things will learn strategies to deal with the overwhelming feeling accompanied by clutter/ hoarding disorder, and learn ways to reduce collecting, clean, sort, and organize possessions.

At the end of this conference participants will be able to:

- Identify the signs of hoarding;
- Identify resources for treatment and ongoing support;
- Discuss strategies to minimize behaviors associated with finding/keeping and clutter.

Featured presenters include: Dr. Randy O. Frost, professor of Psychology at Smith College; Jesse Edsell-Vetter, hoarding intervention coordinator, Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership; Lee Shuer, director of Mutual Support Services at ServiceNet; and Rebecca Belofsky Shuer, a certified wellness recovery action plan facilitator.

Registration begins at 8 a.m., with the program beginning at 9 a.m. and continuing until 5 p.m. in the Campus Center Event Room. Public health, occupational therapy and social workers may receive continuing education credits. The cost is \$85; to register visit

Stockton.edu/grad/hoarding or call 609-652-4227.

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