

## **Community Partnerships**

*The purpose of this document is to list any community organizations that may offer assistance to families. We don't individually support or recommend any specific organization.*

*Please reach out to your school guidance counselor or social worker if you have questions.*

***Here are some of the questions where you might be able to find a resource in this document.***

How can I find additional food for my family?

How do I find health care services?

Who can I call if I can't pay my bills?

Where can I get help if there is a domestic violence issue in my home?

How can I get help filling out the FAFSA (financial aid) forms for college?

Where can I receive help from someone in my native language?

Is there a program for my family if I am no longer eligible for welfare benefits?

Where can I report child abuse or neglect?

Where do I go if my family becomes homeless?

Where can I find wraparound services for my child?

I am a grandparent taking care of my grandchildren. Are there resources available?

Where can I find low cost or free internet or phone services?

Is there a helpline specifically for women in crisis?

What is the substance abuse helpline?

## **Financial Assistance**

### **Key Agencies and Support Organizations**

**Mercer County Board of Social Services** is the agency to go to for cash assistance and other social supports. Here is the [LINK](#) or call 609-989-4320.

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**The United Way of Mercer County** has a single point of contact to help with the following:

- Health Insurance
- SNAP (food assistance)
- Tax preparation
- College Financial Aid Forms
- Referrals for Community Resources

Call 609-637-4917 or dial 211 or use this [LINK](#)

For someone to help offer resources in your **native language** connect to [www.nj211.org](http://www.nj211.org) or dial 2-1-1

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**NJ SAVE** helps low income families and seniors with financial assistance in many areas. Here is the [LINK](#) to apply for assistance.

## **Computers/Internet**

TDI Connect provides refurbished computers to families in need. Click this [LINK](#) to fill out a form.

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Internet Essentials from Comcast provides low cost internet access. Click this [LINK](#) to fill out an application. They also offer low cost computers.

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Verizon – Verizon Link Up America & Communications Lifeline – call 888.337.3339 – affordable telephone service for low Income; or visit <http://www.njshares.org/otherprograms/communications-lifeline.asp> for more info

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Assurance Wireless – low income service for cell phone; call 888.898.4888 or [www.assurancewireless.com](http://www.assurancewireless.com)

## **Energy Assistance**

The [Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program](#) (LIHEAP) helps low-income residential customers pay for heating and cooling bills, even if heat is included as part of rent payments. LIHEAP may also provide emergency assistance funds during certain times of the year.

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The Universal Services Fund [LINK](#) can lower the amount you have to pay for natural gas and electricity.

### **Housing/Rent**

**Arm In Arm** helps neighbors in need stabilize their housing through security deposit assistance, back rent or foreclosure support, and utilities assistance. Households with complex barriers to stability may be referred to our housing stability case management program for longer term support. Arm In Arm also offers financial literacy and budgeting sessions to those seeking housing assistance.

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[Homefront](#) has a variety of programs to help avoid homelessness, call 609-989-9417

### **Food Banks**

Trenton Area Free Food Resources [LINK](#) , This link will take you to a list of all the locations in our area where you can get food. You may go to any food bank regardless of where you live. You will not be asked for any personal information.

### **Health Care Services**

#### **Help Contact Numbers for Emergencies**

**For an Immediate Emergency Dial 911**

Mercer County Crisis Center 609-396-4357

NJ Suicide Helpline 1-855-654-6735

Addiction Hotline 1-800-238-2333

Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-572-7233

Child Care Help Line 1-800-332-9227

ReachNJ Helpline 1-844-ReachNJ

Veteran's Counseling Hotline 1-866-838-765

## **Key Agencies and Support Organizations**

The [NJHelps Services Home Page](#) is designed to give consumers a “one-stop” shopping resource for the wide range of programs, information, and services provided by the Department of Human Services and its partners, to assist individuals, families, and communities throughout the State of New Jersey.

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**PerformCare** partners with the [New Jersey Children's System of Care \(CSOC\)](#) to coordinate the care of your child. New Jersey Children’s System of Care addresses behavioral, mental health, or emotional challenges and provides access to needed services. The contact number is 1-877-652-7624. Services through [Capitol Kids](#) can be accessed through PerformCare.

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**The Department of Children and Families** is a state agency devoted exclusively to serving and supporting at-risk children and families. Here is a [LINK](#) to their website. They provide a lot of resources for families. Most importantly, contact them about child abuse or neglect at 1-877 NJ ABUSE (1-877-652-2873).

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**Catholic Charities** provides the highest quality of care to those seeking addiction recovery, mental health services and domestic violence treatment. NEED HELP? CALL 1-800-360-7711

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**Hamilton Area YMCA** supports a wide range of community connections located [HERE](#). This includes child care and enrichment programs. [info@hamiltonymca.org](mailto:info@hamiltonymca.org)

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<https://www.mercerresourcenet.org/> Families can find specific recreational activities, health providers, support groups, and events in your area. Health Providers and Community Organizations are able to list their community and health resources, hotlines, support groups, and events.

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**Mercer County Office of the Aging** [Mercer County's Aging & Disability Resource Connection \(ADRC\)](#) is the doorway to information for seniors, adults with physical disabilities age 18 or older, *family caregivers*, and private-pay consumers to find out what is available and help them access services quickly. 609-989-6661

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**St. Vincent DePaul Society of Trenton** provides spiritual counseling and assistance to Mercer County residents. They may be reached on their webpage <http://www.svdptrenton.org/contact-us> or by calling 609-557-SVDP (7837)

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**Women's Referral Central Hotline**

1 (800) 322-8092

24 hours a day/7 days a week

The Women's Referral Central Hotline provides comprehensive information, referrals, active listening, and crisis response for issues confronting New Jersey residents, including but not limited to:

- Child Care
- Discrimination
- Displaced Homemaker
- Divorce
- Employment
- Housing
- Job Training
- Legal Assistance
- Single Parenting
- Social Services

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**Jewish Family and Children's Services of Greater Mercer County:** Offering free 30-minute drop-in sessions with a licensed counselor for youth experiencing anxiety, stress and/or grief over missed milestones and the absence of youth rituals. Monday, Wednesdays, Fridays 10am – 12pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays 5pm to pm. Call 609-987-8100 & dial 0.

<https://www.jfcsonline.org/>

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**Children's Futures (Trenton-serving Mercer County)**

15 West Front Street, Suite 220, Trenton, NJ 08608

<https://childrensfutures.org>

Created in 2001 by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Children's Futures works across Central Jersey to ensure that all children and families get off to a healthy start in life. At our core, we aim to increase opportunities for health and wellness and to ward off health and social problems that can lead to a lifetime of illness and dependency.

They provide free pregnancy tests and pre-natal vitamins and distribute diapers and formula (while supplies last). The nurses and doulas are providing support to their clients via telehealth. There are parenting education sessions held virtually as well with our Case Manager.

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## **Addiction**

**Mercer Council on Alcoholism and Drug Addiction** creates pathways to reduce substance related challenges through education, support, advocacy, and partnerships throughout our community. Here is a [LINK](#) to their website.

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**NJ Addictions Hotline** For anyone desiring assistance or referral for treatment, call 1-844-276-2777. This hotline is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can also call the Camden County Addiction Local Hotline at 856-374-6361 Camden County Mental Health and Addiction Resources For a full list of available county services (Look for the link to Mercer County)

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**The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)** has a national helpline at 1-800-985-5990, or text officials there at TalkWithUs to 66746 (TTY 1-800-846-8517).

## **Health Insurance/Prescriptions**

**NJ FamilyCare** provides free or low cost health insurance for uninsured children and certain low income parents. For more information call 1-800-701-0710 or visit <http://www.njfamilycare.org/> to apply online.

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**Rx4NJ** – A Partnership for Prescription Assistance for low-income, uninsured NJ residents for free or nearly free, prescription medicine; call 888-793-6765 or visit [www.rx4nj.org](http://www.rx4nj.org)

## **Immunizations**

The Hamilton Health Department can provide free immunizations if your child/student does not have health insurance. Please see [Information on Health Department](#) for more information.  
609-880-3884

## **Counseling/Crisis Response/Mental Health**

**Mobile response stabilization services (MRSS)**- PerformCare also has options to authorize mobile response stabilization services (MRSS) to come to your home within one hour of notification to provide face-to-face crisis services. The goal is to stabilize behavior and keep your child at home. Mobile response is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and can offer up to eight weeks of stabilization services. The contact number is 1-877-652-7624.

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**Mercer County FSO** is committed to providing support, education and advocacy to families of children with Emotional, Behavioral and Mental Health Challenges, including ID/DD and Substance Abuse. They can be reached at 609-586-1200, or you can fill out the contact info [HERE](#).

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**Jefferson Crisis Center** provides crisis counseling, please dial 911 or dial 856-428-4357.

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**The Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care** has a center that connects callers to the appropriate division of statewide behavioral health services system at 1-800-969-5300.

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You can also call 1-800-273-TALK (8255) to reach a 24-hour crisis center or text MHA to 741741 at the Crisis Text Line.

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**The Disaster Distress Helpline (DDH)** provides crisis counseling and support for anyone in the U.S. experiencing distress or other behavioral health concerns related to any natural or human-caused disaster, including public health emergencies. Call 1-800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs to 66746.

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**The Trevor Project** is a confidential suicide hotline for LGBTQ youth. Call 1-866-488-7386 or text START to 678678. A national 24-hour, toll-free confidential suicide hotline for LGBTQ youth.

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**NJ Hope Line** for suicide prevention, available at 1-855-654-6735.

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**Crisis Text Line:** Free text line, 24/7 support for those in crisis. Text HOME to 741741

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**2nd Floor Youth Helpline of NJ** - CALL 888-222-2228 a confidential and anonymous helpline for New Jersey's youth and young adults. They are available 24/7.

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[COVID Response Directory](#) is a comprehensive directory of resources.

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### **Domestic Violence Crisis**

**NJ Domestic Violence Hotline** - Provides a statewide 24-hour, seven-day-a-week domestic violence hotline to serve domestic violence victims and others seeking information about domestic violence. The Hotline provides bilingual service and is accessible to the hearing impaired. For help, call the Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-572-SAFE (7233).

### **Sexual Assault**

**New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NJCASA) Hotline** is the collective voice for victims of sexual violence, their loved ones and rape crisis centers across New Jersey. The hotline connects individuals affected by sexual violence with professionals that provide assistance and referrals. Calls are routed to the closest rape crisis care center.

1 (800) 601-7200, 24 hours a day/7 days a week

### **Educational Supports**

**EXCELLENCE THROUGH EDUCATION (E.T.E)** Is a committed organization that supports and affirms students and staff of African-American descent by: Providing mentoring to teachers and students; Providing academic scholarships and merit awards yearly; Contribute to academic



success through several means: recruitment and retention, creating a positive and supportive work environment and helping to deliver the commitment to diversity and inclusion to name a few; Aid in the attraction and retention of new hires.

### **Support Groups**

**Mercer County Youth Partnership** is an advocacy group for youth ages 13-21. The mission of the Mercer County Youth Partnership is to reduce the stigma and discrimination associated with those who are labeled 'different' in our society. MCYP is youth driven! For more information or to attend a group, pls call: 609-586-1200 x223.

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**John O Wilson Center** provides coordinated services that will improve the quality of life for low-income individuals and other persons in need. [LINK](#) Call (609) 393-6480

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[NJ Kinship Legal Guardianship Resource Clearing House](#) An Information Center for Kinship Care Families, 1-877-KLG-LINE (1-877-554-5463). [The Children's Home Society](#) runs a kinship navigator program for Mercer County.

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[Grandparents Raising Grandchildren](#) Review the article and then click [HERE](#) to view resources in New Jersey.