MONTHLY RAMBLINGS BY

ROBIN: SCOOP FOR CAREGIVERS



June 2025 20th Edition

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Caregiver Resources

- Aging
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June is <u>Alzheimer's</u> & Brain Awareness Month

June is <u>Aphasia</u>
<u>Awareness Month</u>
Visit <u>National</u>
<u>Aphasia</u>
<u>Association</u>

QTIP – Quit Taking it Personally

Robin Ennis

Caregiver Resource & Information Specialist 908.866.1333

RobinEnnisLLC@gmail.com

DEFINITION OF A CAREGIVER:

- Unpaid family member, friend, neighbor, co-worker, etc.
- Full time, part time, long distance
- Become over time; become overnight
- From a check in call once a week to total personal care

ARE YOU A CAREGIVER:

- Do you provide care for an aging parent, spouse, sibling, friend, or neighbor, or child with special needs?
- Do you care for anyone with a mental illness, physical or developmental disability?
- Do you pick up medication at the pharmacy, make meals, provide help with daily care or with doctor's OU? appointments, pay bills or grocery shop for anyone?

HOW CAN I ASSIST YOU

- Meet caregivers where they are in the stages of caregiving.
- Recognize that each caregiver experience is unique yet many share common experiences.
- Meet the diverse needs of each caregiver based on their unique caregiver experience.
- Help caregivers identify their needs and connect to resources, support, services, information and education.
- Support self-care for caregivers.

DATE SPECIFIC EVENTS FOR CAREGIVERS

Medicare Home Health and DME Updates (virtual)

webinar will review the services that the Medicare home health benefit should cover, as well as describing the coverage of Durable Medical Equipment (DME) in Medicare, and the importance of both to beneficiaries with chronic conditions. Presented by Center for Medicare Advocacy attorneys Eric Krupa, Christine Huberty, and Wey-Wey Kwok, with special guests Public Policy Manager Angel Heinz from the Reeve Foundation, and Attorney and Disability Advocate Sheri Denkensohn from Happy on Wheels, LLC. Register now! Busy on June 4? Register and we'll send you a direct link to the recording of the presentation along with all supplemental materials.

NAVIGATING CAREGIVING: Health Proxies, Power of Attorney & Financial Management for Loved

une 4 from 7-8:30pm

Join Dr. Angelica Catusco in a discussion focusing on the essentials of health proxies, power of attorney, and financial management to ensure you can advocate effectively for your loved one's well-being. Learn when and how to step in, key legal considerations, and practical steps to manage healthcare decisions and finances with confidence. Click <a href="https://here.com/here.co 800.424.2494

Stiff Happens: Taking Charge of Arthritis (in-person)

West Morris Area YMCA, 14 Dover Chester Rd., Randolph

Join for an informative presentation on arthritis. Learn causes, common symptoms and effective treatment options as well as practical tips and gain a better understanding of how to care for your joints and maintain mobility as you age. Presented by Nicole Studwell, PT, DPT, Physical Therapist, Atlantic Rehabilitation. Registration is required. For more information contact Ann Marie Peterson at 973-366-1120 x5064 or Annmarie@wmaymca.org

SSI & Medicaid Bootcamp (virtual)

Join guest speaker Celine, Fortin, Associate ED, Arc of New Jersey for a discussion around these questions: What is Supplemental Security Income, is my child eligible for SSI benefits, how do I apply for SSI, what is Medicaid in NJ, exactly, how do I apply for Medicaid benefits and how is eligibility determined? Learn how these valuable federal benefits programs can help your family member and how to apply. For more information or to RSVP call 908-317-0469 or epedersen@newroadsfinancial.com

Traumatic Brain Injury in Service Members and Veterans: Symptoms, Support, Advocacy, and Wellness (virtual)

Monday, June 16 from 12:00-1pm webinar, they will discuss: • The prevalence of traumatic brain injury in service members and veterans. • The current screening methods and guidelines regarding return to duty for active service members. • Address acute, subacute, and chronic symptoms that may arise from injury. • Current guidelines for management and wellness and available resources for service members/veterans and their caregivers. Registration is required. For more information contact 800-669-4323

Caregiver TimeOut Group (Virtual)

Caregiving in a Blended Family: What to Think About and Put in Place
Caregiving in a blended family can be unique and challenging. Join Ryann Siclari with Porzio,
Bromberg & Newman to learn what documents you should put in place to minimize conflict within
the family. This event is for UNPAID CAREGIVERS only. For more information contact RobinEnnisLLC@gmail.com. Click here to register.

Understanding Dementia and Memory Loss (virtual)

Thursday, June 19 from 1-2pm
Although most people have heard of Alzheimer's Disease, many do not have a full understanding of what It means to have this diagnosis or the other brain diseases that also cause memory loss such as Vascular Dementia, Lewy Body Disease and Frontal Temporal Lobe Dementia. Dementia is not a normal part of aging. Understanding the disease causing memory loss can help caregivers provide support and plan for the future. Participants will learn about the various diseases that cause memory loss, tools and Techniques for diagnosing, current treatments and strategies for improving quality of life. Join us for this interactive session through your computer or phone. Click <u>here</u> to register. For more information contact Mary Catherine Lundquist at <u>lundqumc@ubhc.rutgers.edu</u> or call Care2Caregivers at 800.424.2494.

Managing Behavior Changes in Alzheimer's Disease (virtual)

Behavioral changes in Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia can pose concerns for family caregivers. As the disease progresses, behavior often becomes the primary way people with the disease communicate their needs. Learn why people with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia experience behavior changes, what those behaviors mean, and how to cope when behaviors are challenging. This program is for unpaid caregivers only. Registration is required and space is limited. For more information contact Alzheimer's New Jersey at 888-280-6055 or info@alznj.org

Free Dental Services & Resources for Veterans

Zufall Health, 49 Mount Pleasant Ave., West Orange
Dental exams & cleanings, oral cancer screenings, x-rays, fillings, dentures, extractions plus food, giveaways, health resources and medical services. Pre-registration is required for dental services. To register call Yanira at 973-325-2266 x1954 or complete a form <u>here</u>.

Adult Mental Health First Aid Training (in-person)

Wednesday, June 25 from 8:30am–4:30pm Click here to register. For more information contact Denise Kilby at (908) 454-7000 ext.4952 with Norwescap in Phillipsburg.

DATE SPECIFIC EVENTS & SUPPORT GROUPS FOR **CAREGIVERS**

SAVE THE DATE: Fall Caregivers Conference (in-person)

Saturday, September 13 from 9:30am – 1:30pm

St. Luke's Warren Hospital South Wing Conference Center. Workshop details to follow.

Caregiver TimeOut Group (virtual)

Monthly on the 3rd Tuesday

To sign up to receive invitations to this event email RobinEnnisLLC@gmail.com

Technology Webinar Series (Virtual)

Wednesday of each month at 12pm

Click <u>here</u> for a list of program topics and dates. Participation is free but registration is required. Register here

Stay Healthy at Home Webinar Series

Every Tuesday at 2:00pm

Created by the New Jersey Self-Advocacy Project as part of our Healthy Lifestyles Project. The New Jersey Self-Advocacy Project will be presenting trainings on a variety of topics relating to selfadvocacy and healthy living. Live viewers will be able to share comments and ask questions during the webinar. All webinars will be recorded and archived on our website to view after airing. Click here to view them.

American Society on Aging

Webinar Series

Center for Prevention & Counseling's Recovery Center Events

There are a variety of free or low-cost activities. Call or email Marjorie at 973.940.2966 or marjorie@centerforprevention.org to get more information or register.

RWJ Barnabas Health Events Calendar

Bentley Assisted Living Caregiver Support Group (in-person) Sussex

1st Wednesday of the month from 10 – 11am Bentley Assisted Living, 3 Phillips Road, Branchville

Presented by Alzheimer's Association Greater New Jersey

To register contact Christine Beckmann at 973.948.8884 or cbeckmann@bentleyassistedliving.com Visit alz.org/nj to learn more about caregiver programs and resources. To further extend your network of support, visit ALZ connected, our online community, at alzconnected.org

ALzNJ Caregiver Support Group (in-person) Hunterdon

3rd Tuesday of the month from 6:30 -7:30pm

North County Branch Library, Clinton, NJ

The support group is free and open to those caring for a loved one with dementia. To register, please call the Alzheimer's New Jersey Helpline 888-280-6055 or visit www.alznj.org

Bereavement Group (in-person) Warren

5/17, 6/14, 7/12, 8/23, 9/20, 10/18, 11/15 and 12/13, 2025

Knoll-DeVoe Funeral Home & Cremation Service, 142 W Washington Ave, Washington Facilitated By: Nicole Marie, Certified Grief/Life Coach through <u>Tears Life Coaching</u> For additional information please contact Nicole at 908-509-4772 (Call/Text) or thruthetears@gmail.com

Center for the Heart Support Group for Caregivers (virtual)

and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm

Caring for a loved one with a serious or terminal illness can be both deeply meaningful and incredibly challenging. This support group is designed to provided a safe and compassionate space where primary caregivers can connect, share experiences, and find support from others who understand. Click here to register and receive your meeting link. For more information call 908.503.2484. Visit Center for the Heart.

Alzheimer's New Jersey Family Support Groups

SUPPORT GROUPS FOR CAREGIVERS

Caregiver Support Group (in-person) Warren

Tuesday, June 3 Richard D. Gardner Branch of Warren County Library, 2 Shotwell Dr., Belvidere
Join Dr. Frank Gilly, Geriatrician and Robin Ennis, Caregiver Resource & Information Specialist for a support group for unpaid caregivers across the lifespan. Connect with others who understand the joys and challenges of caregiving. Share experiences and learn helpful tips. Receive information, resources and service connections. To RSVP or questions RobinEnnisLLC@gmail.com or 908-866-1333. NOTE: July's Meeting has Been Cancelled.

Dementia Support Group (in-person and virtual option)
First Thursday of each month from 4:30pm – 5:30pm
Arbor Terrace Basking Ridge, 3066 Valley Rd, Basking Ridge
Call Leslie Yngojo-Bowes at 908-498-6677 for in-person registration or click here to register via Zoom

AlzNJ Support Groups (in person) Somerset 2nd Tuesday of each month from 1-2:00pm

Franklin Library, 485 DeMott Lane, Somerset

Free and open to the community providing families and caregivers with the emotional and educational support they need to better understand and cope with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. To register call Demi at 973-586-4300x 1108 or www.alznj.org. For more information contact Denise Goldstein R.N., Certified Holistic Health Coach Denise.goldsteinrn@gmail.com or 732-563-9056

Senior Center of the Chatham's Caregiver Support Group (in person) Morris

Thursday of each month from 10:3

Chatham Senior Center, 58 Meyersville Rd., Chatham Township

This caregiver support group is for those who are caring for a loved one with dementia. It is offered in partnership with Alzheimer's New Jersey. Contact Carol Eisenhardt, Administrative and Program Coordinator at (973) 635-4565 or visit To register for this group visit www.alznj.org or call the Helpline: 888-280-6055

Dementia/Alzheimer's Family Support Group (in-person) Morris

West Morris YMCA Group, 14 Dover Chester Rd., Randolph

Support groups provide families and caregivers with the emotional support and education they need to better understand Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. Visit www.alznj.org to register or call Siobhan Flynn-Higgins sflynn-higgins@jfsmetrowest.org or call 973.765.9050x1763

West Morris Area YMCA Caregiver Support Group (in-person) Morris

d Monday of every month beginning from 13

West Morris Area YMCA, 14 Dover Chester Rd., Randolph

Offered by West Morris YMCA and Jewish Family Services of MetroWest NJ. This group is for adults caring for a loved one with Parkinson' Disease or a loved one over the age of 60. This group is free and open to spouses, adult children and siblings of older adults. **Pre-registration is required**. For more information or to register email caregivers@jfsmetrowest.org or call 973-637-1740.

Stroke Support Group Meetings (in person) Morris

ast Wednesday of each month from 1-3:30pm

Morris County Library, 30 East Hanover Avenue, Whippany

Support, resources and occasional speakers on topics related to stroke survivors, caregivers and their families. Contact Lois Firzlaff 908-578-0812 loisfirz@yahoo.com or Rich Coulther 201-230-8204 rchclr@gmail.com

Jewish Family Services Support Groups JFS MetroWest (in person)

<u>Caregiver Group for Parents of Adults with Disabilities</u>
<u>Sibling Support Group</u> and <u>Caregiver Group for Parents of Children with Mental Illness</u>

JFS of Central NJ (virtual)

Support Group for Caregivers of Children with Disabilities

Support Group for Caregivers of Adults with Disabilities

Contact Laura Weitzman, Weitzmanlaura@gmail.com for log in information. For questions contact Rebecca Wanatick, Ed.M., Director, Disability Inclusion & Belonging, Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ phone (973) 929-3129 or email rwanatick@jfedgmw.org

NAMI Family Support Groups (virtual)

This is a 60-90 minute support group for adult friends and family members (18+) of people with mental health conditions. Participants gain support from peers who understand their experience and gain insight into others' challenges and successes. Register.

Brain Injury Alliance of NJ Support Groups

COPSA Institute for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Support Groups (virtual)

Mon, June 2 from 9:30–11:30am-Spouse Support Group Tues, June 3 from 7:00-8:00pm-Adults Caring Transitions Group

Wed, June 4 from 7:00-8:30pm-Adults Caring for Parents Group Mon, June 9 from 1:00-2:00pm-Caregiver Support Group Tues, June 10 from 11:00am-12:00pm- Spouse Transition Group

Wed, June 10 from 11:00am-12:00pm- Spouse Transition Group Wed, June 11 from 7:00–8:30pm-Caregiver Support Group Mon, June 16 from 9:300–11:30am-Spouse Support Group Tues, June 17 from 7:00-8:30pm-Adults Caring for Parents Group Wed, June 18 from 7:00–8:30pm-Long Term Care Support Group Transitions Rereavement Group Theory Transitions Rereavement Group Transition Gro Thurs, June 26 from 10:00–11:00am-Transitions Bereavement Group

To register or find out more about services call 800-424-2494 or email Mary Catherine lundqumc@ubhc.rutgers.edu

GriefShare virtual or in person grief support group

Montclair Caregiver Support Group (in-person) Essex

Monthly on Thursday beginning January 9 from 2-3pm

Montclair Edgemont House, 274 Valley Road, Montclair

Offered by Montclair Township and Jewish Family Services of MetroWest NJ. This group is for adults caring for a loved one over the age of 60. This group is free and open to spouses, adult children and siblings of older adults. Pre-registration is required. For more information or to register call Michelle DeWitt at 973-744-3278. This group is facilitated by Renee Peters, MSW. She can be reached at 973-637-1763.

Caregiver Support Group (Virtual) Sussex

Friday of each month from 2-3pm

For more information and to register, please call Sussex County Office on Aging at 973-579-0555 ext. 1288

AGING

Guiding an Improved Dementia Experience (GUIDE) Model

The Guiding an Improved Dementia Experience (GUIDE) Model is a voluntary nationwide model test that aims to support people with dementia and their unpaid caregivers. The model began on July 1, 2024, and will run for eight years.

Silver Sneakers

American Society on Aging

5 days Technology Can Make Life Easier for Caregivers of Dementia Patients

Alzheimer's New Jersey Respite Care and Wellness Program

Substance Abuse & Addiction in the Elderly

National Center on Law & Elder Rights (NCLER) and Resources & Webinar Links

<u>The Beacon – A Newsletter for Long-Term Care</u> Residents

NJ Advocates for Aging Well

Live Online Classes for Older Adults

Family Connections - Older Adult Services

Support for older adults, individuals caring for older adults, & older adults who have become legal guardians to their grandchildren. Services include assessments, case management, resource sharing, counseling, & disease self-management

Connections at home

Connections at home
Connecting Homebound Seniors to their
Communities. They assist homebound seniors
experiencing social isolation. Their support team
connects them to their communities through easyto-use technology.

NJ Department of Human Services: Division of Aging Services

Mather: Meaningful Connections from the Comfort of Home Mindfulness & Brain Health, Aromatherapy, Discussion Groups, Creative Arts & Art Making, and Movement & Dance

Senior Freeze

Why Adult Daughters Face Large Financial Impacts from Being Caregivers for Their Elderly Parents

Older Adult Meal at St. Lukes Warren Warren For Warren County adults 65+ weekdays from 4-6pm. \$3.99 dinner includes entrée. Credit & debit cards only. NO CASH. For more information call 1-866-785-8537.

NewBridge@Home: A Counseling Program Morris This program is designed to provide an opportunity for Morris County seniors and their caregivers to have counseling support in their homes. Contact Katie Skolsky at Kskolsky@newbridge.org

Caregiver Volunteers of Central Jersey Monmouth

For more information call 732-505-2273 or visit cvcj.org

Atlantic Adult Day Center 200 Mt. Airy Road, Basking Ridge Contact 908-766-2310 or

Mallory.Dubuisson@atlantichealth.org

Choices for Seniors an eldercare directory for seniors and their caregivers. Click <u>here</u> to view. Covering <u>Hunterdon</u>, <u>Mercer</u>, <u>Somerset</u>, <u>Warren</u> Counties.

MILITARY/VETERANS

Veteran Service Officers

Overview - Through the network of regional Veterans Service Offices (VSO), the NJ Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMAVA) provides the state's Veterans and their dependents with information and guidance in filing claims. Trained Veterans Service Officers at these offices also assist Veterans with issues pertaining to employment, education, burial, counseling, housing, social and medical services, and other areas of concern to Veterans and their families. DMAVA also conducts outreach events in the community where VSOs are present to help and assist any Veteran. Please refer to the Veterans Outreach Schedule.

Veterans Crisis Line: Dial 988 and Press 1
Program of General Caregiver Support
Services (PGCSS)

Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC)

Caregiver Application For Benefits | Veterans Affairs (va.gov)

Prepared Caregivers: A Toolkit for Caregivers of Veterans for Disaster Preparedness VA Caregiver Support

Jennifer Del Pesce, LCSW, Caregiver Support Program, PGCSS Coordinator, VANJHCS East Orange, NJ (973) 676-1000 X203085 or Jennifer.Delpesce@va.gov

Community Hope for Veterans

National Call Center for Homeless Veterans 877-424-3838

Resources for Homeless Veterans and other Veteran Resources are available. Contact your local VSO.

National Coalition of Homeless Vets 800-838-4357

Veterans are encouraged to register with **211**. **Community Home Sharing Program for Veterans.** General information can be found here. Contact info@homesharing.org or 908-526-4663 for more information.

<u>Social Security Administration: Information for Military & Veterans</u>

Veterans Benefits Newsletter

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

NJ Veterans' Benefits Guide

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents, Survivors, and Caregivers

Warren County Veterans Website

Morris County Veterans Services Office Event

Welcome Home Vets of NJ

Call 1-855-289-8527 or email njsosvets@gmail.com. Serving Bergen, Esses, Hudson, Morris, Passaic, Union, Middlesex, Warren & Somerset. Catholic Charities Veteran Services, David Pearson 973-818-3601.

MENTAL HEALTH

Mental Health Crisis Resources

Children's Mobile Response and Stabilization
Services 24 hours, 7 days a week 1-877-652-7624
New Hope IBHC Withdrawal Management, ShortTerm Residential 732-946-3030

Parent to Parent Recovery Support Services 908-223-1951

Youth Helpline for NJ https://www.2ndfloor.org/ 888.222.228

Disaster Distress Helpline: Call 1-800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs to 66746 to connect with a trained crisis counselor.

e Trevor Project Immediate crisis support. Connect to a crisis counselor 24/7, 365 days a year, from anywhere in the U.S via text, chat, or phone. 100% confidential and 100% free. 1-866-488-7386

Saint Clare's Wellness & Recovery Center

140 Boulevard, Washington offers rapid crisis support to individuals experiencing an urgent mental health concern. Care is provided in a warm and inviting environment that is separate from the medical facility. Call 908-477-2100 M-F 8:30-5 or after hours at 201-400-8573. Walk-ins welcome or call to make an appointment. Transportation may be available. Services includer include crisis support, individual counseling, medication evaluation, peer support and psychoeducation.

SAMHSA Treatment Locator:

https://findtreatment.gov/

National Council for Mental Wellbeing

Grow Your Mental Health Page

Collaborative Support Programs of New Jersey (CSPNJ)

SELF-HELP CENTERS (SHC) / COMMUNITY WELLNESS CENTERS (CWC)

For more information click here.

https://www.discoverynj.org/programs/addiction-therapy/family-support/

https://www.discoverynj.org/programs/addictiontherapy/family-support/

988 Suicide & Crisis Hotline

If you are having thoughts of suicide. If you need mental health-related crisis support. If you are worried about someone else Please call or text 988 or visit the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline chat to connect with a trained crisis counselor

The Gathering Place Community Wellness Center (Morris & Sussex) For more

information contact Mental Health Association Morris-973-334-3496x531 Al Shurdom or Sussex-862-946-6544 Kait Barone

Mental Health Association Social Club For more information and schedule call Christina Binetti at 973-334-3496x509.

Mental Health Association <u>In-Home Therapy for Seniors</u>

Mental Health Association Resource Directory (Essex, Morris, Passaic, Hudson, and Sussex)

MENTAL HEALTH Cont'd

Mental Health First Aide Training & Information

Recovery Management Checkup (RMC) Services through Prevention is Key (PIK) This program is specifically designed for individuals with substance use disorder (SUD) who have recently been discharged from licensed treatment facilities in New Jersey. The program aims to provide essential support for individuals transitioning to independent living, as well as connecting them with vital resources to aid in their recovery journey. For more information click here or contact Noah Deutsch at (973) 303-3790 or ndeutsch@mcpik.org for more info.

Atlantic Behavioral Health at Hackettstown Medical Center offers outpatient behavioral health services for Adults and Adolescents SUD Intensive Outpatient Program (Day and Evening) Intensive Outpatient Program for individuals with primary diagnosis of substance use disorders as well as co-occurring mental health disorders.

SUD Aftercare Program Step-down once a week group for individuals discharging from SUD IOP. SUD Adolescent Group Outpatient group therapy for adolescents ages 13-18 yrs old. IDRC Outpatient Group therapy for individuals referred by the Intoxicated Driver Resource Ctr MH Acute Partial Hospitalization Program (Day) Acute Partial Hospitalization program for individuals with primary mental health diagnoses and co-occurring substance use disorders. MH Intensive Outpatient Program (Day) Intensive Outpatient Program for individuals with primary mental health diagnoses and co-occurring substance use disorders. They are in-network with most insurances, and take Medicaid and Medicare. Contact Beth Schulaka at 908-441-1586 or Beth.Schulaka@atlantichealth.org

Mental Health Matters is a monthly <u>newsletter</u> from Atlantic Behavioral Health

SUSSEX SPECIFIC:

Wellness Hub

83 Spring St., Suite 303, Newton 973-840-1850 or wellnessHUB@mhainspire.org Early intervention support services, a mental health urgent care and drop-in support center.

WARREN SPECIFIC:

Warren County Stigma Free Initiative, For more info. email humanservices@co.warren.nj.us

Stigma Free Newsletter

Center for Family Services Designated Crisis Screening & Intervention Services 24 hour hotline: 908-454-5141. This is for anyone that is having a mental health crisis and needs a mobile assessment to determine if hospitalization is needed. Per State regulations, police will respond to ensure safety for all and may transport to the hospital if needed. They can also offer mental health peer support via this number.

Center for Family Services Intensive Outpatient Services 908-689-1000

Domestic Abuse & Sexual Assault Crisis Center of Warren County Hotline 24 hours, 7 days a week 908-453-4181

Parent to Parent Addiction Services (Warren) 325 B. W. Washington Ave., Washington 908-223-1953 or parent2parentwc@gmail.com

DISABILITIES

A Guide to Accessible Beaches in New Jersey

Gold Medal Home Health

Are you a family member supporting an individual with an intellectual and/or developmental disability? You can be compensated for your work! Gold Medal Home Health employs family members, neighbors, and others to provide services. All training is completed internally. If interested please contact Ken Sullivan at 201.320.0223 or kens@goldmedalhomehealth.com

Increase Understanding & Acceptance of

Autism
Autism New Jersey invites individuals with autism and their caregivers to become Autism Ambassadors for 2025. These Ambassadors advocate, educate, and promote autism awareness and acceptance through various events and outreach activities across the state. This program is open to anyone committed to promoting understanding, acceptance, and inclusion for individuals on the autism spectrum!
Participants can order a variety of free printed
materials such as posters and bookmarks.
Remember, April is National Autism Acceptance
Month. Learn about becoming an Autism
Ambassador

Community Living Education Project (Rutgers Health)

Coordinated Care of MetroWest

Provides assistance and supports individuals, families, and/or caregivers living in Greater MetroWest who are overseeing the lifetime care of adults with developmental or acquired disabilities. The program is designed to meet the unique needs of the individual and family no matter where they are in their journey. CCM ensures ongoing individualized and personal concern for such individuals with disabilities who may survive their caregivers or whose caregivers are not available to support them. They hope to provide peace to caregivers that someone is there to help when they are no longer here and most importantly, they focus on strengths and quality of life for the disabled adult. Services include:

- -Free phone consultation to connect you to local resources and provide emotional support
- -Short term fee for service case management to assist with more specific needs and research
- Long term fee for service case management to ensure a thorough care plan for future planning that is forever evolving and changing. For more information, call (973) 765-9050 or email coordinatedcare@jfsmetrowest.org

Autism New Jersey Announces Medical Equipment Lending Library

Finaly Home NJ Learning Sessions

Catastrophic Illness in Children Relief Fund

DAWNcil Consumer Satisfaction Survey: Traumatic Brain Injury Program

Take survey here

Warren County Advisory Council on Disabilities ^d Thursday of each month

Are you an advocate for persons with disabilities? Are you interested in advancing the rights of persons with disabilities? If so, join the Council. For more information or to request an application contact 908-475-6591.

DISABILITIES, Cont'd

The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute

Brain Injury Alliance of New Jersey Helpline 1-800-669-4323

Brain Injury Alliance Educational Programs

ARCH is Access to Respite Care and Help

Equal Opportunity Support Services

Division of Disability Services launches their updated website

West Morris YMCA in Randolph Parkinson's Disease Programs

Tri County Care Management Organization

By working effectively with schools, the Juvenile Justice System, and mental health and behavioral health providers, as well as advocating for family voice, choice and community support, CMOs help youth succeed at home, in school, and in the community.

The NJ Council on Developmental Disabilities Regional Family Support Planning Councils

Donated Dental Services (DDS) Program

NJ Disabilities 101

An Enhanced Family Crisis Handbook

The purpose of this expanded version (4th edition) of the Toolkit is to empower individuals with disabilities and their family and professional caregivers by providing information to more effectively advocate for persons with complex severe behavioral health conditions (which we formerly referred to as "dual diagnosis") for treatments, supports, services and the conditions that promote mental wellness.

New Resource for New Jerseyans with **Disabilities**

Digital Literacy Training (Virtual)

AT&T, The Arc, and The Arc San Francisco have teamed up to produce digital skills training specifically for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Sign up to learn about: Getting started with computers, mobile devices, and video conferencing Navigating websites and search engines, Online safety, passwords, fraud, scams, and more.

Disability Benefits 101: Working with a Disability

Discover how NJ DB101 provides New Jersey specific information and tools to support employment and community inclusion.

Personal Assistance Service Program (PASP)

<u>Center for Medicare Updates</u>
"Quick Guide" to Identifying Coverable **Hospice Care Center for Medicare Advocacy Webinars**

Davis Phinney Foundation for Parkinson's Every Victory Counts Manual for Care <u>Partners</u>

DISABILITIES, Cont'd

NJ Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired

NJ WorkAbility

The Arc of the United States Announcement

The Arc of New Jersey Self Advocacy Project Newsletter

The Arc - Get Free Access to Online Special Education Training

The Arc of New Jersey Program

The official source of Medicare information:

Medicare.gov or 800-Medicare (800-633-4273).

NJ State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) website: SHIP or 1-800-792-8820

Medicaid Transportation Coverage Guide

NJSAVE Navigators by County.

Fact Sheet on Medicaid Non-emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT)

Basic Requirements for Conducting Ex Parte Renewals of Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility

Medicare Enrollees Could Lose Financial
Assistance for Drug Costs if they Do Not Act

Medicaid for Health and Long-Term Care
According to Justice in Aging, Medicaid "reform"
proposals will lead towards taking federal
funding away from states or restrict eligibility.
Nearly 80 million (including 13 million seniors
and people with disabilities) rely on Medicaid for
health and long-term care.

It is important for disability advocates to be prepared with the knowledge and tools to defend Medicaid. We need to tell Congress and the new administration the importance Medicaid is for us, for our independence, and of course our healthcare. Please read the Medicaid Threats Fact Sheet for more info on these proposed cuts. Cutting Medicaid Harms Older Adults No Matter How It's Sliced

Disability Information Hub

Center for Communication Disorders (Free)

Speech-Language Clinic

Loving Someone Who Has Dementia: How to Find Hope While Coping with Stress & Grief By Pauline Boss (Author)

Training seeks to improve police encounters with people with autism

Autism Communication Disorder Form from NJ Motor Vehicle Commission

SPAN Parent Advocacy Network

Abilities of Northwest Jersey – Residential Services @ The Village at Hawk Point
For more information contact Brian Cook,
Residential Services Manager, 908-689-7460 or bcook@abilitiesnw.com

Hunterdon Health & Wellness Center Clinton Rock Steady Boxing for People with Parkinson's

MEDICAL

Fox Rehab - In home PT/OT/ST under Medicare Part B. For more information visit foxrehab.org or call Matthew Evans at 201-364-0871.

Travel Podiatrist

services.

Paul J. Lafergola, DPM, 973.366.7676 or plafergola59@gmail.com

Gentle Hands Mobile PhlebotomyFor appointment call 862.279.3418 or gentlehandsmps@gmail.com

Visiting Physician Services
No Need for a Script for PT in New Jersey,
you get direct access to Physical Therapy
and don't need doctor's prescription/referral
to start treatment. However, some insurance
plans may require a referral from a Medical
Doctor to reimburse for Physical Therapy

<u>Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation</u> –Chester <u>Neurological Rehabilitation</u>

What conditions can benefit from neurological rehab? Injuries, infections, degenerative diseases, structural defects, tumors, and disorders in the circulatory system can impair the nervous system. Some of the conditions that may benefit from neurological rehab may include:

- Vascular disorders, such as ischemic strokes (caused by blood clots), hemorrhagic strokes (caused by bleeding in the brain), subdural hematoma, and transient ischemic attacks (TIAs)
- Infections, such as meningitis, encephalitis, polio, and brain abscesses
- Trauma, such as brain and spinal cord injury
- Structural or neuromuscular disorders, such as Bell palsy, cervical spondylosis, carpal tunnel syndrome, brain or spinal cord tumors, peripheral neuropathy, muscular dystrophy, myasthenia gravis, and Guillain--Barré syndrome
- Functional disorders, such as headache, seizure disorder, dizziness, and neuralgia
- Degenerative disorders, such as Parkinson disease, multiple sclerosis, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), Alzheimer disease, and Huntington chorea.

Tinash Homecare Services

Advocates Join Center in Comments on Observation Status Appeals

Statement on Proposed Appeal Rules for Hospital Observation Status FAQ's

New Observation Status Appeals Webinar Recording

Ennoble Care Primary Care House Call Services For more information call 973-879-4034

St. Joseph's Pharmacy

758 Memorial Parkway, Phillipsburg 908-454-0777 or stjosephrxnj1@gmail.com

<u>Discount Ramps: Modular Wheelchair Ramp</u> <u>Systems</u>

<u>Life Force Senior Care: 24 Hour In-Home</u>
<u>Care</u>

Jason Byers, Regional Account Manager 973-586-2900 or 917-821-7758 or jason@lifeforceseniorcare.com



MEDICAL, Cont'd

Zufall Health Medical, Dental & Behavioral Health

Services are provided to patients of all ages regardless of income, health insurance, immigration status, or language spoken. Their board-certified staff are committed to providing care. They provide services in Essex, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties as well as on their mobile medical and dental vans. For more information visit their website.

Glaucoma Screenings: Medicare Coverage

Therapist specializing in Families, Couples & **Caregivers**

Advanced Behavioral Counseling 973-579-9394 (Medicare and Private Pay) Lakeside Counseling 972-726-4533 (multiple insurance in network including Medicare)

HOUSING & UTILITIES

Housing Assistance in Warren County - Temporary Assistance and Social Services (TASS) at 908-475-6218 (Social Services Unit) 211 after hours for emergency assistance
 Family Promise at 908-453-2194 for assistance with homelessness prevention and other housing programs.

Tri-County Continuum of Care is a group of agencies and partners working to end homelessness in Warren, Sussex & Hunterdon County utilizing Housing & Urban Development (HUD) funding. Family Promise of Sussex County is the lead agency for this collective collective.

The Supportive Housing Association of New Jersey (SHA) <u>Housing Guide</u>

Water and Sewer Bill Assistance Available

Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP)

Division of Housing and Community Resources

Housing Counseling and Legal Services Program

Homeowner Assistance Recovery Program (HARP), which provides owner-occupied residential property owners with financial assistance to help them repair, elevate, and, in some cases, rebuild their primary homes that were damaged by Hurricane Ida.

HARP applications are available online.
People can also request a HARP application by calling DCA's Division of Disaster Recovery and Mitigation constituent services office at (609) 292-3750 or by emailing DisasterRecoveryandMitigation@dca.nj.gov

Legacy Empowerment Services - Housing Advocacy Program
They serve all of NJ. They are a diverse and multi-talented team with a wide range of expertise including: job coaching, special education, finance and economics, social work, psychology, art and music therapy for individuals with special needs 21 and over. Call 732-523-0769 or email info@legacynj.org

HUD Makes Finding Housing Resources on the Web Easier

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is the federal government agency that administers the country's housing and urban development laws. HUD recently streamlined its information for each state, including New Jersey. Sections offer information on the following topics: Rental assistance, Rent and eviction relief, Affordable places to live, How to report housing discrimination, Housing quality and living conditions, Homelessness, and Disaster relief. Go to the New Jersey **HUD** web page

Financial Assistance Available for Home Repairs in Warren County

If you are a low or moderate-income homeowner in Warren County and your home is in need of repairs, the Warren County Housing Rehabilitation Program may be able to help. To learn more about the program and eligibility requirements or to request an application or for any questions about call 908-475-3989 ext. 229 or email info@warrenhousing.com

Habitat for Humanity Home Repair Program for more information or to download an application. For questions call 908-835-1300 or email office@habitatnwnj.org

GENERAL

Insurance Covered Incontinence Supplies

The National Alliance for Caregiving (NAC)

<u>Caregiver Teleconnection FREE Caregiver</u> <u>Programs</u>

<u>Atlantic Health Systems Community Health</u> <u>Events</u>

Karen Ann Quinlan Home for Hospice Community Events

New Jersey Human Services Newsletter

NJ Updates: Events, Deadlines, Programs, Guidance, and More

American Cancer Society Help for Caregivers, Patients and Survivors

<u>Cancer Caregiver Support | American Cancer</u> Society

American Cancer Society Taking Care of Yourself When You're a Cancer Caregiver

I Choose Home New Jersey

NJ 2.1.1 helpline is available 24/7. You can dial 2-1-1, text your zip code to 898-211, or chat online at www.nj211.org for assistance at any time. The service is free, confidential, and multilingual. It connects you to resources for various needs, including housing, food, healthcare, and more.

Smart 9-1-1

NJ Silver Alert

NJ Register Ready – New Jersey's Special Needs Registry for Disasters" allows NJ residents with disabilities or access and functional needs and their families, friends, caregivers and associates an opportunity to provide information to emergency response agencies so emergency responders can better plan to serve them in a disaster or other emergency. Information is confidential and not be available to the public. The information will be held securely and only used for emergency response and planning.

American Cancer Society Caregiver Resource Guide

National Alliance for Caregivers Guide Book

NEW JERSEY HUMAN SERVICES: New Jersey Resources 2024 First Edition

Advocates for Children of NJ

Goals of Care Coalition of NJ

Navigating Hope brings services to you. Visit the van at a location near you to apply for benefits and get connections to social services. For **Morris** County residents.

Different Types of Guardianships in New Jersey

Volunteer Guardianship One on One -Hunterdon, Warren, Somerset

New Jersey Leisure Guide: Insider Tips to NJ attractions, things to do, and events

Explore the accessible outdoors: Wheelchairfriendly trails in New Jersey's scenic parks

GENERAL, Cont'd

Tessie's Touch – Essex & Morris County
Offered by Jewish Family Service of MetroWest
NJ, brings joy & connection to isolated older
adults by matching them with a caring
volunteer. Tessie's Touch covers the cost of
activities and transportation. If you or a loved
one is interested in being paired with a
volunteer to enjoy outings together contact
Taylor Ruszczyk 973-637-1742.

truszczyk@jfsmetrowest.org

Lasagna Love

Volunteer to make lasagna or ask for a pan for yourself.

Get Help with SNAP Food Assistance

SNAP Navigators are available in all 21 counties to help people seeking assistance from the State Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). SNAP Navigators can answer questions about SNAP and can help people apply for SNAP benefits. There are 11 agencies with SNAP Navigators available to assist residents throughout New Jersey.

<u>'Carefluencers' Are Helping Older Loved Ones, and Posting About It NY Times Article</u>

Become a Disaster Response Crisis Counselor
New Jersey is one of the first states to certify its
behavioral health first responders in

preparation for response to disasters and traumatic events. The development of a cadre of paraprofessionals enhances the capability of activating a timely and effective behavioral health response. A Disaster Response Crisis Counselor is a volunteer who becomes part of an Emergency Response Network and responds to the needs of communities in the event that a disaster strikes. The counselors are trained in disaster response, disaster behavioral health and crisis counseling among other topics and they collaborate with the various response partners who participate in the statewide emergency response network. The counselor does not need to have a clinical background as the crisis counseling program does not provide traditional mental health services. The training will provide the technical support and knowledge needed to become a Disaster Response Crisis Counselor emphasizing psychological first aid and information and referral services.

Beware of Scammers Impersonating Charities

Unpaid Road Toll SMiShing Scams Resurface

How the Change Healthcare Cyberattack is Impacting the Industry

Report Social Security-related scams to the SSA Office of the Inspector General (OIG)

Changes to Social Security In-Person Services

On November 13, the Social Security
Administration, Office of Communications sent
a letter to colleagues noting expanded
appointment based services at local Social
Security offices. Effective January 6, 2025,
Social Security will require customers to
schedule an appointment for service in local
field offices, including requests for Social
Security cards. They still encourage customers
to use online services, and automated services,
but customers who are not able to handle their
business online or with the automated options
may call their local Social Security office or the
National 800# to schedule an appointment.

GENERAL, Cont'd

Center For Family Services (CFFS)

CFFS offers a comprehensive continuum of care and a broad range of service areas to meet the current and changing needs across the New Jersey community:

Addiction & Recovery
Community Connections
Counseling & Behavioral Health
Early Childhood Education
Family Support & Prevention
Safe & Supportive Housing
Tauma & Victim Response
Workforce Development

Highly trained, dedicated staff work closely with individuals, children, and families to provide exceptional care. Services help people develop solutions and create paths for greater self-sufficiency. Call 877-922-2377 or access@centerffs.org

<u>Insurance Covered Incontinence Supplies</u> or call 844-276-5588

Do I Have To Pay New Jersey Inheritance Tax? Pros and Cons of Putting Your Home in a Trust Can Medicaid Take My Home? Understanding Estate Recovery Program in New Jersey CDC Complete Care Form

Information for People Helping Others
The Social Security Administration strives to provide easy and convenient information about benefits and the application process. Whether you help a family member or friend or help someone through a group or organization, they created this page to help you

Physical Therapy Services - Medicare Coverage

New Jerseys' Parent Caucus

Parent to Parent Coalition

For Families and Children Struggling with Alcohol and Drug Addiction

National Domestic Violence Hotline click on "Chat Now"; or text LOVEIS to 22522. 24-Hour Helpline & Referral: 1.877.782.2873
Hablamos Español Interpreters Available JBWS text/chat is now available.
Deaf/Hard of Hearing: Text (973) 314-4192
Visit the Website here.

MORRIS

Social Adult Day Center - Morris

Helps Aging Adults Combat Loneliness, Boosts Health. The Cornerstone Social Adult Day Center in Morristown provides a safe, upbeat, and welcoming environment for aging adults who could benefit from social interaction and some assistance weekdays between 8 am 6pm. Attendance flexibility, exceptional staff and door-to-door transportation make the program a hit for clients and caregivers alike. This impactful program is funded in part by the Morris County Board of Commissioners so those who live or work in the County are eligible for special sliding scale fees and scholarships. For more information or to arrange a free trial visit, call 973-326-7288, email pkraemer@cfp mnh.org or download this printable flier: Social ADC Flyer Revised 1.22.2024.pdf.

Morris Museum Launches Digital Guide
Explore Morris Museum with a new digital guide on Bloomberg Connects, the free arts and culture app. You can plan your visit, access helpful on-site information, and dive deeper into your favorite works from home – or

GENERAL, Cont'd

anywhere. Morris Museum joins more than 500 cultural institutions around the globe as a Bloomberg Connects partner.

This Week in Morris County Newsletter

SUSSEX

The Culinary Institute at Sussex County Community College

Dinner: Thursdays, 5:30-7:30 Lunch: Fridays, 11:30 am-1:30 pm

The Culinary Institute is a diverse facility that services the community and prepares our students with the training necessary for a rewarding career in the culinary field. The community can enjoy meals prepared by our culinary students at the Arbor Restaurant or pastries at our Bakeshop. Students learn, first-hand, how to provide quality food and a welcoming experience for guests. Reservations required. There is a price fix menu.

Utility Assistance

Are you one of the 20 million Americans that are behind on their utility bills? Assistance is available in two easy steps!

- Gather Documents: Social Security
 Verification, Social Security Card or Government
 Issued Document with Social Security Number
- Address Verification: Current Lease
 Agreement, Mortgage Statement, or Tax Bill
- Income Verification: Awards Letter, Benefit Statement, or Paystubs
- Utility Bills: Heating: Natural Gas, Propane, Oil, Electric, Wood Email utilities@familypromisesussex.org or Call 973-579-1180 ext. 1022 to schedule an in-

973-579-1180 ext. 1022 to schedule an inperson appointment at our Newton office or for a home visit

WARREN

Warren County Transportation Advisory Council (TAC)

All residents in Warren County are invited to attend the TAC meetings and share your thoughts about Warren County Transportation. These meetings are open to the public and are held every other month on the second Thursday at 1:30 p.m. Requests for special accommodations can be made to the Warren County Department of Human Services by calling 908-475-6331. Locations of the meetings vary throughout the county and there are virtual and phone-in options as well. To find out more information, please contact us today. You can call 908-475-6331 or email the Transportation Coordinator, Deirdre Bassin, at dbassin@co.warren.nj.us

Greenwich Autism Alliance

Warren County Community Senior Center Congregate Meals has a new caterer. Chef's from Columbia, NJ has partnered with the Division of Aging and Disability Services to provide healthy, home-cooked meals to the senior community. This includes the home delivered meals. For questions contact 908-475-6591.

GENERAL, Cont'd

Free Cancer Screenings

Breast Cancer – Breast exam & mammogram Cervical Cancer – Pap Test
Postage Cancer – Physical exam & PSA test
Colorectal Cancer – Colonoscopy If you are an insured resident of Warren County, please contact the Cancer Education and Early Detection Program (NJCEED) for eligibility requirements. 908-387-9888 or CEED@norwescap.org

<u>Legal Services of Northwest Jersey</u> provides a full range of free legal services to people with limited income in Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties

LSNWJ's priority is to provide equal access to justice to protect its clients' basic needs that are critical for self-sufficiency: income, safe and affordable housing, access to quality health care, family stability and personal safety, and life with dignity in the community.

APPLY FOR HELP

lunterdon residents: 908-782-7979 Morris residents: 973-285-6911 Somerset residents: 908-231-0840 Sussex residents: 973-383-7400 Warren residents: 908-475-2010

GET HELP WITH:

Public Benefits: Homelessness Assistance, Welfare (TANF & GA), Food Stamps (NJ SNAP), Medicaid, Charity Care Health Care Access, and Social Security Disability SSI/SSD

Family: Domestic Abuse, Child Support or Parenting Time and Support for you or your

Consumer: You are being sued to collect a debt, You have a Wage Garnishment or Bank Levy, You need to file for bankruptcy protection or You need help clearing your credit

Housing: Tenants' Rights, Evictions, Home Ownership Issues

Individual Rights: Do you need a Will or Powers of Attorney?, Expungement or Driver's License Restoration

Sign up for our newsletter https://www.lsnwj.org/newsletter

TRUALTA Resource for Caregivers: We've received word that a new service is available for residents of Monmouth and Middlesex Counties. Trualta is an extensive online library featuring caregiver training, articles of interest, support groups and chat rooms. It is accessible 24/7 from a person's phone, tablet or computer. Most of the videos and articles are short (5-7 minutes). This is an EVCELLENT short (5-7 minutes). This is an EXCELLENT resource. You have to register to access the platform. In addition to all the info in the library, you can attend live webinars and support groups. If you miss a webinar, you still have access to the recording. I've watched a few and found them to be excellent. I highly encourage you if you live in Monmonthat in the near future. sign up. We are hoping that in the near future more counties will be offering this resource and

will let you know as soon as we do.

Monmouth County Residents the website can be accessed from the county websitewww.monmouthadvs.com in the Caregiver Section or directly on

www.monmouth.trualta.com.
Middlesex County Residents the website can be accessed at https://middlesex.trualta.com/.

GENERAL, Cont'd

Latest on Senior Freeze, ANCHOR and Stay NJ

Combined Applications for NJ Property Tax **Relief Program**

New Jersey is introducing it first-ever combined application form for three separate relief programs. The combined application will allow seniors and disabled homeowners to apply for ANCHOR and Senior Freeze programs, as well as the upcoming Stay NJ program, without having to fill out separate applications for each program. And by early March, paper copies of the combined application — dubbed "PAS-1" will be mailed to more than 1 million households. The PAS-1 form can be accessed here: PAS-1 form To read the full story from NJ Spotlight News, click: here

EMPLOYMENT Warren County PART TIME CONTRACTED POSTIONS **AVAILABLE**

SITE MANAGER – Senior Nutrition Center In Warren County. Monday – Friday, 25 hours per week. 8:30am-1:30pm

DESK CLERK – Senior Nutrition Center In Warren County. Monday – Friday, 20 hours per week

KITCHEN AIDE - Senior Nutrition Center In Warren County. Monday – Friday. 20 hours per week

PACKER / DRIVER – Senior Nutrition Center In Warren County. Monday – Friday, 10 hours per week

If interested in applying please contact Sharon Green at sgreen@co.warren.ni.us

<u> egal Services and Unemployment: Legal</u> Services of Northwest Jersey Now accept cases to help with Unemployment Insurance Benefits. Unemployment Insurance Benefits are government benefits that give financial support to people who lose their job through no fault of their own. When a person tries to claim unemployment benefits and receives an adverse action notice, they should: make a timely request for hearing as directed in the notice; apply for legal services. They offer consultation and advice, brief or extended service in meritorious claims in the following matters: Denials, Terminations, Overpayments, and in certain circumstances, Deputy Fact-Finding Claims Finding Claims

Other Referral Resources for Unemployment, Workers' Rights

NJ Department of Labor & Workforce Development - File or follow up on an Unemployment Insurance Benefit claim; learn your rights

US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission - File a "Charge of Discrimination"

NJ Division on Civil Rights - File a complaint

NELA (National Employment Lawyer's Association - Find a lawyer

Envision Center Open Computer Lab
EnVission Center, Phillipsburg Housing
Authority Community Building
No appointment needed and this program is
free. For more information contact Sara at 908-859-0122x112 or sboehmdavis@phillipsburgha.com