## UNITED PROGRESS, INC. 162 West State Street Trenton NJ 08608 609-392-2161

United Progress Inc. (UPI) is a non-profit Community Action Agency founded in 1964 under Lyndon B Johnson's "War of Poverty" federal legislation known as the <u>Economic</u> <u>Opportunity Act of 1964</u>. The mission of the agency is to assist individuals and families move from poverty into the economic mainstream through programs designed to promote self-sufficiency and responsibility.

UPI currently services individuals that fall at or below 125% of the federal poverty level residing in the City of Trenton. All consumers must provide picture identification for all adults in the household, social security cards for all members of the household, proof of income from all adults in the household and proof of residence (i.e., lease, utility bill). The following are services provided by the agency:

<u>**Clothing:**</u> Clothing is donated to the agency by private individuals as well as NGA. NGA is a private organization that receives brand new clothing, linens, shoes, etc. and donates them to area social service agencies. Consumers are allowed one bag of clothing per month. The agency also has a "closet" of professional attire for individuals needing assistance with finding employment.

<u>Utility Assistance</u>: Consumers must have a shut off notice or already have their services suspended to receive assistance. Consumers will be assisted with \$200 towards their outstanding balance once the remaining balance has been secured (i.e., voucher from another agency). The agency also provides assistance with NJSHARES applications by appointment.

**Emergency Food:** Consumers can receive food packages once per month. Consumers who receive SNAP benefits can receive a food package after the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. The amount of food packages is based on family size.

<u>Case Management:</u> All consumers that are serviced at the agency receive case management to assist clients work towards self-sufficiency. Case management includes assistance with resume writing, job searches, referrals to other agencies, etc.

**Post-TANF Outreach:** This program serves consumers who were once on TANF assistance and are no longer eligible. The outreach worker for this program receives a list of consumers through the State of NJ - Office of Faith Based Initiatives and contacts consumers to inform them of their possible eligibility for other services. The information is then forwarded to Mercer County Board of Social Services.

**Substance Abuse Treatment:** Trenton Treatment Center provides Intensive Outpatient (IOP) and Outpatient (OP) substance abuse treatment at 56 Escher Street in Trenton. Treatment interventions include individual, group and family counseling services, education and supportive services as well as include assessment and referral to higher or lower level of services. Services are provided three hours a day five days a week for 18 weeks.

**Transitional Housing:** Our transitional housing program is a 22 bed residential facility for men located at 56 Escher Street in Trenton. Services are offered to the homeless, the underinsured and uninsured residents of Mercer County and City of Trenton. Residents of the transitional housing program must obtain a housing referral from Mercer County Board of Social Services to be placed at the facility.