



Ocean County Office of Senior Services

732-929-2091 or 800-668-4899

Join Upcoming Events



A Message from Ocean County Director, Barbara Jo Crea

As the Director of the Ocean County Board of Chosen Commissioners and the newly appointed liaison to the Ocean County Office of Senior Services, I would like to wish our seniors, their families, and caregivers a very happy, healthy, and joyous new year. I would also like to take this opportunity to share a little about myself and my time in office. Originally, from Little Egg Harbor Township, I was sworn into office for my first term as a county commissioner on January 5, 2022, and have enjoyed serving the residents of Ocean County since then. Over the course of the last two years, I have had the privilege of working with the Department of Human Services and the Ocean County Board of Social Services in helping some of the most vulnerable residents in Ocean County. While I have enjoyed this work, I have always had a soft spot for older adults and a desire to work on issues that are most important to them. As the liaison to the Ocean County Office of Senior Services, I will have the opportunity to do just that and am looking forward to working with the department on programs and services designed to help our seniors maintain their independence and age in place with the dignity and respect they deserve.

Under my leadership, the Ocean County Office of Senior Services will continue to serve as the focal point for programs and services available to assist older adults and their caregivers. The department offers a wide array of services for seniors including Home Delivered Meals,

transportation programs, legal services, home repair & modification and much more. In 2024, we will be expanding our funded programs to include care management and adult day services, "A Matter of Balance", "Move Today", housing assistance and a centralized telephone reassurance center.

In addition to enhancing our aging network, I am committed to advocating for the protection of senior benefits, including senior tax benefits, Social Security, and Medicare. As the liaison to the Ocean County Office of Senior Services, I am excited to work with the dedicated staff and aging network to ensure that our seniors receive the support they need to age in place.



Follow and Like Us!

Be sure to visit our Facebook page for updates, and information.



Resource Directory

Code Blue

During an extreme weather event, the County follows its existing Code Blue Plan.

Once a Code Blue Alert from the County Office of Emergency Management is released, information regarding the availability of weather related services, provided by non-profit and volunteer organizations, will be offered on the Ocean County Department of Human Services website, through email and via social media.

[Click for the latest Code Blue information](#)

OCEAN COUNTY PRESS RELEASE

TOMS RIVER – With approximately 200,000 senior citizens calling Ocean County home, the Ocean County Board of Commissioners is making certain programs and services to address the needs of an aging population are in place for the New Year.

"The Board of Commissioners meeting agenda for Jan. 17 includes 27 contracts providing 55 programs that help to keep our seniors living independently and maintaining a good quality of life," said Director of the Ocean County Board of Commissioners Barbara Jo Crea. "Providing the best services and programs to our seniors has been and continues to be a priority of this Board."

Crea, who is liaison to the Office of Senior Services, reviewed the various services available at a preboard meeting Jan. 10.

The contracts, funded in part by the federal government, state government and the Board of Commissioners cover the priorities determined during public hearings on the county's Area Plan.

"Ocean County takes all the necessary steps to make sure the programs and services we fund meet the priority needs of our senior residents" Crea said. "We work within the guidelines of the Older Americans Act in order to maximize the amount of federal funding we receive for these programs."

Ocean County expects to receive \$3.1 million in federal funding, \$1.3 million in state funding and the county's allocation for the programs is expected to be \$3.1 million.

"Under these contracts, Ocean County will provide services addressing transportation, home delivered meals, food insecurity, information and assistance, personal and in-home care services, housing and home repairs and modifications," Crea said. "The Ocean County Board of Commissioners is committed to helping our senior citizens age in place with the dignity and respect they deserve and these services address many of the challenges affecting our elderly population."

The Board is expected to award a \$3.286 million contract to Community Services Inc., to provide home delivered meals, congregate meal services and other programs for the elderly.

"Home delivered meals is truly a centerpiece for our senior programs," Crea said. "We have seen a rise in requests for this service and we are doing all we can to meet this need. Food insecurity is high amongst our seniors and this program continues to be a lifeline for so many that are homebound, isolated and unable to prepare their own meals.

Under the Community Services Inc. contract, the County anticipates providing more than 166,400 home delivered meals in the first six months of the New Year. An additional 3,000 meals will be provided at the senior nutrition sites throughout the County during the same time frame.

All totaled, more than 230,000 meals will be delivered in the first six months of the year by Community Services Inc. and other contractors providing similar services in Ocean County.

"The home delivered meal is much more than just a meal delivery," Crea said. "It's so important because in some instances this is the only contact some of our seniors have with someone during the day. It's a health check, it's a safety check. The home delivered meal drivers provide much more than food. They provide peace of mind for many of our seniors and are often the first to identify and report changes in the consumer's health or well-being."

A large percentage of the meals are prepared daily in the kitchen at the Ocean County Southern Service Center in Stafford Township and delivered across the county.

Community Services Inc. joins the other 26 funded agencies to provide a host of services to seniors including evidence based health promotion – chronic disease services to the elderly, social recreation and more.

"Our Office of Senior Services is the hub of all of these programs," Crea said. "This is where our seniors can call or visit to access services and navigate all the programs available to seniors."

In addition, Ocean County expects to contract with four new providers that are offering services to seniors.

SCAN Inc. will offer evidence healthy aging programs; Bright Harbor Healthcare Inc. will offer adult day care services, housing assistance services and assisted transportation services; Contact of Ocean and Monmouth counties will provide centralized telephone reassurance services and the Mental Health Association will offer care management services.

"Our seniors can choose from a number of programs and services that can help them in their daily lives – from home delivered meals, to visiting nutrition sites, to receiving long term care counseling and help with transportation or simply receive a reassuring phone call - all of this, and so much more is available," Crea said.

To access services or for additional information, the Ocean County Office of Senior Services can be reached at 732-929-2091.

Wise Choices for Keeping Warm!

- At home, wear socks, slippers, and a hat.
- Keep your heat set to at least 68 °F or higher during cold weather.
- Wear a windproof and water-proof jacket if you are heading into cold, rainy, windy, or snowy conditions.
- Dress in layers.
- If someone is showing signs of hypothermia, act fast. Get them out of the cold and into a warm room. Remove any wet clothing. Warm them up gradually. Cover them with warm blankets. Offer them warm drinks, but not alcohol. Avoid hot baths or heating pads. And take their temperature. If it's below 95°F, get medical help immediately.

— National Institutes of Health



SENIOR EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WHY SHOULD YOU JOIN?

**Program provided at NO
cost to you!**

**Reignite your career with
our supportive services**

**One-on-one career
guidance and support**

**Boost your confidence
with interview preparation,
resume building, career &
technology training, and
much more!**

**Call today to register!
732-281-8653**

**Who is encouraged to
join?**

Ocean County Seniors 55+
looking to reenter the
workforce or start a new
career after retirement!



**Program runs Monday-
Friday, starting at 9AM!**

**1258 Route 166
Stella Towne Center
Toms River, NJ, 08753**



Senior Freeze

Property Tax Reimbursement Program

Important Program Changes

P.L. 2023, c.75 which was signed into law June 30, 2023, expands the income limit and simplifies the residency requirements for new Senior Freeze program applicants. Beginning with the 2023 filing season, the law:

- Increases the income limit for the program to \$150,000; and
- Eliminates the requirement that an applicant must be a New Jersey resident for 10 consecutive years.

The age/disability and three-year homeownership requirements remain unchanged.

[Apply Online](#)

[Caregiver Resource Packet](#)

RSVP

This is a national program administered by AmeriCorps Seniors and is sponsored by the Ocean County Board of Social Services. The purpose of RSVP is to create meaningful volunteer opportunities for individuals aged 55 and over and to help meet identified service needs in the community.

[Learn More](#)

2024 COMPARISON OF PAAD and SENIOR GOLD

1-800-792-9745

Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled Program www.state.nj.us/humanservices/doas/services/paad/index.html	Senior Gold Prescription Discount Program www.state.nj.us/humanservices/doas/home/seniorgolddetail.html
Income limit: less than \$52,142 (single) less than \$59,209 (married)	Income limit: between \$52,142 & \$62,142(single) between \$59,209 & \$69,209 (married)
ID Number starts with 6.	ID Number starts with 7.
PAAD co-pay is: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$5 per PAAD covered generic drug• \$7 per PAAD covered brand name drug.	Senior Gold co-pay for Senior Gold covered drugs is \$15 + 50% of the remaining cost of the prescription or actual drug cost, whichever is less. (Co-pay will change with change in drug price.)
PAAD does not have a Catastrophic cap.	Catastrophic cap: \$2,000 (single) \$3,000 (married) Once the beneficiary's annual out of pocket expenses reach the catastrophic cap, co-pay is \$15 (or the reasonable cost of the drug, whichever is less) for the balance of that eligibility period.
If Medicare-eligible, must enroll in a Medicare Plan with Prescription Drug Coverage (Part D or MA-PD) unless have other creditable drug coverage. PAAD pays Part D premium for certain Part D plans.	If Medicare-eligible, must enroll in a Medicare Plan with Prescription Drug Coverage (Part D or MA-PD), unless have other creditable drug coverage. Beneficiary responsible for paying Part D monthly premium.
If a Part D plan is the primary payer for a drug covered on its formulary, PAAD will provide coverage as secondary payer if needed for that drug, and the PAAD beneficiary will pay the regular PAAD copayment for PAAD covered drugs. However, if a Part D plan does not pay for a medication because the drug is not on its formulary, PAAD beneficiaries will have to switch to a drug on their Part D plan's formulary or their doctor will have to request an exception due to medical necessity directly to the Part D plan.	If a Part D plan is the primary payer for a drug covered on its formulary, Senior Gold will provide coverage as secondary payer if needed for that drug and the Senior Gold beneficiary will pay the regular Senior Gold copayment for Senior Gold covered drugs. However, if a Part D plan does not pay for a medication because the drug is not on its formulary, Senior Gold beneficiaries will have to switch to a drug on their Part D plan's formulary or their doctor will have to request an exception due to medical necessity directly to the Part D plan.
Third-party insurance must be billed BEFORE PAAD.	Third-party insurance must be billed BEFORE Senior Gold.
PAAD DOES NOT pay for diabetic testing supplies (for example, test strips & lancets).	Senior Gold DOES NOT pay for diabetic testing supplies (for example, test strips & lancets).

Can also apply on-line at <https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/doas/paad/> Updated 11/2/23

Click to Enlarge Chart

Medicare Corner

2024 MEDICARE PART A PREMIUMS, DEDUCTIBLES and CO-PAYMENTS

Part A Monthly Premium

- 40 or more quarters \$0
- 30–39 quarters of coverage \$278/month
- Less than 30 quarters \$505/month

Part A (Hospital) Deductibles and Co-Payments per Benefit Period in

Original Medicare

- \$1,632 deductible, paid upon admission as a hospital inpatient for days 1-60
- \$408 per day for days 61-90
- \$816 per day for days 91-150 (lifetime reserve days; non-renewable)
- All costs for each day beyond 150 days

Skilled Nursing Facility Care Co-Payments in Original Medicare

- Covered in full for the first 20 days after a minimum 3-day qualifying hospital stay
- Beneficiaries pay \$204 per day for days 21-100
- Beneficiaries pay all costs after 100 days

Paying for Hospice Care

- Co-payment up to \$5 per outpatient prescription drug
- 5% of Medicare-approved amount for inpatient respite care

2024 MEDICARE PART B PREMIUMS

If Your Yearly Modified Adjusted Gross Income in 2022 was		Premium you paid for Part B in 2023*	Premium you pay per month for Part B in 2024*
File Individual Tax Return	File Joint Tax Return		
\$103,000 or less	\$206,000 or less	\$164.90	\$174.70
\$103,001 - \$129,000	\$206,001 - \$258,000	\$230.80	\$244.60
\$129,001 - \$161,000	\$258,001 - \$322,000	\$329.70	\$349.40
\$161,001 - \$193,000	\$322,001 - \$386,000	\$428.60	\$454.20
\$193,001 - \$500,000	\$386,001 - \$750,000	\$527.50	\$559.00
Above \$500,000	Above \$750,000	\$560.50	\$594.00

*plus any late-enrollment penalties you may be assessed.

[View Chart](#)

WHAT IS **GIFT CARD DRAINING?**

Scammers are opening sealed gift card envelopes, removing and slicing activation codes, then re-sealing them with a smaller card.

Unsuspecting buyers add money, enabling scammers to tap into funds.

Here's how to avoid it.

gift
card



[Learn how to avoid it!](#)



THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

Ocean County, New Jersey

has committed to becoming more age-friendly under the criteria
established by AARP and has been accepted as a member of

The AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities

THIS CERTIFICATION IS VALID UNTIL

December 28, 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Nancy A. LeMond', is positioned above a horizontal line.

Nancy A. LeMond, Chief Advocacy and Engagement Officer
COMMUNITY, STATE AND NATIONAL AFFAIRS
AARP | WASHINGTON, D.C.

The AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities,
a program of the AARP Livable Communities initiative,
is an independent affiliate of the World Health Organization Global Network
for Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.®



Age-Friendly Communities
Are Livable for
People of All Ages
aarp.org/livable

2024 Providers!

- AAA Ocean County Senior Services
 - 732-929-2091
- Brick Township
 - 732-451-4019
- Bright Harbor Healthcare
 - 732-269-4849
- Caregiver Volunteers of Central Jersey
 - 732-505-2273
- Catholic Charities-Fix-It Program

- 732-363-5322 ext. 3232
- Catholic Charities- Providence House
 - 732-350-2120 ext. 8402
- Community Health Law Project
 - 732-380-1012
- Community Medical Center
 - 732-557-8131
- Community Services Inc. of Ocean County (CSI)
 - 848-288-9900 (Outreach)
 - 609-978-6868 (Meals on Wheels)
- Compass 82
 - 732-569-3484
- CONTACT of Ocean & Monmouth Counties
 - 732-240-6104
- Habitat for Humanity International
 - 732-818-9500
- Inspire-NJ
 - 908-278-6450
- Interfaith Health & Support Services of Southern Ocean County, Inc.
 - 609-978-3839
- Jackson Township
 - 732-928-2313
- Jewish Federation of Ocean County
 - 732-363-8010
- Lakewood Community Services Corp.
 - 732-901-6001 ext. 201
- Long Beach Island Community Center
 - 609-494-8861
- Manchester Township
 - 732-849-8305
- Mental Health Association of NJ
 - 973-571-4100
- Monmouth Medical Center Southern Campus
 - 732-730-9112
- Board of Social Services
 - 732-349-1500
- Ocean Township
 - 609-693-3302 ext. 601
- Point Pleasant Borough
 - 732-892-5813
- Preferred Behavioral Health
 - 732-367-4700 ext. 7137
- SCAN, Inc.
 - 732-542-1326
- Southern Ocean Medical Center
 - 609-978-3533
- Toms River Township
 - 732-341-1000 ext. 8434
- Visiting Homecare Service of Ocean County

- 732-244-5565 ext. 237

Ocean County Office Of Senior Services



Send Us An Email



Join Our Mailing List

**1027 Hooper Avenue
Bldg. 2, 1st Floor
Toms River, New Jersey,
US 08754
Phone 1-732-929-2091,
1-800-668-4899**



Ocean County Office of Senior Services | PO Box 2191 , Toms River, NJ 08754

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