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For Immediate Release:Thursday, February 2, 2012For information/comment:Dr. Don Levy: 518-783-2901, dlevy@siena.edu

Albany County Needs Assessment Comprehensive Study Results to be Released at 3 Public Forums, Feb. 7, 8, 9

Nearly Half County Residents Say Quality of Life for Most has Gotten Worse Jobs, Housing, Youth, Food all Significant Problem for Low Income As Needs Increase, Public and Professionals Call for More Programs as well as Greater Personal Responsibility

Albany, NY – The Siena College Research Institute (SRI) working in partnership with the Albany Community Action Partnership (ACAP) will release the results of a comprehensive study of the quality of life in Albany County as well as citizen need, adequacy of programs to meet those needs and the views of professionals working in human services, government, education and religion on February 7, 8 and 9. SRI conducted over 1900 citizen interviews and nearly 400 surveys with county professionals from October 2011 through January 2012. The public is invited to review the findings and offer comment at three area locations.

February 7, 6:30 pm	Albany Public Library, 161 Washington Avenue, Albany
February 8, 6:30 pm	Shaker Junior High School Library, 475 Watervliet Shaker Road, Latham
February 9, 6:30 pm	Bach Branch, Albany Public Library, 455 New Scotland Avenue, Albany

Dr. Don Levy, SRI's Director, will present findings on:

- Public and Professional perception of the local quality of life both today and future projections
- Ranking of local services, conditions, and institutions including local agencies, affordability, and ability to get jobs
- Personal life satisfaction
- Perception of need both overall and specifically for low income residents
- Adequacy of programs that address those needs
- Public and professional opinions on who is responsible and what should be done by institutions, businesses, and citizens

A video highlighting the study's findings is available for viewing and open to comment at: <u>www.siena.edu/sri/albanyinneed</u>

For more information, directions or details visit: <u>www.siena.edu/sri</u> or call 783-2512.