HOUSING SEARCH QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

For Nursing Home Residents

2015

www.IChooseHome.nj.gov

Created by I Choose Home NJ
New Jersey's Money Follows the Person Program
Chris Christie, Governor
Kim Guadagno, Lt. Governor

I Choose Home NJ

I Choose Home – NJ (also known as Money Follows the Person) is a federal/ state program with two main goals:

- to move people out of nursing homes and developmental centers into the community with the in-home services they need; and
- to re-invest Medicaid dollars saved into home and community-based services to grow the system.

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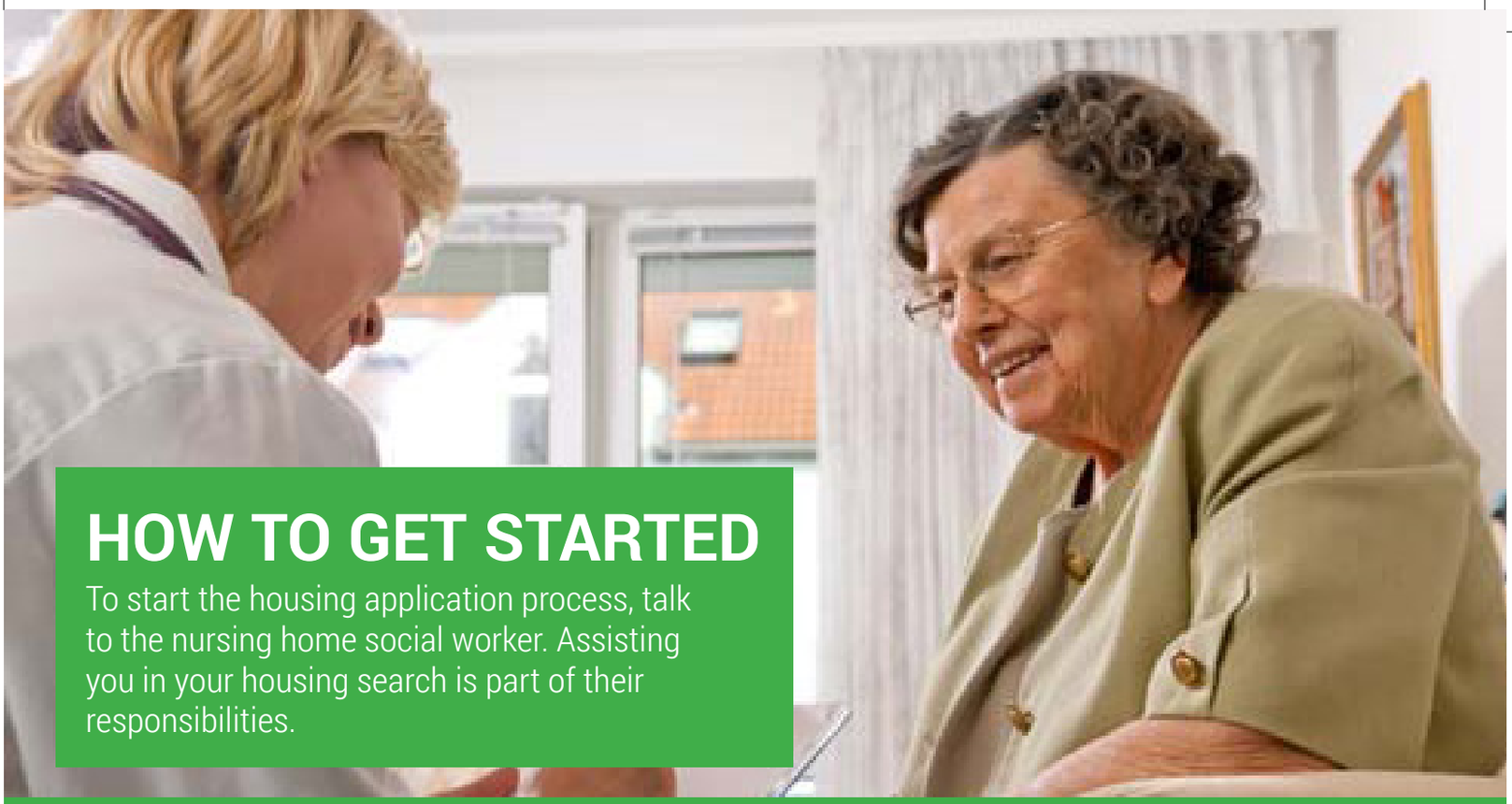

HOW TO GET STARTED

To start the housing application process, talk to the nursing home social worker. Assisting you in your housing search is part of their responsibilities.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Moving out of the nursing home takes time and will not be immediate.
- Your commitment and hard work is necessary.
- People can help you (facility social worker, your MCO* care manager, the state nurse, the housing specialist, your family and friends).
- Many affordable and accessible housing complexes have waiting lists.
- Personal identification documents are needed to complete housing applications.
- The housing application process may require a credit and background check.

It is important that you disclose all issues (credit, criminal history, unpaid utilities, etc.) that may slow the lease-up process so that they may be dealt with up front before becoming an issue with your move.

* Managed Care Organization

ASK ABOUT
IN-HOME SERVICES

If eligible, Community Transition Services may be available to help you move into your new home. Services could include:

- Payment of security deposit, utility deposits, furniture, linens, pots and pans, groceries, etc.

Other in-home services could include:

- Case management, personal care attendant, special and durable medical equipment, adult day care, transportation, home-delivered meals, personal emergency response system, etc.

For more information, talk to your social worker, MCO care manager, or state nurse. You can also call 1-855-466-3005 or visit: www.IChooseHome.nj.gov.

TYPES OF HOUSING

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- In New Jersey, this means you generally should contribute no more than 30% - 40% of your income towards your housing costs.
- You can find affordable housing through many different sources – your local Public Housing Authority, online through websites such as Craigslist, through a private realtor, or by using free housing resources specific to low-income people (see p. 10).
- A list of NJ's Public Housing Authorities is included in this packet (pp. 11-16).
- Current information on affordable housing options by county can be found online at: http://www.ichoosehome.nj.gov/ooie/ichoose/housing.shtml

SUBSIDIZED HOUSING

If eligible, a portion of the rent is paid by a state or federal agency through a local housing provider such as a public housing authority. There are two types:

- Tenant-based rental assistance
  - Example: Section 8 Voucher, NED2 Voucher
  - Often have waiting lists
- Project-based rental assistance
  - To receive the assistance you must live in a unit at a specific building to which the subsidy is attached.
  - Often have waiting lists
- To apply for subsidized housing, contact the Department of Community Affairs (DCA Regional Office List on p.10) or your local Public Housing Authority (pp. 11-16).
- After you send your paperwork to the DCA regional office and they find you eligible, they will interview you in a "Briefing." After this, the next step is "Housing Search," in which you will be expected to actively look for housing.

ACCESSIBLE HOUSING

Housing units that have features to help meet the needs of individuals with mobility, hearing and vision impairments are considered accessible.

Types of accessible features that you may need, include:

- wide doorways
- space for wheelchairs
- lower countertops
- lever and loop type handles as hardware
- seats at bathing fixtures
- grab bars in bathrooms
- knee spaces under sinks and counters
- audible and visual signals
- switches and controls in easily reached locations
- entrances free of steps and stairs
- an accessible route through the house

DOCUMENTS NEEDED
FOR HOUSING APPLICATION

CHECK LIST

- ○ Birth Certificate
- ○ Social Security Card
- ○ Picture ID
- ○ Current Proof of Income
  - ○ Social Security
  - ○ VA Benefits
  - ○ Other

WHAT IF I DO NOT HAVE THE DOCUMENTS NEEDED TO APPLY?

- Ask your family, friends or nursing home social worker to help you.
- Social security cards can be obtained from the Social Security Administration.
- Photo IDs can be obtained from your local NJ Motor Vehicle Commission office and from some NJ counties.
- Birth certificates can be obtained from the NJ Department of Health Office of Vital Statistics.

GETTING YOUR...

SOCIAL SECURITY CARD

Contact the Social Security Administration

- Telephone: 1-800-772-1213 (Toll Free)
- Online: www.ssa.gov

PHOTO I.D.

Contact or visit your local NJ Motor Vehicle Commission Office

- You can get a photo ID even if you don't have/need a drivers license.
- Online information at http://www.state.nj.us/mvc
- Call 1-888-486-3339 (toll free)

Several NJ counties also provide photo ID's. Contact the county where you live for more information.

BIRTH CERTIFICATE

Call the Office of Vital Statistics in the town or city where you were born.

- Ask for an application and ask what information and documents are required.
- Links for each state's rule and contacts can be found on the CDC website: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/w2w.htm

If you were born in NJ, you can apply online here:
http://www.state.nj.us/health/vital/contact.shtml

YOUR INCOME

- When you are in the nursing home, you are likely either not receiving your income (ex: social security payments or pension) or you are receiving it and paying it over to the nursing home.
- When you move out, you will need to access your monthly income to pay your living expenses in the community – including rent, utilities, food, etc.
- It is important to discuss this with the facility social worker and/or business office in advance so that you can have access to your income when you leave.
- If you are receiving SSI or SSDI, you will also need to get proof of what your income will be once you move out of the facility. This can be complicated, so you will want to work with your social worker to do this early.

HOUSING RESOURCES

NJ Housing Resource Center
- **(877) 428-8844**
- **www.njhrc.gov**

NJ 211
- Phone: 2-1-1
- www.NJ211.org

New Jersey Helps
- www.njhelps.org

HUD - Approved Housing Counseling Agencies
- http://tinyurl.com/njhudcounseling

DCA REGIONAL OFFICES

ATLANTIC/CAPE MAY
609-441-3334

BERGEN
201-996-8990

CAMDEN/BURLINGTON
856-614-3300

CUMBERLAND/
GLOUCESTER/SALEM
856-453-3820

ESSEX
973-266-2822

HUDSON
201-217-7256

MERCER
609-292-8537

MIDDLESEX
732-777-6999

MONMOUTH
732-780-6772

MORRIS/WARREN/
SUSSEX
973-627-3396

OCEAN
732-255-0818/
732-255-0819

PASSAIC
973-225-7146

SOMERSET/
HUNTERDON
908-707-9010

UNION
908-412-3700
(ext. 201/202)

NJ PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY LIST

Asbury Park	(732) 774-2660	1000 ½ 3rd Ave., Asbury Park, N.J. 077123
Atlantic City	(609) 344-1107	227 N. Vermont Ave., Atlantic City, N.J. 08401
Bayonne	(201) 339-8700	549 Avenue A, PO Box 277, Bayonne, N.J. 07002
Berkeley	(732) 269-2312	44 Frederick Dr., Bayville, N.J. 08721
Belmar	(732) 681-1795	710 8th Ave., Belmar, N.J. 07719
Bergen County	(201) 569-7454	25 Rockwood Place, Englewood, N.J. 07631
Beverly	(609) 387-0250	100 Magnolia St., Beverly, N.J. 08010
Bloomfield	(973) 680-4035	1 Municipal Plaza, Bloomfield, N.J. 07003
Boonton	(973) 335-0846	125 Chestnut St., Boonton, N.J. 07005
Brick	(732) 920-9400	165 Chambers Bridge Rd. Brick Town, N.J. 08723
Bridgeton	(856) 451-4454	110 E. Commerce St., Bridgeton, N.J. 08302
Buena	(856) 697-4852	600 Central Ave., Minotola, N.J. 08341
Burlington County	(609) 261-1000	795 Woodlane Rd., Mount Holly, N.J. 08060
Burlington	(609) 386-0246	800 Walnut St., Burlington, N.J. 08016
Camden	(856) 968-2700	2021 Watson St., 2nd Floor, Camden, N.J. 08105
Cape May	(609) 884-8703	639 Lafayette St., Cape May, N.J. 08204

NJ PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY LIST (C - G)

Carteret	(732) 541-6800	96 Roosevelt Ave., Carteret, N.J. 07008
CEC	(732) 780-1175	11 Spring St., Freehold, N.J. 07728
Cherry Hill	(856) 432-8706	820 Mercer St. Cherry Hill, N.J. 08034
Clementon	(856) 784-1134	22 Gibbsboro Rd., Clementon, N.J. 08021
Cliffside Park	(201) 941-0655	500 Gorge Rd., Cliffside Park, N.J. 07010
Clifton	(973) 470-5846	900 Clifton Ave., Clifton, N.J. 07013
Collingswood	(856) 854-1077	30 Washington Ave., Collingswood, N.J. 08108
CSPNJ	(732) 780-1175	11 Spring St., Freehold, N.J. 07728
Dover	(973) 361-9444	215 E. Blackwell St., Dover, N.J. 07801
East Orange	(973) 766-8896	160 Halsted St., East Orange, N.J. 07018
Edgewater	(201) 943-6000	300 Undercliff Ave., Edgewater, N.J. 07020
Edison	(908) 561-2525	14 Rev. Samuel Carpenter Blvd., Edison, N.J. 08820
Elizabeth	(908) 965-2400	688 Maple Ave., Elizabeth, N.J. 07202
Englewood	(201) 871-3451	111 West St., Englewood, N.J. 07631
Florence	(609) 499-0575	620 W. Third & Eyre St. Florence, N.J. 08518
Fort Lee	(201) 947-7400	1403 Teresa Dr., Fort Lee, N.J. 07024
Franklin	(732) 545-9430	25 Parkside St., Somerset, N.J. 08873
Freehold	(732) 462-2421	107 Throckmorton St., Freehold, N.J. 07728
Glassboro	(856) 881-5211	737 Lincoln Blvd., Glassboro, N.J. 08028
Gloucester City	(856) 456-5772	101 Market St., Gloucester City, N.J. 08030
Gloucester County	(856) 845-4959	100 Pop Moylan Blvd., Deptford, N.J. 08096
Guttenberg	(201) 861-0900	6900 Broadway, Guttenberg, N.J. 07093

NJ PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY LIST (H - L)

Hackensack	(201) 342-4280	65 First St., Hackensack, N.J. 07061
Haddon	(856) 854-3700	25 Wynnewood Ave., Westmont, N.J. 08108
Hamilton	(609) 890-3675	2090 Greenwood Ave., Hamilton, N.J. 08650
Harrison	(973) 483-1488	Harrison & Schuyler Ave., Harrison, N.J. 07029
Highland Park	(732) 572-4420	242 S. 6th Ave., Highland Park, N.J. 08904
Highlands	(732) 872-2022	215 Shore Dr., Highlands, N.J. 07732
Hightstown	(609) 448-2268	131 Rogers Ave., Hightstown, N.J. 08520
Hoboken	(201)798-0370	400 Harrison St., Hoboken, N.J. 07030
Hunterdon County	(908) 788-1336	8 Gauntt Place, Flemington, N.J. 08822
Irvington	(973) 375-2121	624 Nye Ave., Irvington, NJ, 07111
Jersey City Episcopal	(201)209-9301	514 Newark Ave., Jersey City, NJ 07306
Jersey City	(201) 706-4601	400 US Highway #1, Bldg. 7, Jersey City, N.J. 07734
Keansburg	(732) 787-6151	1 Church St., Keansburg, N.J. 07734
Lakewood	(732) 364-1300	317 Sampson Ave. Lakewood, N.J. 08701
Lakewood Rap	(732) 367-0660	600 West Kennedy Blvd., Lakewood, N.J. 08701
Linden	(908) 298-3820	1601 Dill Ave., Linden, N.J. 07036
Lodi	(973) 470-3650	50 Brookside Ave., Lodi, N.J. 07644
Long Branch	(732) 222-3747	2 Hope Lane, Long Branch, N.J. 07740

NJ PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY LIST (M - N)

Madison	(973) 377-0258	24 Central Ave., Madison, N.J. 07940
Manville	(908) 725-8943	325 North Main St., Manville, NJ 08835
Middlesex County	(732) 745-3025	John F. Kennedy Square, New Brunswick, N.J. 08910
Middletown	(732) 671-2990	1 Oakdale Dr. Middletown, N.J. 07748
Millville	(856) 825-8860	1153 Holly Berry Ln., Millville, N.J. 08332
Monmouth County	(732) 431-6000	3000 Kozloski Rd., Freehold, N.J. 07728
Montclair	(973) 509-4936	205 Claremont Ave., Montclair, N.J. 07042
Morristown	(973) 292-4186	31 Early St., Morristown, N.J. 07960
Morris	(973) 540-0389	99 Ketch Rd. Morristown, N.J. 07960
Neptune	(732) 774-7692	1810 Alberta Ave., Neptune, N.J. 07753
New Brunswick	(732) 745-5157	7 Van Dyke Ave. New Brunswick, N.J. 08901
Newark	(973) 273-6600	500 Broad St., Newark, N.J. 07102
Newton	(973) 383-5191	32 Liberty St., Newton, N.J. 07860
NJDCA	(609) 292-4080	101 South Broad St., Trenton, N.J. 08625
NJHMFA	(609) 278-7400	637 South Clinton Ave., Trenton, N.J. 08625
North Bergen	(201) 868-8605	6121 Grand Ave., North Bergen, N.J. 07047

NJ PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY LIST (O - R)

Ocean City	(609) 399-1062	204 Fourth St., Ocean City, N.J. 08226
Old Bridge	(732) 607-6383	2000 Route 18 North, Suite 100, Old Bridge, N.J. 08857
Orange	(973) 675-1250	340 Thomas Blvd., Orange, N.J. 07050
Passaic	(973) 365-6330	52 Aspen Place, Passaic, N.J. 07055
Passaic County	(973) 881-4369	100 Hamilton Plaza, Suite 510, Paterson, NJ 07505
Paterson DCD	(973) 345-5650	60 Van Houten St., Paterson, N.J. 07505
Paterson	(973) 345-5650	60 Van Houten St., Paterson, N.J. 07505
Penns Grove	(856) 299-0101	40 South Broad St., Penns Grove, N.J. 08069
Pennsauken	(856) 663-0514	2400 Bethel Ave., Pennsauken, N.J. 08109
Perth Amboy	(732) 826-3110	881 Amboy Ave., Perth Amboy, N.J. 08862
Phillipsburg	(908) 859-0122	530 Heckman St. Phillipsburg, N.J. 08865
Phillipsburg DCD	(908) 454-5500	675 Corliss Ave., Phillipsburg, N.J. 08865
Plainfield	(908) 769-6335	510 E. Front St., Plainfield, N.J. 07060
Pleasantville	(609) 646-3023	156 N. Main St., Pleasantville, N.J. 08232
Princeton	(609) 924-3448	1 Redding Circle, Princeton, NJ 08542
Rahway	(732) 499-0066	165 E. Grand Ave., Rahway, N.J. 07065
Red Bank	(732) 741-1808	52 Evergreen Terrace, Red Bank, N.J. 07701

NJ PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY LIST (S - W)

Salem	(856) 935-5022	205 7th St., Salem, N.J. 08079
Sayreville	(732) 721-8044	650 Washington Rd. Sayreville, N.J. 08872
Secaucus	(201) 867-2957	700 County Ave., Secaucus, N.J. 07094
Somerville	(908) 725-2300	25 West End Ave., Somerville, N.J. 08876
South Amboy	(732) 721-1831	250 S. Broadway, South Amboy, N.J. 08879
Summit	(908) 273-6413	512 Springfield Ave., Summit, N.J. 07901
Trenton	(609) 278-5042	875 New Willow St., Trenton, N.J. 08638
Union City	(201) 864-1515	3911 Kennedy Blvd., Union City, N.J. 07087
Union County	(908) 527-4227	1 Elizabethtown Plaza, 5th Fl., Admin. Bldg. Elizabeth, N.J. 07207
Union Twp.	(908) 688-2800	1976 Morris Ave., Union, N.J. 07083
Vineland	(856) 691-4099	191 W. Chestnut Ave., Vineland, N.J. 08360
Warren County	(908) 475-3989	329 Front Street, Belvidere NJ 07823
Weehawken	(201) 348-4188	525 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N.J. 07086
West New York	(201) 868-6100	6100 Adams St., West New York, N.J. 07093
West Orange	(973) 325-4107	66 Main St., West Orange, N.J. 07052
Wildwood	(609) 729-0220	3700 New Jersey Ave., Wildwood, N.J. 08260
Woodbridge	(732) 634-2750	20 Bunns Lane, Woodbridge, N.J. 07095

BACKGROUND & CREDIT CHECK

Landlords may check your credit.

Landlords may check your background.

Housing may be denied for the following reasons:

- Applicant has been convicted of manufacturing methamphetamines.*
- Applicant is a registered sex offender.*
- Applicant has a history of illegal use of a controlled substance.
- Applicant has a history of violent criminal activity.
- Other circumstances may also be considered by housing providers, including poor credit.

*If you are applying for a housing subsidy through the Department of Community Affairs/NJ Public Housing Authority, you will be denied for this reason.

YOUR CREDIT REPORT

Call 1-877-322-8228

Mail request:

Annual Credit Report

Request Service

P.O. Box 105281

Atlanta, GA 30348-5281

Online request:

www.annualcreditreport.com

REPAIRING YOUR CREDIT

Contact the NJ Division of Consumer Affairs

Call 1-888-656-6225 (toll free)

N.J. Division of Consumer Affairs
Consumer Services Center
P.O. Box 45025 Newark, NJ 07101

www.NJConsumerAffairs.gov

Requesting Reasonable Accommodation Through NJ DCA

If you have a disability, it is a reasonable accommodation to ask a worker from the regional DCA office to interview you at the nursing home.

Other reasonable accommodations throughout the DCA application process may include:

- receiving applications in large print, braille, etc.;
- getting assistance in completing applications; and
- being allowed to send someone else to pick up and drop off your application.

LEGAL HELP

LEGAL SERVICES OF NEW JERSEY

- Provides services to low income NJ residents regarding evictions, housing issues, government aid and services, disability issues, senior issues, debts, etc.

- 1(888) 576-5529 (8:00AM-5:30PM)
- www.LSNJLawHotline.org

COMMUNITY HEALTH LAW PROJECT

- Provides legal and advocacy services to New Jersey residents with disabilities.

- (973) 275-1175
- E-mail: chlpinfo@chlp.org
- www.chlp.org

Disability Rights New Jersey (DRNJ)

- Advocates and advances the human, civil and legal rights of persons with disabilities in NJ.

- 1(800) 922-7233 (toll-free in NJ only) or(609) 292-9742
- (609) 633-7106 (TTY)
- E-mail: advocate@drnj.org
- www.drnj.org

Help available in all languages and to the hearing impaired.

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION OFFICES

NJ DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CIVIL RIGHTS

COUNTY	PHONE NUMBER
Atlantic City Satellite Office	(609) 441-3100
	TTY (609) 441-7648
Camden Regional Office	(856) 614-2550
	TTY (856) 614-2574
Trenton Regional Office	(609) 292-4605
	TTY (609) 292-1785
Newark Regional Office	(973) 648-2700
	TTY (973) 648-4678
Paterson Regional Office	(973) 977-4500
	TTY (973) 977-1955

NOTARY SERVICES

- Check with your Social Worker to see if your nursing facility provides notary services.
- Call the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) in your area to see if they provide free notary services.
  - 1(877) 222-3737
- Some banks and libraries may provide notary services.
- In NJ, any attorney can serve as a notary.

TYPES OF TRANSPORTATION

MEDICAID MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION

- Arrange transportation to medical appointments by calling 1-800-356-1561 (Medicaid Hotline)

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

ACCESS LINK: 1-800-955-2321

A public transportation service for eligible people with disabilities who are unable to use the local fixed route bus.

- Individuals should apply to become eligible for Access Link while still living in the Nursing Facility.
- Service is available during the same times as the regularly scheduled local fixed bus route.
- A transit fare is charged to customers.
- It is a "shared-ride" system.
- It is a “curb to curb”

COUNTY TRANSPORTATION

COUNTY	PHONE NUMBER
Atlantic County Transportation	(609) 645-5910
Bergen County Transportation	(201) 368-5955
Burlington County Transportation	(800) 836-0580
Camden & Burlington Sen Han Transit	(856) 456-3344
Cape May Fare Free Transportation	(609) 889-3700
Cumberland Area Transit System	(856) 691-7799
Essex County Office on Aging	(973) 618-1280
Gloucester County Div. of Transport	(856) 686-8355
Hudson County, Transcend	(201) 369-4320
Hunterdon County, The Link	(800) 842-0531
Mercer T.R.A.D.E	(609) 530-1971 / (609) 275-2929
Middlesex County Transport, AWTS	(800) 221-3520
Monmouth County, SCAT	(732) 431-6480
Morris County Transportation	(973) 366-9378
Morris County – Jefferson area	(973) 208-6123
Morris County – Kinnelon, Butler, Riverdale, Pequannock, Lincoln Park	(973) 835-8885
Morris County – East Hanover, Florham Park, Madison, Chatham, Chathaw Twp., Harding, Long Hill Twp.	(973) 377-0455
Ocean County, Ocean Ride	(877) 929-2082/(732) 736-8989
Passaic County Paratransit	(973) 305-5756/(973) 305-5757
Passaic County, Paterson	(973) 881-0058
Passaic County, Clifton	(973) 470-2235
Passaic County, West Milford	(973) 728-2863
Passaic County, Passaic	(973) 365-5754
Salem County Transportation	(856) 339-8622
Somerset County Transportation	(908) 231-7115/(800) 246-0547
Sussex County Transportation	(973) 579-0480
Union County Transportation	(908) 241-8300
Warren County Transportation	(908) 454-4044/(866) 594-4044

A Nursing Home May Not Be the Only Option.

If you or someone you know:

- ☐ Is living in a nursing home or developmental center;
- ☐ Has or will be there for 90 days or more;
- ☐ Is eligible for Medicaid; and
- ☐ Wants to move back into the community,

I Choose Home NJ may be able to help you move back into the community with low- or no-cost in-home services.

I Choose Home NJ

1-855-466-3005

www.IChooseHome.nj.gov

I Choose Home NJ is a partnership among:

MFP MONEY FOLLOWS THE PERSON

O.O.I.E. NJ Office of the Ombudsman for the Institutionalized Elderly 1-877-582-6995 Guidance. Support. Advocacy.

State of New Jersey DHS Department of Human Services

CMS CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES