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**SUBJECT: HCCC RECEIVES GRANT FOR HUMAN SERVICES
 TRAINING**

**SOURCE: Marjorie Carter, Director of Community Education
 866-0300, ext. 8251**

Herkimer, NY—Herkimer County Community College, through its Office of Community Education, has received a \$31,330 State University of New York grant for its project, "Human Services Skills for the 21st Century Playing Field." The grant is funded through the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges.

The grant funding will make available a series of half-day courses covering a variety of topics of interest to human services professionals. Past sessions covered such topics as Time Management; Professionalism; Safety and Personal Defense; and Crisis Intervention. More specialized courses offered guidance on dealing with Autism/Auspergers Syndrome; Sexual Abuse; Mental Health and Forensic/Criminal Justice issues.

Marjorie Carter, HCCC Director of Community Education, said, "Past participants have expressed a high degree of satisfaction with the training, believing that it improved their understanding of critical issues, and enhanced their skills and confidence in dealing with clients."

More than 900 persons are expected to participate in this grant funded training opportunity. Many of the trainings offered will support re-licensing/re-credentialing of human services professionals, yielding job retention benefits as well.

Carter said the grant funding allows for continuation of the human services training offered from February through August of this year. "Community colleges are a leader in producing entry-level human service workers with a college degree, but it is a much newer concept to also recognize community colleges as leading providers of skills upgrade training," Carter said. The courses are offered at no cost to participants, and are scheduled to begin in 2007.

For more information, contact the Office of Community Education, (315) 866-0300, ext. 8251.

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FOR MEDIA ONLY—FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT KATHERINE MONTANO,
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