

MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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For Immediate Release:

Jeff Smith

4th Senate District

Nov. 18, 2008

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Senator Jeff Smith Supports Medicare Healthcare Event Planned at Harris-Stowe State University

Jefferson City — Senator Jeff Smith, D-St. Louis, is encouraging Medicare-eligible City of St. Louis residents to participate in Harris-Stowe State University's annual Medicare Open Enrollment Kickoff Event, which is set for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20, at the university's Emerson Performance Center, 3026 Laclede Avenue, St. Louis.

The event, sponsored by the St. Louis Area Agency on Aging and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, allows Medicare recipients to make changes in their healthcare coverage during an open enrollment period, which runs through Dec. 31. The event also includes medication education, health screenings, and flu shots for Medicare recipients that are age 60 and older.

Representatives from the Social Security Administration, CLAIM, the ABC Coalition, and the St. Louis Area Agency on Aging will be in attendance to assist seniors with the Low Income Subsidy, Medicare Part D, and Missouri RX. In addition, representatives from AmerenUE, Laclede Gas Company, and the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District will answer questions about utility service assistance. Representatives from St. Louis Regional Transit (Metro) will take photographs of participants who are interested in receiving reduced fare permits. The Ten Toe Express — a group of citizens that supports linking walking with public transit for healthier and more active lifestyles — will provide information on walking programs and local train and bus service.

"This is a one-stop shop event for Medicare recipients who can get assistance filling out forms, help choosing appropriate healthcare and prescription drug plan programs, as well as participate in a variety of health screenings and get their flu shots," Sen. Smith said. "It's a wonderful opportunity to have your Medicare questions answered and to accomplish several tasks — all in one place."

Josefina Carbonell, the Assistant Secretary for Aging at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, will attend this year's annual event and present a short program to event-goers.

For more information on the event, please call (314) 612-5918.