

## **NEWS RELEASE**

October 16, 2012 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## FREE ALZHEIMER'S EVENT SERIES OFFERED

HATTIESBURG, MISS. – The Neurological Research Center (NRC) at Hattiesburg Clinic and the Mississippi Department of Mental Health are slated to host multiple events during the month of November to increase awareness of Alzheimer's disease.

Free memory screenings will be offered by the Mississippi Department of Mental Health on Nov. 9 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.at Hattiesburg Clinic's main facility on the second floor. The screenings take 15 minutes each and although they are not intended to be diagnostic evaluations, the screenings may help uncover early signs of memory impairment and/or dementia.

Also on Nov. 9, Ronald L. Schwartz, MD, CPI, the director and principal investigator of NRC, will be hosting Understanding Alzheimer's Lunch and Learn in Forrest General Hospital's meeting rooms near the cafeteria from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. and lunch will be provided. Information about signs, symptoms and treatments for Alzheimer's as well as information for caregivers will be presented by Melora Jackson of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health.

On Tuesday, Nov. 13, NRC and the Mississippi Department of Mental Health will host "In Their Footsteps: Experiencing Alzheimer's (A Virtual Tour)" where members of the community can participate in a free virtual dementia tour to experience how it feels to have Alzheimer's disease.

The tour will be held in the main Hattiesburg Clinic building at 415 South 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue on the second floor in the Cedar, Cypress and Poplar rooms. There will be three sessions throughout the day starting with 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 4:30

p.m. Each tour will last about an hour. For the tour, participants will put on glasses, gloves and headphones and will be asked to complete simple tasks that become difficult with dementia.

Each event is free to the public, but space is limited and registration is required. Call 601-268-5606 for more information or to register.

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