Reaching Older Adults

Speaker: Jo Anne Sirey, PhD

“We really need to work together—mental health and the aging service providers.”

Older adults, ages 65 years and more, have a high rate of suicide. Adults ages 85+ having the highest suicide rate of all adults. Dr. Jo Anne Sirey explains that “depression is often not well detected in older adults.” In addition, older adults are reluctant to seek mental health services. Therefore, suicide prevention and mental health services need to go where older adults can be found, and senior centers are an ideal community setting to reach this population.