# Volunteer NJ!

November 2025

## NJSNAP Updates

The Office of Volunteerism continues to monitor needs at food distribution sites statewide and stands ready to deploy additional support as needed.

"In New Jersey, we are proud to help our neighbors in times of need," said Lieutenant Governor Tahesha Way, who oversees the Office of Volunteerism in her capacity as Secretary of State. "The Office of Volunteerism and AmeriCorps have shown outstanding leadership and collaboration, working alongside our emergency management and food security partners to ensure New Jersey families receive the support they need during this challenging time."

SNAP food assistance recipients should check their accounts at **NJFamiliesFirst.com**; call 800-997-3333; and visit **njsnap.gov** or **nj.gov/snapshutdown** for updates on the status of their SNAP benefits. Residents are encouraged to locate food pantries and community kitchens via NJ 211 **here**.

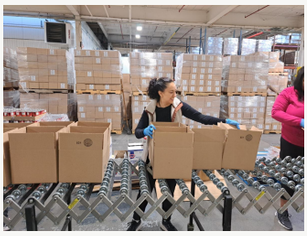
The NJ Governor's Office of Volunteerism is working closely with NJVOAD (NJ Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster) and the NJOEM (NJ Office of Emergency Services) to compile additional resources available for NJ Residents.

**Visit our Resource Page**

## AmeriCorps Members Deployed

In Response to SNAP Crisis

NJ AmeriCorps Members and staff were deployed to the Community Food Bank of NJ the week of November 3rd and have been continuing their service daily to assist the CFBNJ during this time of overwhelming need.
Learn more about NJ AmeriCorps



NJ Commission on National Community Service member Anne Ciemnecki and her son David joined AmeriCorps members and staff, supporting their efforts.

You can read the full press release here.

## How Can I Help?

Thank you for your interest and willingness to help those in need during this crisis!

**The best way to help is by making a MONETARY donation to your local food bank/pantry.**

Food banks and pantries are able to purchase food and supplies at a discounted rate, your dollar will go furthest when donated directly to these organizations.
Donated food requires sorting and will be a drain on personnel.
Rather than a food drive, consider a fundraiser to generate funds for your local organizations.
Remember to keep your efforts local!

**Please, never self deploy to volunteer at a food bank/pantry!**
Always contact an organization before showing up to volunteer!

### NJ Volunteer Opportunities

**North Jersey**

**Drive for Good: Deliver Meals to Those in Need**
**Become a Volunteer Tutor!: Literacy Volunteers of America**
**Cheer on a new Kindergartener!**
**Arts and Crafts Volunteer**
**Food Pantry Volunteer**

**Central Jersey**

**Income Tax Training - Milltown**
**Income Tax Training - Monmouth County**
**Wayfinder Volunteer**
**Become a Tax Volunteer!**
**Drive for Good: Deliver Meals to Those in Need**

**South Jersey**

**Advocate for Children in Foster Care - Camden County**
**Setup Crew — Christmas Social Event**
**Advocate for Victims of Sexual & Domestic Violence**
**Prepare a Meal at the Ronald McDonald House of SNJ**
**Learning Center - Homework Mentor**

Looking for a specific volunteer opportunity?
Visit our Volunteer Hub

## Celebrate Volunteers this November!

As we give thanks this November, you can thank your favorite volunteer(s) by nominating them for a NJ State Governor's Volunteerism Award. Every nominee receives a copy of their nomination which shows them your gratitude during the holidays.

We know volunteers don't do what they do for the praise, but as we celebrate the holidays what better way to show volunteers how much you appreciate them and all that they do!

For more information: njgovernorsawards.org

# Call for Proposals!

The New Jersey Governor's Office of Volunteerism and New Jersey Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster are hosting our bi-annual conference on Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at The Palace at Somerset Park. This in-person conference, entitled *Honoring Our Journey, Igniting Our Future: Uniting for Impact*, brings together hundreds of participants from non-profit, faith-based, corporate, educational, governmental and National Service organizations from across New Jersey.

We invite you to submit a proposal to present a breakout session for this conference!

Breakout sessions will be 75 minutes long.
Proposals must be submitted by **Friday, November 14th.**

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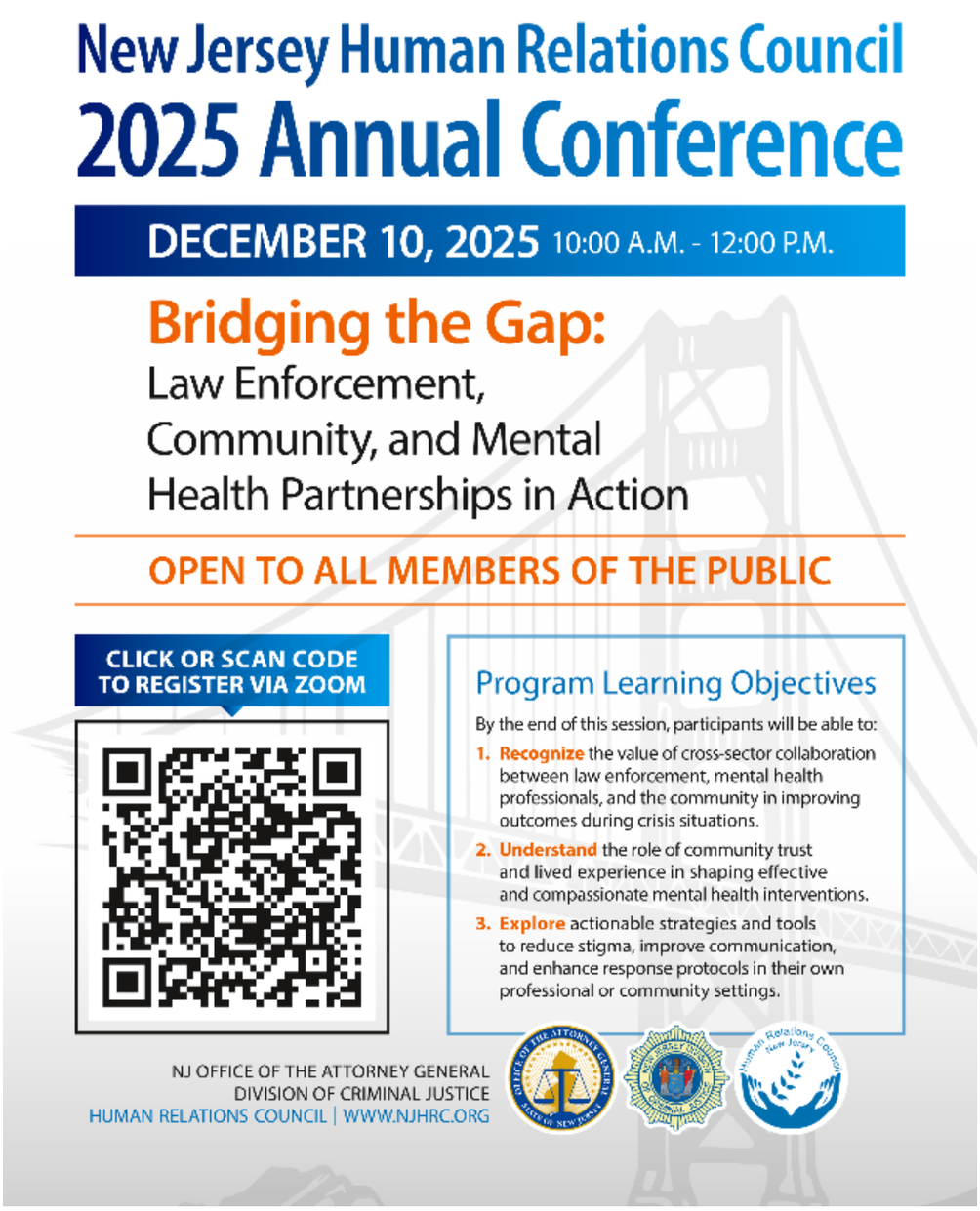
# Register Today!

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JERSEY CARES

## CORPORATE SERVICE PROGRAM

Build a Custom Project for your Employees

Volunteering with your colleagues this holiday season is a meaningful

way to embrace the spirit of giving and create lasting memories together. Through the **Jersey Cares Corporate Service Program**, your team can brighten the holidays by wrapping gifts for children whose holidays might otherwise go unnoticed, deliver winter warmth and comfort to isolated seniors with heartfelt care packages or host holiday celebrations in the community. Every project is thoughtfully crafted to nurture connections, and fill both your hearts and the community with hope.

In-person and virtual holiday projects are available now through December 19th. **Click here** to learn more about Jersey Cares Corporate Service Program or reach out to Kathleen McGlynn at **kmcglynn@jerseycares.org** to start planning!

## Participate in the 2026 Youth Leadership Summit on MLK Day of Service January 19, 2026

On January 19, 2026, the nation will celebrate the**Martin Luther King, Jr., Day of Service**, where Americans volunteer to honor Dr. King's legacy. Through service and volunteerism, we have the power to bring people together, help others stand together against hate, build bridges, heal divides, and create the Beloved Community of Dr. King's dreams. One way to celebrate MLK Day of Service is to participate in the virtual **2026 Youth Leadership Summit** on Monday, January 19 from 10:30am - 2:30pm Central.

Ready to lead change and make your voice heard? The**2026 Youth Leadership Summit** is a youth-led gathering where students from across the country unite to build leadership skills, share bold ideas, and explore how young people can create real impact in their schools and communities.

Developed by NYLC's Youth Advisory Council, every session is crafted by and for young leaders. Through peer-led workshops and interactive experiences, the summit highlights the passions, challenges, and opportunities that matter most to youth today.

Whether you're new to leadership or ready to take your influence to the next level, the Youth Leadership Summit is your place to connect, grow, and take action.

**Learn More & Register for the 2026 Youth Leadership Summit**

## Spread the News about NJ Volunteerism!

You can join our monthly newsletter by following this link:
https://bit.ly/NJVolMonthly
or using this QR code

Do you have NJ Volunteerism News that you want to share?
Email **heather.tedesco@sos.nj.gov**

NJ Governor's Office of Volunteerism
609-633-9627
VolunteerNJ@sos.nj.gov
www.volunteerism.nj.gov

Connect with us

The New Jersey Governor's Office of Volunteerism (NJGOV), operating within the New Jersey Department of State, supports NJ's 1.9 million volunteers with training and recognition while matching community needs in partnership with volunteer centers, disaster response organizations, business volunteers, schools, colleges, faith-based organizations and community organizations.

Governor's Office of Volunteerism, NJ DOS | PO Box 456 | Trenton, NJ 08625 US

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