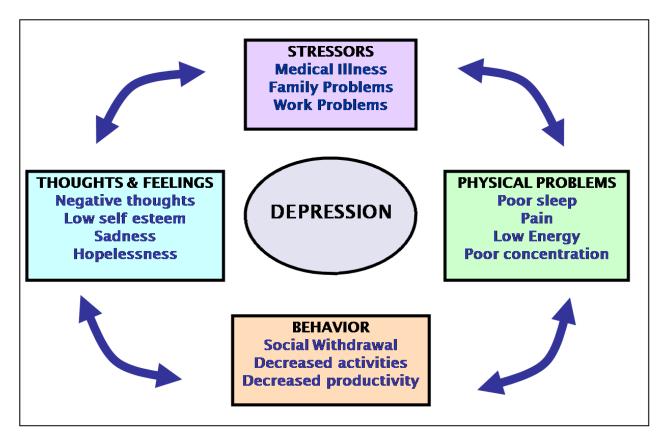
# Breaking the Cycle of Depression: Why Schedule Activities?

### Why scheduling activities is important

 When people are stressed or depressed they often stop doing activities that they used to enjoy and that helped them feel good.

#### **Spiraling Down**

 It works both ways – the less you do the more depressed you feel and the more depressed you feel the less you do.



# **Spiraling Up**

 By doing more pleasant activities, even if you don't initially feel like it, you can break the vicious cycle of depression.

# Types of pleasant activities

- Pleasant activities are ones that make you feel better because they are rewarding, meaningful, inspiring, relaxing or fun.
- They don't have to be special activities. In fact, most are everyday activities.

### **Remembering pleasant activities**

- When a person is depressed, it's hard for them to remember that any activities have ever been pleasant.
- Ask them what it is that they used to enjoy, no matter how long ago.