BY PROGRESSIVE CENTER

Forward

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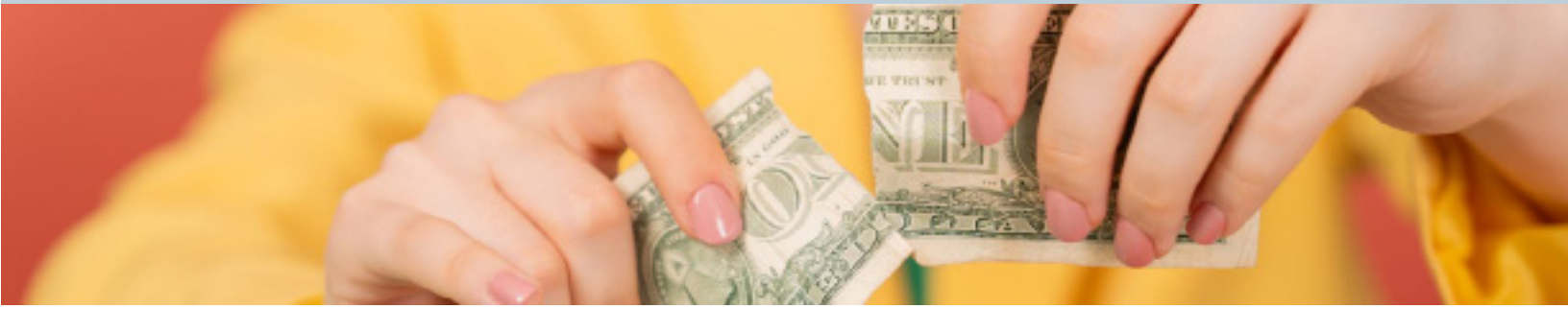
VOLUME 89

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1996.



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This publication is brought to you by staff of Progressive Center for Independent Living and Mercer County ADRC.

GOVERNOR MURPHY'S FY2026 BUDGET CUT TO NJ ASSOCIATION OF CENTERS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (NJACIL)

- By Scott Elliott of PCIL

Proposed Budget Cuts Threaten Critical Services for New Jersey Residents with Disabilities

The Progressive Center for Independent Living (PCIL), serving Mercer and Hunterdon Counties, is raising alarm over a proposed $3 million budget cut in Governor Murphy's FY2026 plan that threatens essential services for thousands of New Jersey residents with disabilities.

PCIL is one of 12 Centers for Independent Living (CILs) in New Jersey operating under the umbrella of the New Jersey Association of Centers for Independent Living (NJACIL). Collectively, these organizations support approximately 100,000 individuals annually across the state, providing critical services that empower people with disabilities to live independently and participate fully in their communities.

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The proposed elimination of a dedicated $3 million funding line through the Department of Human Services would slash nearly 45% of the CILs' operating budgets. The result could mean layoffs for 30 to 40 staff members across the state, many of whom themselves have disabilities, while jeopardizing services that address food insecurity, healthcare access, transportation, peer support, and more.

"This small pot of money goes an extremely long way," said a representative from PCIL. "With it, we've been able to start and sustain food pantries, medical equipment delivery, rural transportation programs, bilingual services in Trenton, and peer-support groups that directly contribute to the health and well-being of our community members."

The ripple effects of the cuts could be severe. PCIL estimates that as many as 45,000 people with disabilities could lose access to the services they rely on daily. These services are not luxuries, they are lifelines. They help prevent unemployment, food insecurity, and homelessness among New Jersey's disabled population, which makes up approximately 20% of the state's residents.
Moreover, eliminating these jobs would not only harm individuals but also affect the broader economy through increased unemployment claims and reduced tax revenue.

"Centers for Independent Living exist to ensure that all people with disabilities have choices in how to live their lives," PCIL stated. "We build partnerships and provide personalized support that helps individuals and families reach their goals of independence. Cutting this funding undermines those very values."

Advocates are urging lawmakers to fully restore the $3 million in the final state budget, emphasizing that the cost of inaction will exceed the savings.

For more information or to support advocacy efforts, contact PCIL at 609-581-4500.

S. ELLIOTT SWORN IN

PCIL would like to recognize Scott Elliott, Executive Director of PCIL, for being sworn in as a member of the Mercer County Workforce Development Board on March 10, 2025. Congratulations!

A NEW CHAPTER: TRANSITIONING FROM PPL TO ACUMEN

- By Batool Bokhari of PCIL

Change is never easy, especially when it comes to services that impact your loved one's daily life. As many of you may have heard, the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) is transitioning from Public Partnerships (PPL) to a new fiscal intermediary, Acumen. This change will impact how certain services—like hiring and managing Self-Directed Employees (SDEs), submitting invoices for goods and services, and more—are handled. While this shift may feel overwhelming, we want to reassure you that our Support Coordination team is here, informed, and ready to help.

The good news is that no one is in this alone. DDD and Acumen are working to provide clear guidance and tools to assist families and individuals during the transition. Each person will be assigned a Client Service Agent from Acumen who will support them through the entire process, whether it's filling out forms, understanding how to submit service notes, or navigating the new mobile app. There will also be options for paper submissions, in-person assistance, and virtual support to ensure flexibility for every family's needs. And yes—many of the trainings and requirements from PPL will transfer over, minimizing the need to start from scratch.

For families utilizing Self-Directed Employees, it's important to know that existing fingerprinting and drug testing won't need to be redone, and previously completed training will carry over. The process may involve filling out some new forms, learning to use new systems like the DCI mobile app for timekeeping and notes, and understanding new expectations around documentation. But our agency is already reviewing this process, attending trainings, and working closely with DDD to ensure that you and your loved ones are supported the entire way through.

As your Support Coordination agency, we are committed to staying ahead of these changes, so you don't have to. We'll continue receiving updates, reviewing materials, and attending upcoming webinars. We'll be able to identify who your assigned Acumen agents are, help coordinate with them and ensure that services continue smoothly. Whether it's helping with paperwork or explaining the new processes, we are here to guide and support you through every phase of this transition.

We understand how stressful change can feel, but please know that you are not navigating this alone. This transition is an opportunity to improve how services are delivered and supported, and we are confident that—with teamwork and communication—we can make this as seamless as possible. We're in this with you, and as always, we are just a phone call or email away!

Artists, volunteers and PCIL staff at Sip & Paint Night.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS RECREATION PROGRAM HAPPENINGS

- By Ruth Roberson of PCIL

This past season has been filled with engaging and inclusive recreation events, giving consumers opportunities to connect, express themselves, and enjoy meaningful experiences with their peers.

In January, PCIL hosted a Paint & Sip event where participants gathered to create winter-themed artwork on pre-outlined canvases. With guidance from an instructor, The Artist Letty, consumers explored their creativity while strengthening fine motor skills and focus. The relaxed and social atmosphere allowed everyone to share stories, exchange ideas, and enjoy a sense of accomplishment as they completed their paintings. Many attendees expressed how much they enjoyed the process, with some mentioning they hadn't painted in years but were inspired to try again.

February brought a lively Karaoke Night, where consumers sang their hearts out in an inclusive and supportive space. Some

Above: Participants showing off their paintings at Sip & Paint Night in January!

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performed solo, while others teamed up in pairs or small groups. A staff member was also available to sing alongside those who needed a little extra encouragement. The energy in the room was contagious, and it was wonderful to see participants cheering each other on and celebrating every performance. A few consumers who had been too nervous to sing in previous years stepped up to the mic for the first time, showing newfound confidence and excitement.

In March, a group attended a live performance of Grease at Crockett Middle School, enjoying a fantastic night of theater. Watching a live play allowed consumers to engage with the story, follow along with expressive performances, and experience the thrill of being part of an audience. Many shared how much they loved the music and seeing the performers bring the classic story to life. Live theater offers a unique opportunity for engagement, and this event provided a fun and inclusive way to enjoy the arts together.

These recreational events continue to provide meaningful opportunities to socialize, explore new experiences, and build confidence. With each gathering, we see new faces who return for more activities, strengthening our community connections. Want to know what's coming up next? Reach out to request our flyers!

Join Us Next Time!

Find all our upcoming events

www.pcil.org/events
www.facebook.com/progressivecenternj

Life Through Different Lenses

PEER GROUP EVENTS

Mercer Office

Tuesday 5:00 - 6:30 PM

May 6	Muffins with Moms
May 13	Nurturing Progress
May 20	Q & A with PCIL Staff
May 27	Murder Mystery Night
June 10	Donuts with Dad
June 24	Scavenger Hunt

Plus more topics added every week!

www.pcil.org/events

RESOURCES TO KNOW

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB COMPUTER EXCHANGE

Bridging the Digital Divide: Computer Exchange Program at Boys & Girls Club of Ewing

The Boys & Girls Club of Mercer County's Computer Exchange Program in Ewing, NJ, is helping to bridge the digital divide by offering refurbished computers to the community at a low cost. For just $50, individuals can access reliable technology, an essential resource in today's digital world. Local high school students refurbish the donated computers under the supervision of experienced staff and volunteers, gaining valuable IT and workforce skills in the process. This initiative is especially impactful for youth, older adults, and individuals with disabilities, helping them stay connected, access services, and pursue educational and employment opportunities. By supporting both the students who build the devices and the community members who receive them, the program promotes digital inclusion, skill-building, and community empowerment.

To make an appointment to receive a refurbished computer, visit the Boys & Girls Club of Mercer County at 1040 Spruce Street, Ewing, NJ. Appointments can be made by calling (609) 530-2000 or emailing info@bgcmercer.org.

COMMUNITY HEALTH LAW PROJECT

Supporting Justice and Access: Community Health Law Project in Mercer County

The Community Health Law Project (CHLP) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing vital legal and advocacy services to individuals with disabilities and chronic health conditions across NJ. In Mercer County, CHLP plays a key role in supporting residents who face legal challenges related to health care, housing, public benefits, and more.

CHLP's Trenton office offers a wide range of services designed to promote independence, stability, and equal access to justice, including:

Public Benefits – Assistance with applying for or appealing denials for programs like SSI, SSDI, SNAP, Medicaid, and other essential supports.

Healthcare Access – Help navigating Medicaid, Medicare, and resolving issues with managed care providers.

Housing Advocacy – Representation in eviction cases, disputes over unsafe living conditions, and housing discrimination.

Consumer and Family Law – Support with debt collection, domestic violence cases, guardianship, and related issues.

Disability Rights & Accessibility – Advocacy to fight discrimination and ensure

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equal access in housing, employment, and public accommodations.

CHLP's team of experienced attorneys and advocates is committed to ensuring that Mercer County residents with disabilities can access the legal support they need to live with dignity and independence.

To learn more or request assistance, visit www.chlp.org or contact the Trenton office at (609) 392-5553.

CONNECT EBT

Manage Your SNAP Benefits with Ease:

Introducing the Connect EBT Mobile App New Jersey residents enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Work First New Jersey (WFNJ) can now conveniently manage their benefits through the free Connect EBT mobile app. Available in English and Spanish on both the Apple App Store and Google Play Store, the app allows users to check their Families First card balance, review up to 12 months of transaction history, confirm recent deposits, change their PIN, and even lock or unlock their card if it's lost or stolen. This added security feature helps protect against unauthorized use and gives users peace of mind. The app is especially helpful for older adults and individuals living with disabilities, offering a secure, accessible way to stay on top of benefits without needing to call or visit an office. By simplifying access to essential information, the Connect EBT app empowers users to stay informed and in control.

TELEPHONE REASSURANCE: CALLS FOR SENIORS & PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Staying Connected: Telephone Reassurance Program by Hunterdon Helpline

Hunterdon Helpline's Telephone Reassurance Program provides a vital service to seniors and individuals with disabilities in Hunterdon County, helping them maintain independence and stay connected. This free program offers daily wellness calls—from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.—to participants aged 60 and older, as well as eligible individuals with disabilities. The calls are friendly and social in nature, while also serving as reminders for medication, meals, and other important tasks

If a participant cannot be reached, staff promptly contacts designated family members, neighbors, or friends. Should these efforts be unsuccessful, emergency services are alerted to conduct a wellness check. This proactive approach ensures that individuals receive the necessary support and assistance when needed.

Volunteers play a crucial role in the program, making calls from the Helpline office in partnership with Community Resource Specialists. Shifts are available in the morning, afternoon, and evening. Those interested in volunteering can complete the registration form available on the Helpline's website.

To enroll in the Telephone Reassurance Program or to learn more, contact Hunterdon Helpline at (908) 782-4357 or visit helplinehc.org.

RECREATION EXPERIENCES AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS (R.E.C.C.)

- By Bette Ann Sinclair of PCIL Hunterdon

In January, our RECC Program participants spent an entertaining evening at a local Hunterdon County Library, with "Eyes of the Wild" presenter Travis, who introduced us to animals from around the world. We enjoyed face-to-face encounters with an alligator, a tortoise, a wallaby, and a chinchilla, and learned some fun facts such as: a baby alligator is a "hatchling" and a baby wallaby is a "joey". Travis pointed out the importance of uniting people with animals from all over the world. We all walked away with a new appreciation for these unique creatures, a better knowledge of the effects of the ever-changing environment on their natural habitat, and an understanding of the importance of species preservation.

On a snowy evening in February, members participated in the event, "I Can Make a Snowman". Cookies and hot chocolate were available to add to the chilly night. The activity allowed for socialization and the chance to be creative and imaginative. It was a night that was stress-free, enjoyable, and one that provided an opportunity for self-expression. The group used tube socks and filled them with rice to design the cutest snowmen ever! It was evident that everyone took pride in their creations!

It was an adventurous April night for RECC group members and non-members alike, as together we explored Studio 29 in Frenchtown, a community space that fosters inclusion and unity. From art exhibitions to film screenings and performances, everyone can find something to enjoy. Our group was unsure of what to expect, and much to our surprise, the "Films for Fools" experience

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had us laughing in no time! We munched on popcorn and enjoyed a night of entertainment while gathered in this progressive and creative venue. Studio 29 offers 2 free-trial visits, so to learn more about what Studio 29 has to offer, contact Kathleen or Hop at 908-248-2438.

We hope to see you at an upcoming event, so watch out for PCIL's monthly flyers and be sure to pre-register at www.pcil.org/events!

Above: Participants posing at "Films For Fools"

Above: "Eyes of the Wild" presenter Travis showing us animals!.

Above: Participants posing with their snowman!

Join Us Next Time!

Find all our upcoming events

www.pcil.org/events
www.facebook.com/progressivecenternj

Behind the virtual wheel with our driving simulator.

JOIN OUR NEXT DRIVE-ABILITY COHORT

- By Stephanie Wilmot of PCIL

Our Drive-Ability program funded by Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, is looking for Mercer County residents living with disabilities ages 17 and older, who are ready to unlock the road to independence. Are you struggling to prepare for the written NJ state knowledge test to get your learner's permit? Would you benefit from using a virtual driving simulator to reduce road anxiety and stress? Could you explore planning for the future comparing car insurances, budgeting and more? This program might be a great fit for you! To learn more please visit our website www.pcil.org or call the office at 609-581-4500 and ask for Stephanie Wilmot.

HELP REDUCE THE STIGMA TODAY!

- By Stephanie Wilmot of PCIL

Are you looking to make a difference within your community? Do you know someone who may be experiencing a mental health or substance use challenge and aren't quite sure how to be of help? PCIL is now offering both Youth and Adult Mental Health First Aid training courses to anyone over the age of 18 who is interested. This training is open to all; parents and guardians, school professionals, coaches, law enforcement, agencies and more. Upon completion of the training you will receive a 3-year certification through the National Council of Mental Well-being and be a certified Mental Health First Aider. Join us in reducing the stigma today! To learn more please call our office at 609-581-4500 and speak to Stephanie Wilmot.

Training NOT limited to only Mercer and Hunterdon counties

PCIL HAS THE HONOR TO HOST THE NEXT MAP MEETING

- By Stephanie Wilmot of PCIL

On May 20th between the hours of 3-4:30pm PCIL will be hosting the next MAP (Mercer Area Partnership for Transition) meeting at our office location. The group brings together representatives from local school districts, state and local agencies, service providers, and family members to network and explore possible program options. Amy Watts, Support Coordination Program Manager/ Community Liaison and Stephanie Wilmot, Transition Supervisor and Mental Health First Aid Instructor will be presenting about PCIL services alongside of DMW Brothers Dispatch, and GMTMA.

If you are interested in attending to learn more or form possible collaborations amongst the community we welcome you.

Please contact Anne Marie Salerno at asalerno@mcsssd.us to RSVP. There is no cost allotted to attending this meeting.

PROTECT YOUR BENEFITS FROM THEFT!

Lock your EBT Card!

The new New Jersey website, https://www.connectebt.com/ebtconnect/recipient/NJ/, is for people enrolled in one of the following programs:

- New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (NJ SNAP)
- Work First New Jersey /Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Work First New Jersey/General Assistance (WFNJ/GA)

Once you create a User ID and Password, you will be able to:

- View benefits
- View your transaction history
- Lock/Unlock your EBT card
- Request a replacement card

SUNSHINE SCHOLARSHIP IS BACK FOR 2025!

PCIL is excited to announce that the Sunshine Scholarship, formally known as the Campership Scholarship, is returning for 2025! As part of the Mercer County Community Connections initiative, this scholarship provides financial assistance to families of children with disabilities (ages 4 to 25) living in Mercer County to help cover the cost of summer enrichment activities.

Whether it's camp, recreational programs, or skill-building experiences, this scholarship helps ensure an engaging and fulfilling summer.

Funded through a grant from the County of Mercer, awards range from $85 to $400 based on need and are available on a first-come, first-served basis—so don't wait to apply!

Scholarships are limited, and applications will be accepted until funds are exhausted. For more details on eligibility and how to apply, visit our website https://www.pcil.org/sunshinescholarship or contact PCIL today at 609-581-4500!

Need help paying for groceries?

Let the SNAP Navigators at Progressive Center help you. NJ SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) is New Jersey's food assistance program to help you buy the groceries to eat and be healthy. Call us to see if you are eligible. Mercer: 609-581-4500 Hunterdon: 908-782-1055

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your DOORWAY QUARTERLY

A quarterly publication written by the Mercer County Office on Aging/Aging & Disability Resource Connection to help support older adults, those living with disabilities, and their caregivers

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Older Americans Month 2025

By Monica Maldonado

Every May, the country celebrates Older Americans Month, an observation that recognizes older Americans' contributions, highlights aging trends, and reaffirms commitments to serving the older adults in our communities. For 2025, the theme is "Flip the Script on Aging," which encourages a shift in how society perceives, talks about, and approaches aging; focuses on honoring older adults' contributions; and highlights opportunities for engagement and purpose.

Aging is not just about getting older – it's about thriving, learning, and continuing to make meaningful contributions. This month, let's shift the conversation and celebrate wisdom, vitality, and achievements of older adults.

How can you "Flip the Script on Aging?"

Challenge Age Stereotypes

- Highlight positive aging stories.
- Use language that respects and values aging rather than framing it as a decline.
- Acknowledge and celebrate the diverse experiences of older adults.

Create Intergenerational Connections

- Create events where younger and older generations can share skills, experiences, and knowledge.
- Encourage mentorship programs where older adults can guide and inspire younger individuals.
- Spend time with older family members, friends, or neighbors.

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Mercer County Executive Dan Benson, The Board of County Commissioners, the Division of Culture and Heritage, and the Office on Aging present the

2025 Mercer County Senior Citizen Art Show

The 2025 Mercer County Senior Citizen Art Show is open to **all Mercer County residents ages 60 or older**. This annual showcase celebrates the creativity and talent of our local senior artists across various mediums.

For more details, including entry guidelines and important dates, visit **www.mercercounty.org//departments/culture-and-heritage** or scan the QR code.

If you have questions, please contact the Mercer County Division of Culture and Heritage at **cultureandheritage@mercercounty.org** or **609-278-2712.**

Showing:
July 1 - August 4

Register By:
June 13

Using your phone's camera, focus on the code, then tap the pop-up link.

The Mercer County Senior Citizen Art Show 2025 is made possible by funds from The Mercer County Division of Culture & Heritage, a partner of The New Jersey State Council of the Arts.

ART PIECES
from past art shows

Older Americans Month 2025 Continued

Showcase Lifelong Learning and Growth

- Encourage older adults to explore new hobbies, educational opportunities, and technology.
- Celebrate older adults who are starting new adventures, careers, and engaging in creative work.
- Offer/participate in workshops that bring together different age groups.

Celebrate Active and Healthy Living

- Promote fitness and wellness programs that cater to all ages.
- Encourage healthy lifestyle choices that support longevity and vitality.

By “flipping the script on aging,” we can create a culture where growing older is seen as a time of opportunity, strength, and continued engagement.

For more information on Older Americans Month, visit its official website, https://acl.gov/oam/2025/older-americans-month-2025. You also can join the conversation on social media by using the hashtag #OlderAmericansMonth.

The Mercer County Office on Aging/Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) is available as a resource to residents ages 60 or older and their caregivers and loved ones. We can be reached by calling 609-989-6661 every Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., by emailing adrc@mercercounty.org, or by visiting our website at www.mercercounty.org/agingresources.

March Is National Nutrition Month ®

By Jenifer Williams

A nutrition education and information campaign sponsored annually in March by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, National Nutrition Month® focuses attention on the importance of making informed food choices and developing sound eating and physical activity habits.

The theme for this year's observance was "Food Connects Us." Food is a uniting factor for so many of us as it connects us to our cultures, families, and friends. How many of you grew up sharing meals with family and friends on a regular basis? How many of you continue to do so? Sharing a meal is an opportunity to learn about its preparation, who made it, where the ingredients were sourced, and to spend time with one another.

In honor of National Nutrition Month®, staff from the Mercer County Department of Human Services spent two days in March at four of our Nutrition Program for Older Adult sites, meeting participants and helping our dedicated site staff serve lunches. County Executive Dan Benson joined us for one of these days of service and spent time connecting with participants, learning the workings of our kitchens, learning about the educational programs we offer, and serving lunch.

For more than 50 years, the Nutrition Program has offered our participants appetizing meals every weekday while bringing them together for activities and social interaction, connecting participants to food as well as each other. The program is open to anyone 60 years old or older and their spouses (regardless of age), any county resident with a disability whose primary caregiver is a program participant, anyone volunteering in the program, and the personal care aides of program participants (when they accompany a participant to the site where meals are provided). This federally funded program encourages participants to make a suggested donation of $1 for their daily meal.

Not only do our program participants enjoy a delicious lunch, educational programming, and socialization with one another, they can request a nutrition counseling session with our registered dietitian nutritionist, Donna Hunter. Ms. Hunter plays a critical role in helping our participants understand the connection between the foods individuals and communities eat and how these foods impact health throughout life. Ms. Hunter brings years of experience to her role in our Nutrition Program and has been responsible for analyzing and planning the lunch menus for the past four years. She also has given educational presentations and distributed

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healthy eating tips and recipes at our sites. Ms. Hunter is available to provide individualized nutrition counseling and materials to program participants via either a 20-minute-to-30-minute phone call or in-person visit at our sites.

To join the Nutrition Program for Older Adults, please contact nutrition@mercercounty.org or call 609-989-6650. We look forward to connecting with you year round!

New Respite Care Program Available in Mercer County

By Reed Thomas

The Mercer County Office on Aging/ Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) is happy to announce a new program for youth living with disabilities: Respite Connections. Funded by a grant from the Office on Aging/ADRC and provided by the Family Resource Network, Respite Connections is a Saturday drop-off respite service for individuals ages 6 to 21 living with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Held two Saturdays per month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the campus of The College of New Jersey in Ewing, the program aims to improve social outcomes for participants by offering engaging recreational activities in a group setting. Respite Connections offers families and caregivers a much-needed break to refresh and recharge, strengthening the entire family unit.

The program will feature activities that are not only enriching, but that also will promote educational and social development. Participants will be grouped by ages and will experience art, music, adaptive yoga, athletics, science, and more. The activities are designed to foster social connections, improve social behaviors, promote wellness, stimulate new interests, and have fun!

The program offers benefits including:

- No cost to families
- Lunch provided for youth at each event
- 3:1 participant-to-staff ratio

In addition to the drop-in sessions, the Family Resource Network is creating an online network to support caregivers. This will consist of a platform to allow caregivers to connect, share resources, post questions, and build a supportive community.

Enrollment for this program has begun. For more information on how to participate, please contact the Family Resource Network by emailing respiteconnections@familyresoucenetwork.org or calling 800-372-6510.

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton is excited to be working with the New Jersey Department of Human Services' Division of Aging Services to help Mercer County residents save money! By completing the NJSave application, low-income older adults and individuals with disabilities can save on prescriptions, utilities, Medicare premiums, and more. Catholic Charities can help with the application process.

What is NJSave?
By completing the NJSave application, New Jersey residents can access multiple, money-saving benefits, including:

- Prescription Drug Savings: Get discounts on prescription medications, making it easier to manage healthcare costs.
- Medicare Savings Programs: Apply for programs like Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB), Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB), and Qualifying Individual (QI) programs. These programs can help reduce your Medicare premiums, co-pays, and deductibles.
- Low-Income Subsidy (LIS) for Prescription Drugs: If you qualify, you may receive financial support to lower your prescription drug costs.
- Utility Assistance: Get help covering the costs of your energy bills.

Income Limits Have Been Increased!
Governor Murphy recently raised the income limits for several of these programs. If you didn't qualify before, you might be eligible now, so we encourage residents to check their eligibility.

Navigators Are Here to Help!
You don't have to go through the application process alone. Senior Save Navigators are available to assist you every step of the way, guiding you through the application process and helping you complete everything correctly. You can find the application at www.njsave.gov. If you need assistance, contact the Senior Save Navigators at Catholic Charities by emailing NJSave@cctrenton.org or calling 856-764-6940.

MERCER COUNTY OFFICE ON AGING

SENIOR FARMERS' MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM

STARTS

MAY 1ST

FOR MORE INFORMATION

609-245-2974

ADRC@MERCERCOUNTY.ORG

FUNDS ARE LIMITED.

APPLICANTS WILL BE SERVED ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE DAN BENSON
THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES

BENEFITING SENIORS AGE 60 YEARS OR OLDER WHO LIVE IN MERCER COUNTY

MONTHLY INCOME UNDER

$2,322 SINGLE
$3,152 MARRIED

PROOF OF INCOME

CURRENT TAX RETURN
SOCIAL SECURITY STATEMENT
FOOD STAMPS/SNAP VERIFICATION
MEDICAID CARD

PROOF OF IDENTITY & RESIDENCY

DRIVER'S LICENSE
UTILITY/PHONE BILL
BIRTH CERTIFICATE

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Personal Assistance Services Program (PASP)

Mercer County ADRC
Reed Thomas
609-989-6459
rthomas@mercercounty.org
2210 Hamilton Ave
Hamilton, NJ 08619

Jersey Assistance for Community Caregiving is a program that provides in-home services to seniors at risk of placement in a nursing home. JACC includes an array of services designed to supplement the assistance given by the individual's caregiver network. Qualified individuals may have the opportunity to hire their own eligible family, friends, or neighbors to provide the care they need.

To learn more or start the application process, please contact the Mercer County Office on Aging / Aging and Disability Resource Connection at (609) 989-6661 or ADRC@mercercounty.org.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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Karina Turek

NUTRITION STAFF

Nutrition Program Director
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Bilingual Community Service Aide
Monica Maldonado

Health Insurance Benefits Clerk
Tina Spoto

PASP Coordinator/ Program Coordinator Aging & Disability
Reed Thomas

Senior Accountant
Santosh Gyawali

PUBLIC HEARING ANNOUNCEMENT

June 4, 2025 | 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM | Mercer County Connection

Please join the Mercer County Office on Aging/Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) for its annual public hearing on aging-related matters in the Mercer County community at Mercer County Connection located at 957 NJ Route 33 in Hamilton!

The hearing is open to the public – your valuable input is needed!

Registration is only required if you want to provide testimony. Testimony can be submitted in writing by June 4 if you cannot attend in person. If you would like to provide testimony or you have any questions about this public hearing, please contact the Office on Aging/ADRC by emailing ADRC@mercercounty.org or calling 609-989-6661. Office on Aging/ADRC staff will be happy to assist you!

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A PCIL & ADRC NJ Collaboration

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FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND AND HANDICAPPED

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