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NEWSLETTER | OCTOBER 2025



IMPORTANT UPDATE

IF YOU GET SNAP FOOD ASSISTANCE BENEFITS



New Jersey was notified by the federal government that if the shutdown continues, November 2025 SNAP benefits will not be available on November 1.

On October 31st, federal courts ruled that the federal government's decision to withhold SNAP funding was unlawful. However, the USDA must take action to determine how much may be paid and when it may be provided. Until the federal government takes this action SNAP benefits continue to be unavailable. The state will continue to provide updates about when SNAP benefits will be issued.

SNAP benefits loaded on your Families First EBT card prior to October 31, 2025 will be available for you to use after November 1, 2025. Before going to the grocery store after November 1, we encourage SNAP food assistance recipients to check their account at **NJFamiliesFirst.com** or by calling **800 997-3333**. If there are SNAP benefits in your NJ FamiliesFirst account, they are available for you to use.

Please note, you may receive eligibility notices and your MyNJHelps case summary may show that you are eligible for November benefits. Even though you may receive an eligibility notice and the benefits show in your case summary, if the federal shutdown continues, November 2025 SNAP benefits will not be posted to your Families First EBT card on time.

Because November SNAP benefits are not available as a result of a federal shutdown, fair hearings will not be scheduled for this issue.

SNAP applications and recertifications will be processed. Continue to submit requested information to ensure you get your benefits when federal SNAP funding becomes available.

Visit [NJSNAP.gov](https://www.njsnap.gov)



State of New Jersey
Phil Murphy, Governor | Tahesha L. Way, Lt. Governor



Department of Human Services
Sarah Adelman, Commissioner



Governor Declares State of Emergency Due to Federal Suspension of SNAP Benefits

*State Accelerates Delivery of \$42.5M in Food & Hunger Grants;
Governor Creates Task Force on Suspension of SNAP Benefits*

Governor Phil Murphy [declared](#) a State of Emergency effective Nov. 1 due to the suspension of federal [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program \(SNAP\)](#) benefits by the Trump Administration.

The [Executive Order](#) also establishes a coordinated statewide response to ensure food access for vulnerable residents by empowering state agencies to take emergency actions to protect public health and welfare.

More than 800,000 New Jerseyans rely on SNAP to meet their basic nutritional needs. Of the 800,000, almost half are children, one in three are individuals with a disability, and one in five are over the age of 60 years. A lapse in SNAP benefits will make it difficult or impossible for these residents to obtain nutritional assistance and, as a result, they may go hungry and experience additional adverse health outcomes.

“With more than 800,000 New Jerseyans relying on SNAP to put food on the table, the Trump Administration’s decision to suspend benefits has created a clear and present threat to the health and safety of our residents,” **Governor Murphy said.** “We will not stand by while families face hunger. That is why our state will mobilize every available resource to strengthen our food access

networks banks, protect vulnerable communities, and ensure that every resident has access to the meals they need.”

Human Services' [Division of Family Development](#)
has advised recipients that:

- SNAP benefits loaded on their Families First EBT card before October 31 will remain available for use after November 1.
- SNAP food assistance recipients should check their account at NJFamiliesFirst.com or by calling 800-997-3333 before buying groceries.
- If there are SNAP benefits in a NJ FamiliesFirst account, those benefits will be available for use.
- Because November SNAP benefits are not available as a result of a federal shutdown, fair hearings will not be scheduled.
- SNAP applications and recertifications are being processed, so residents should continue to submit requested information to ensure they get benefits when federal SNAP funding becomes available.

“We are deeply concerned by the risk this federal decision poses to New Jersey households who rely on SNAP,” **Commissioner Sarah Adelman said.** “We understand the anxiety and uncertainty this situation creates for families and communities. We are continuously monitoring developments and will keep residents informed to the fullest extent possible.”

Visit njsnap.gov for updates.

**Locate food pantries and community
kitchens via NJ 211 [here](#). Click on "Food" to find nearby food
pantries and community kitchens.**

Download the latest flyers:

[English](#)

[Spanish](#)

Governor Murphy, Senate President Nick Scutari, and Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin also [announced](#) that the state is accelerating the delivery of \$42.5 million in food and hunger grants to food banks.

"In New Jersey, we will continue to coordinate across government and with our partners on the ground as we navigate the fallout from the federal government's failure to act in the best interest of the American people," **Governor Murphy said.**

"Accelerating the delivery of grants to emergency food organizations in our local communities will help alleviate this food crisis," **Senate President Scutari said.** "We are stepping forward to support the organizations and individuals who are working selflessly to prevent our fellow residents from going hungry."

"In moments like this, we all have a responsibility to step up and do our part to ensure no one goes hungry," **Assembly Speaker Coughlin said.** "I urge our leaders in Washington to act swiftly to restore this funding and to end this uncertainty for the hundreds of thousands of families who rely on SNAP to put food on the table."

"This funding emergency has a real impact on neighbors, friends and loved ones across New Jersey and we thank the community food organizations for their partnership and commitment to help New Jerseyans through this emergency," **Commissioner Adelman said.**

Meanwhile, Governor Murphy [signed](#) an [Executive Order](#) establishing the Task Force on the Federal Suspension of SNAP Benefits. The Task Force will be responsible for coordinating New Jersey's response to the acute food insecurity crisis caused by the federal government shutdown and the unprecedented suspension of SNAP benefits.

"The Trump Administration's decision to suspend SNAP funding as the government shutdown drags on is both unethical and illegal. It will have a disastrous impact on hundreds of thousands of New Jerseyans who will go hungry without their benefits, and our most vulnerable communities – including our children, seniors, and residents with disabilities – will be hit the hardest," **Governor Murphy said**. "While I am continuing to call on President Trump and Washington Republicans for a swift resolution to this entirely avoidable food insecurity crisis, today's Executive Order ensures New Jersey is mobilizing to mitigate harm to our residents."



ACTUALIZACIÓN IMPORTANTE

SI RECIBE BENEFICIOS DE ASISTENCIA ALIMENTARIA DE SNAP



New Jersey fue notificado por el gobierno federal de que si el cierre continúa, los beneficios de SNAP para el mes de noviembre de 2025, no estarán disponibles a partir del 1 de noviembre.

Las cortes federales determinaron que la decisión del gobierno federal sobre retener los fondos de SNAP es ilegal. Sin embargo, se deben tomar medidas para determinar la cantidad que se podría pagar y cuando se puedan entregar. Hasta que el gobierno federal tome esta medida, los beneficios de SNAP continuarán sin entregarse. El estado continuará proporcionando actualizaciones hasta cuando los beneficios de SNAP vuelvan a ser emitidos.

Los beneficios de SNAP que hayan sido cargados a su tarjeta de EBT Families First antes del 31 de octubre, se podrán utilizar después del 1 de noviembre. A contar del 1 de noviembre, se recomienda a los usuarios que reciben asistencia alimentaria de SNAP, a chequear su cuenta en NJFamiliesFirst.com, o llamar al 800-997-3333, antes de dirigirse al supermercado. Si se encuentran disponibles sus beneficios de SNAP en su cuenta de NJ FamiliesFirst, significa que se encontrarán disponibles para su uso.

Tenga en cuenta que usted puede seguir recibiendo notificaciones de elegibilidad, y puede que su historial de caso en su portal MyNJHelps muestre que es elegible para los beneficios a contar del mes de noviembre. Incluso si usted recibe notificaciones de elegibilidad, y los beneficios se ven reflejados en su historial de caso, si el cierre federal continúa, los beneficios de SNAP para el mes de noviembre no serán posteados a tiempo en su tarjeta de EBT Families First.

Debido a que los beneficios de SNAP del mes de noviembre no estarán disponibles como resultado del cierre federal, no se agendarán audiencias imparciales por este motivo.

Las solicitudes y recertificaciones para SNAP se seguirán procesando. Continúe enviando la información requerida para asegurarse de que reciba sus beneficios cuando la financiación federal para SNAP vuelva a estar disponible.

Visite [NJSNAP.gov](https://njsnap.gov)



Estado de New Jersey
Phil Murphy, Gobernador
Tahesha L. Way, Vicegobernadora



Departamento de Servicios Humanos
Sarah Adelman, Comisionada

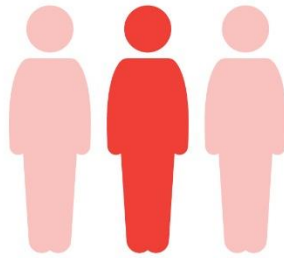


Who Will Be Impacted Most?

In New Jersey, SNAP helps more than 800,000 people across 400,000 households afford nutritious foods.



**Almost half
are children**



**nearly 1 in 3 are
individuals with a
disability**



**1 in 5 are
over the age
of 60 years**



SNAP food assistance will not go out on November 1.

This is who will be impacted most.

Visit njsnap.gov to stay updated.



**See How SNAP Supports New Jersey
Families, Business and Economy**

Impact Report: SNAP Supports NJ Families, Businesses, and Economy

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is known as a powerful tool for addressing household food insecurity, but the program does even more than help families pay for nutritious food—SNAP supports New Jersey’s businesses and local economies.

Each month, 800,000 New Jersey residents use SNAP benefits to help pay for food. SNAP participants **redeemed \$2.5 billion** in benefits at New Jersey retailers in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023, accounting for **9.4 percent** of statewide **spending on food** for consumption at home.

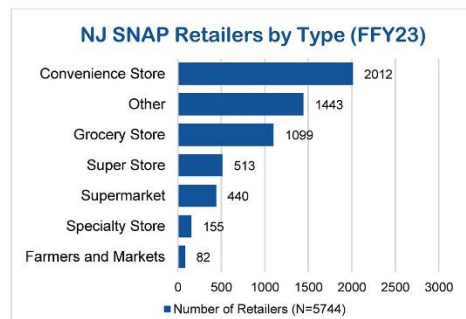
SNAP Acts as an Economic Multiplier

As SNAP recipients redeem benefits, which are typically spent quickly, the program generates income and jobs, especially in industries that produce, transport, and sell food. Since SNAP benefits can only be spent on limited food items at SNAP-authorized retailers, SNAP-participating households offset their monthly grocery bills and can use money that they did not spend on food for other basic needs. The United States Department of Agriculture **estimates** the gross domestic product (GDP) multiplier for SNAP to be 1.54, meaning New Jersey’s FFY 2023 SNAP redemptions contributed as much as **\$3.8 billion** to GDP.

New Jersey launched a SNAP Minimum Benefit Program in 2023 to ensure all participants receive at least \$95 every month. This program increases benefits for nearly **1 in 10** households enrolled in SNAP. Through this program, the state invests an average of \$2.2 million each month to supplement federal SNAP benefits, allowing families to cover a larger share of food costs, boosting support for retailers, and increasing GDP by as much as **\$40 million** each year.

SNAP Supports Retailers of All Types

SNAP benefits can be redeemed at a variety of **retailers**, from local corner stores to large chains. **5,744 New Jersey retailers** accept SNAP benefits as a payment for certain eligible food items. The majority of SNAP benefits are spent at supermarkets and super (“big box”) stores; however, most SNAP retailers are smaller, including farmer’s markets, convenience stores, and small grocery stores.



Source: United States Department of Agriculture, SNAP Retailer Location Data

In New Jersey, one third of SNAP retailers are convenience stores, which can be a critical resource in food deserts and for individuals who face transportation challenges or are unable to shop when traditional grocery stores are open. Online purchasing also continues to expand access to food – more than **25 retailers** in New Jersey now accept SNAP benefits online. In FFY 23, **7.3 percent** of SNAP redemptions in New Jersey took place online, and **21 percent** of SNAP households in New Jersey purchased groceries online at least once.

For more information:
Apply for SNAP: <https://mynjhelps.gov>
Become a SNAP retailer:
<https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/retailer>
Find a SNAP retailer near you:
<https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/retailer-locator>

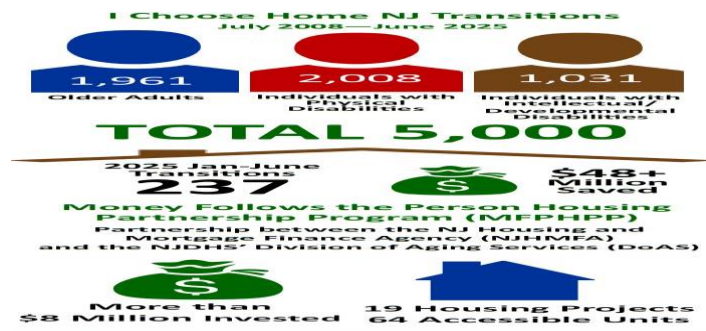
A message in American Sign Language (ASL) on SNAP benefits from the [Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing](#).

Click below to watch.





Deputy Commissioner for Social Services Michael J. Wilson joined [U.S. Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman](#) to inform people about [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program \(SNAP\)](#) benefits not going to individuals on November 1st because of the federal government shutdown. Visit [NJSNAP.gov](#) for updated information.



I Choose Home NJ Marks 5,000th Individual Moving Back Home

I Choose Home NJ achieved a significant milestone recently, marking its 5,000th time helping a person leave an institution and move back to their community.

Since its inception in July 2008 the program has generated more than \$48 million in savings. On average, I Choose Home NJ has placed more than one person in the community every day for the past five years. The program is on track to help move 480 people home in 2025.

“Reaching 5,000 transitions is more than a number - it’s 5,000 lives changed for the better,” **Commissioner Sarah Adelman said**. “I Choose Home NJ enables individuals to not only live successfully where they feel most at home, but to actively participate in the lives of their family and friends and contribute to their communities. I Choose Home NJ embodies our commitment to dignity, independence, and person-centered care. Funding for this program comes from Money Follows the Person, which remains essential to helping people build fuller, more connected lives.”

“Many nursing homes in New Jersey are too big,” **said Laurie Facciarossa Brewer, New Jersey’s Long-Term Care Ombudsman**. “They’re laid out like hospitals. They’re often understaffed. Most people would not choose to live in a

nursing home, and many of them don't need that level of care. I Choose Home NJ gives people in institutions a path to a better life and helps to expand home- and community-based services for everyone."

I Choose Home NJ can assist current nursing home residents who are eligible for Medicaid and have lived in the nursing home for 60 days or more.

People who are interested can call **1-855-HOME 005** or visit [ichoosehome.nj.gov](https://www.ichoosehome.nj.gov) to learn more about the program.



Pictured (left to right): Stacey Flanagan, Jersey City Director of Health and Human Services; Alex Richter, Executive Director and Head of SciTech Scity Innovation Hub; Dana Klar, Chief of Staff, Northeast Region, RWJBarnabas Health; Commissioner Sarah Adelman; Paul Hoffman, President and CEO, Liberty Science Center; Hannah Katz, Senior Director, SciTech Scity Innovation Hub

World Economic Forum Honors Liberty Science Center's SciTech Scity Healthcare Innovation Engine with

2025 Public-Private Collaboration Award

The [World Economic Forum](#) (WEF) has awarded its prestigious 2025 Public-Private Collaboration Award to the Healthcare Innovation Engine, a flagship initiative of [SciTech Scity](#), [Liberty Science Center's](#) 30-acre innovation campus currently under development in Jersey City.

“For more than thirty years, Liberty Science Center has stood as a proud symbol of New Jersey’s pioneering legacy in science and innovation. Its work through SciTech Scity’s Healthcare Innovation Engine embodies the innovative spirit of our state, and this recognition by the World Economic Forum is a testament to its importance in promoting science innovation,” **Governor Phil Murphy said.** “The Healthcare Innovation Engine team is doing a tremendous job bringing together cross-sector partners, using science and technology to advance healthcare access for our residents.”

“We are inspired by what the Engine is building: pilots that address chronic disease, maternal health, and post-hospital care,” **Commissioner Sarah Adelman said.** “These are not theoretical models. They are real solutions making a real difference. They demonstrate what’s possible when government, science, and industry align around a shared purpose New Jersey has always been a place of firsts – of discovery, invention, and progress. The Healthcare Innovation Engine continues that legacy, proving that when we center people and partnerships, innovation can truly serve the public good.”

Read more [HERE](#)



Members of the [Division of Developmental Disabilities' Self-Advocacy Advisory Committee](#) were invited to teach a class for graduate students at [Seton Hall University](#). The students, who are training to become Physician Assistants, had the opportunity to hear directly from self-advocates with lived experience navigating various healthcare systems. Carmelys, Amanda, Michael and Pam shared personal stories and insights that highlighted both challenges and successes in accessing care. Their stories underscored the importance of person-centered, respectful, and dignified support when working with adults with disabilities.



Staff and residents at developmental centers have been rolling up their sleeves for flu and COVID-19 vaccinations. Staying up-to-date on these important vaccines is crucial for health and well-being. Human Services encourages everyone to get their flu shot and discuss COVID-19 and other vaccinations with their medical provider. Commissioner Sarah Adelman and Deputy Commissioner for Aging and Disability Services Kaylee McGuire led by example by recently receiving their shots at the Woodbine Developmental Center clinic.





The [Division of Disability Service's Inclusive Healthy Communities](#) program hosted an **Inclusivity Summit** at [Brookdale Community College](#) featuring sessions and workshops on themes such as arts inclusion, access to nature, and engaging immigrant communities. The summit was a chance for networking, collaboration and capacity building and included a keynote address from Valerie Fletcher from the [Institute for Human Centered Design](#) and remarks from Deputy Commissioner for Aging and Disability Services Kaylee McGuire.



[Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired](#) Executive Director Dr. Bernice Davis joined the [National Federation of the Blind of New Jersey's](#) (NFBNJ) 49th Annual State Convention to discuss how the Commission is making a difference in the lives of blind New Jerseyans.

She was joined by NFBNJ President Linda Melendez. The Commission's programs and services are designed to enable consumers to achieve full inclusion and integration in society through success in employment, independent living, and social self-sufficiency.

Find more info [HERE](#).



New Jersey Human Services held its annual department-wide **Breast Cancer Awareness Walk & Pink Out** on October 8th. Divisions took lunch breaks to gather, take photos, and walk in support and in memory of those who battled this disease.

To check out all of the photos, visit [HERE](#).



Deputy Commissioner for Aging and Disability Services Kaylee McGuire shared Human Services' vision for strong services and promoting equality for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities during the [Community Options](#) fall conference. The panel on the role of state government in shaping disability services included Timothy Hickman (TN) and Patricia Sastoque (MD), and was moderated by Community Options' Sukaina Barlas.



Deputy Commissioner for Aging and Disability Services Kaylee McGuire helped Bergen County celebrate local organizations making a difference through disability employment. [Carson's Cookie Dough](#), [SC Vistula](#) and the [STRIVE Program](#) all received a [Salute to Champions award](#) in honor of **National Disability Employment Awareness Month**. Deputy Commissioner McGuire commended the organizations for supporting “the chance to work hard at work worth doing,” a quote from President Theodore Roosevelt.

October marks the 80th observation of National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Last year, national employment increased to 42.2% for individuals with disabilities in the labor market. New Jersey Human Services continues to work with the business community to increase opportunities for vocational training, competitive employment, and meaningful work for people with disabilities across the state.



[The Division of Disability Services](#) (DDS) hosted New Jersey's first Traumatic Brain Injury State Action Plan Conference. In attendance were DDS Interim Executive Director Jacqueline A. Moskowitz, Assistant Director Adam Neary, DDS Administrator Margaret Lumia, Information & Referral Services representatives, the [Traumatic Brain Injury Fund](#) team, and other leaders and staff from the division and community partners.

The day was particularly successful thanks to the many members of the New Jersey Advisory Council on Traumatic Brain Injury & the Survivor Board. The shared goal of the day was to create stronger programs and initiatives to better serve those living with a traumatic brain injury in our state.



The [Division of Disability Services](#) Community Outreach Team staffed a resource table at the [Brain Injury Alliance of New Jersey](#) 5k Run/Walk/Roll for **Brain Injury Awareness** in Bradley Beach.



Blindness Awareness Month Community Outreach Fair

To spotlight **Blindness Awareness Month**, the [Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired](#), led by Executive Director Dr. Bernice Davis, held its fourth annual Community Outreach Fair at [Cheesequake State Park](#). Activities included exhibits, demonstrations, a guided nature hike, reading

Governor Murphy's Blindness Awareness Month proclamation, and marking
Breast Cancer Awareness Month.





[Human Services Police](#) Central Region officers participated in the **Trunk Or Treat** event at the [New Jersey Department of Children and Families](#) Regional School – Mercer Campus as part of its continued effort to build positive relationships and support local communities.



Congratulations to Officer Jeremy Weiner who successfully completed the Passaic County Police Academy. Officer Weiner will be assigned to Central Region Command.



The NJ Human Services [Office of Emergency Management](#) team conducted Pathways to Preparedness Training at Ocean Towers in Jersey City and Baxter Apartments in Newark. The training is free and provides disaster and emergency preparedness information and resources to those who attend. All attendees receive a preparedness booklet, go bag, solar charger and a thumb drive containing all information and documents in an accessible format. To schedule a training session for your organization please call 609-631-4363 or email eocesf6@njsp.gov.



Governor's Proclamations



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation.

WHEREAS, it is estimated that approximately 20% of the United States' population has some type of disability, and that 27% (1.6 million people) or nearly 1 in 4 adults living in New Jersey have some type of disability; and

WHEREAS, people with disabilities are vital members of our Great State and

WHEREAS, October marks National Disability Employment Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, people with disabilities living in New Jersey actively and dynamically labor just as their non-disabled counterparts do for our economy; and

WHEREAS, when people with disabilities share their knowledge, skills and abilities and

WHEREAS, innovative and inclusive employers who are at the forefront of creating successful and sustainable employment opportunities for people with disabilities should be recognized; and

WHEREAS, the contributions made by people with disabilities in all occupations, across all industries, throughout the state should be acknowledged; and

WHEREAS, the development of economic and skill-building opportunities that support a fully integrated workforce in New Jersey that employ people with all types of abilities is a necessary endeavor; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

OCTOBER 2025
AS
DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

in New Jersey.

GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this fourth day of September in the year two thousand twenty-five, the two hundred fifty-sixth year of the Independence of the United States.

LL GOVERNOR

Philip D. Murphy
GOVERNOR

Disability Employment
Awareness Month

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation.

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey became a trailblazer in 1965, with the establishment of the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (CBVI), one of the nation's first state agencies dedicated exclusively to the unique educational, vocational, and day-to-day life needs of people who are blind, deafblind, or visually impaired; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that about 200,000 New Jersey residents live with blindness or severe vision loss; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the CBVI is to promote and provide services in the areas of education, employment, independence, and eye health through informed choice and in partnership with the community, and persons who are blind, deafblind or visually impaired and their families; and

WHEREAS, CBVI has always recognized the importance of providing services that facilitate access to opportunities that will enable people with vision loss to obtain their fullest measure of self-reliance and improved quality of life, as well as proactively endeavoring to ensure their dignified treatment as individuals who are able to fully participate in and contribute to our society; and

WHEREAS, CBVI continues to work in partnership with consumers and all individuals and organizations that share their goal to prepare for the future while promoting the best measure of talent and ability represented by people who are blind, deafblind, or visually impaired;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

OCTOBER 2025
AS
BLINDNESS AWARENESS MONTH

in New Jersey.

GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this fourth day of September in the year two thousand twenty-five, the two hundred fifty-sixth year of the Independence of the United States.

LL GOVERNOR

Philip D. Murphy
GOVERNOR

Blindness
Awareness Month

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation.

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey became a trailblazer in 1955, with the establishment of the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (CBVI), one of the nation's first state agencies dedicated exclusively to the unique educational, vocational, and day-to-day life needs of people who are blind, deafblind or visually impaired; and

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WHEREAS, CBVI continues to work in partnership with consumers and all individuals and organizations that share their goal to prepare for the future while promoting the best measure of talent and ability represented by people who are blind, deafblind, or visually impaired;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

OCTOBER 2025
AS
BLINDNESS AWARENESS MONTH

in New Jersey.

GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this fourth day of September in the year two thousand twenty-five, the two hundred fifty-sixth year of the Independence of the United States.

LL GOVERNOR

Philip D. Murphy
GOVERNOR

Mental Illness
Awareness Week



October 9th was **Ageism Awareness Day**. Let us work together to reframe aging in our communities and make them more age-friendly.

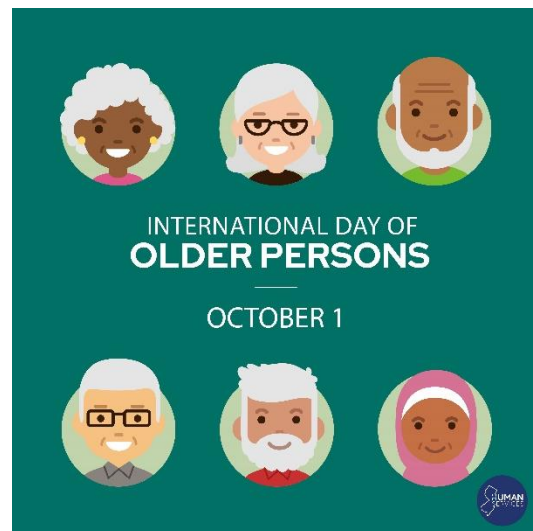
Learn how you can help make New Jersey more age-friendly [HERE](#).

And check out the American Society on Aging's Ageism Fact Sheet for information on the impact of ageism [HERE](#).

October 1st was **International Day of Older Persons** and a great time to highlight [NJSave!](#)

See if you're eligible to save money on Medicare premiums, prescription costs and other living expenses.

Apply today [HERE](#)!





National Braille Week, observed October 14th-19th, was a great time to highlight the importance and relevance of braille in literacy for people who are blind or visually impaired. The [George F. Meyer Center](#), run by the [Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired](#), provides accessible reading materials to more than 2,000 students throughout NJ. Check out our video with audio description showing the important work the center does for people who are blind or visually impaired.

NJFAMILYCARE | **Cover All Kids**



Now, all children can apply for NJ FamilyCare, regardless of their immigration status.

Visit njfamilycare.org to learn more and apply. Or call 1-800-701-0710 (TTY: 711)



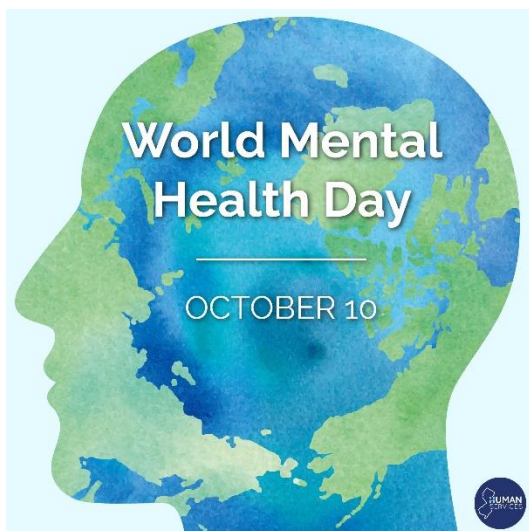
October 6th was **Child Health Day**.

Children are eligible for NJ FamilyCare regardless of immigration status.

Please visit [HERE](#) to learn more and apply for affordable health coverage and quality care. Or call 1-800-701-0710 (TTY: 711)

October 9th was **World Sight Day**. Blindness and vision impairment are major international public health issues. The [Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired](#) has programs to help consumers achieve full integration in society through success in employment, independent living and more. For more info, visit our website [HERE](#).





October 10th was

World Mental Health Day.

988 is a direct 24/7 connection to accessible and compassionate support and resources to anyone experiencing psychiatric or emotional distress or those worried about a loved one.

📞 Call/Text 988

💻 Chat 988lifeline.org

October 15th was

Blind Americans Equality Day, a day to highlight the contributions of individuals who are blind, deafblind & visually impaired and provide resources to empower them.

Visit the [Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired](#)'s website [HERE](#) to learn more about our programs and services.





October was **National Medicine Abuse Awareness Month**.

Discard your unused medicine safely! [National Drug Take Back Day](#) was October 25th. In New Jersey, [Project Medicine Drop](#) has drop-off locations set up in every county.

🔍 Click [HERE](#) to find one in your area.

October was **Down Syndrome Awareness Month**. Join us in celebrating the abilities of people with Down syndrome and promoting the fact that they are so much more than just their diagnosis.



FOLLOW US!



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