

New Jersey Housing Resource Guide

for Adults with
Autism Spectrum
Disorders

Bob is a 30 year-old man with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD). He lives in a group home with three other men, attends a workshop during the week and is active on the weekends. Bob has full-time staff support at his home. His Residential and Day Program support are funded through the NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) through a Home and Community-based Medicaid waiver. He also obtains additional financial support from his Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

John is a 26 year-old man with an ASD who resides at home with his parents. He works full-time and is active on weekends. John receives DDD-funded, follow-along support for his employment and individual supports during weekends. He has been on a waiting list for a supervised apartment for five years. The longer he waits for residential supports (funding), the more regression occurs with his behavior. This is beginning to impact the quality of family life.

Mary is a 32 year-old woman with an ASD who has significant difficulty with expressive and receptive language skills. On a part-time basis, she works in the community and attends a Day Program. For more than six years, Mary has been waiting to move into a group home. Her aging parents are finding it extremely difficult to attend to her daily needs.

Jack is a 21 year-old man with an ASD. He just graduated from high school and is transitioning into community life. Jack is dependent upon DDD funding for supports and services. He will need supported employment and Day Habilitation services to maintain his skills during transition.

Susan is a 16 year-old student with an ASD. Funding for her current education (services and supports) is obtained through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Since Susan was 14, planning has been in place to address her transition out of the school system to adult life. DDD will be her primary source of funding for services and supports in the adult service system.

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A Vision: Community Living

From the 1950s to present, there has been an fundamental shift in residential options for people with developmental disabilities. Individuals who would routinely have been placed in institutions in the past now have a variety of opportunities to enable them to live in their community. The fact remains, however, that there is a critical shortage of appropriate housing and community-based support services. This can pose a major obstacle to independent living and community integration for people with developmental disabilities. Numerous studies have suggested that providing appropriate housing for individuals with disabilities is a cost-effective investment. Federal, state and local agencies have begun to join forces with housing providers to make available the variety of housing options desired by people with developmental disabilities.

New Jersey's autism community envisions a future in which adults with autism and their families can choose supports and services from an array of appropriate options. These must be diversified and designed to ensure opportunities for employment, social relations and independence. The greater challenge lies in creating a comprehensive and seamless statewide system that allows for local control, transparency and customization.

Goal: The goal of this Guide is to create a one-stop housing resource for adults with ASDs as they prepare to move from the family home.

Housing Resource Guide Objectives

- **To provide a directory of the different types of housing that may be available for adults with autism spectrum disorders (ASDs).**
- **To provide guidance in navigating through the maze of different housing and funding options.**
- **To provide information to help people make housing choices fit their needs and personal goals.**

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Dear Reader:

Do you remember the first time you moved out of the home where you grew up? The first time you lived away from your immediate family and were on your own? Or, the time your first born child moved into a fifth floor walk up with no air conditioning in an “up and coming” neighborhood? Moving out. An age old ritual. This rite of passage happens for hundreds of parents and their children throughout New Jersey each year. However, for the majority of the state’s adult individuals with autism spectrum disorders, moving out has never been a consideration or even a possibility.

This New Jersey Housing Resource Guide is the first document of its kind to make residential options a reality for all NJ citizens. It represents the collective efforts and wisdom of dozens of people statewide: parents, housing specialists, state employees, self-advocates, advocates and experts on autism spectrum disorders. It was the brainchild of COSAC’s Public Policy and Systems Advocacy Department: Leslie Long and Debbie Charette. The process began in the fall of 2007 and highlighted the need for residential services across a lifespan for individuals with autism spectrum disorders. The product is a directory of services and information to assist you in understanding and navigating the complex systems that support the currently limited residential and funding alternatives.

Our hope is that all of us can use this guide to achieve the rights and desires of individuals with autism spectrum disorders and the families and professionals who support them across the state: residential options as needed, when needed. Creating this vision will require “out of the box” thinking. As we worked on this guide, the words we repeatedly heard included collaboration, creative solutions, public-private partnerships, flexibility, choice, safety and appropriate and sustainable funding.

Home is just not four walls, a floor and a roof. It’s about a favorite chair, the sounds of laughter, choices for dinner, an unmade bed, sometimes. It’s a place where you feel safe. The place you begin and end your day. It’s not just the structure, but the support services each resident needs to be successful in his or her own home. It means access to the community, which includes transportation.

Autism New Jersey supports parents and professionals in their dreams for all of their children and learners: to live in a home of their own choice with the proper supports to meet their needs and achieve personal goals. You will need the information in this guide to help you get started and realize your vision.

Warm regards,



Linda S. Meyer, Ed.D., MPA, CPT, BCBA
Executive Director
Autism New Jersey

Overview of this Guide

Housing with support services is essential in order for people with autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) to live in the community and lead meaningful adult lives. Individuals have particular needs and preferences of where and with whom they want to live. This guide is designed to help you learn about the traditional and non-traditional residential options. We encourage you to choose the options that best meet your needs and personal goals. The Housing Resource Guide provides you with many tools to research and learn how to navigate the system(s). Perseverance will be needed to achieve your housing goals. As you read through this guide, think about what type of residential setting works best for you or your family member with an ASD. Develop a personal plan. Consider what you will need by way of operational, service and other dollars and resources in order to gain access to these options. Research what is available and be persistent in seeking what you or your family member with an ASD would desire.

What are the Identified ASDs?

Autism, Asperger's Disorder and Pervasive Developmental Disorder Not Otherwise Specified (PDDNOS) are related disorders. They are commonly referred to as autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) and are the focus of this document. ASDs affect approximately 1 in 150 individuals nationwide and 1 in 94 New Jersey residents, in families of all racial, ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds. While research into the causes of these disorders advances our understanding of ASDs as genetically-based disorders, as of this writing, no consistent biological markers have been identified.

ASDs are behaviorally defined and diagnosed. The three hallmark impairments in autism are social interaction, communication and behavior. Individuals with autism often have great difficulty interacting with others, even in everyday situations. Also, they typically have a limited ability to communicate verbally and, as a result, may use pictures or sign language. Most individuals with autism engage in repetitive behavior and routines. Many times, these seemingly odd behaviors are a means of communicating their needs and wants. Many individuals with autism require active supervision to ensure their health and safety and have significant difficulty living independently and maintaining employment.

Asperger's Disorder and PDDNOS are both similar to and different from autism. The common element among the three disorders is impaired social skills. The differences between the disorders relate to communication and adaptive behavior. In Asperger's Disorder, social communication is affected, but typically there is no delay in the development of communication skills. PDDNOS involves a combination of characteristics that are similar to autism and Asperger's Disorder, but do not meet the full criteria. While Asperger's Disorder and PDDNOS are considered milder forms of autism, individuals with these disorders still require significant educational and vocational supports to be successful. Finally, the symptoms and abilities of individuals with ASDs can be quite variable and are part of what makes each individual unique.

A National History of Housing, 1940-2008

- 1940 **In 1940**, approximately 100,000 people with a developmental disability lived in institutions.
- 1950 **In the 1950s**, people with developmental disabilities were either residing in an institution or living with their families with little support from the state.
- 1960 **In the 1960s**, as most of the community would come to realize, the conditions in institutions were horrible.
- In 1963, the Mental Retardation Facilities and Community Mental Health Centers Construction Act (P.L. 88-164)** authorized \$329 million during a five-year period to provide “grants for construction of mental retardation facilities.”
- In 1965, changes to the Social Security Act created Medicare and Medicaid** and with them another major source of funding for services to people with developmental disabilities, particularly those with severe disabilities.
- The Mental Retardation Amendments of 1967 (P.L. 90-170)** provided a new grant program to pay a portion of the costs for “compensation of professional and technical personnel in community facilities.”
- In 1969, The President’s Committee released “Changing Patterns in Residential Services for the Mentally Retarded,”** edited by Wolf Wolfensberger and Robert Krugel. The report focused on the dehumanizing nature of institutions, the need for institutional reform and how The Normalization Principle could inform that reform and an examination of regional service systems.
- 1970 **The 1970s: Continued Institutional Investments, Court Orders, Community Living for All and the Emergence of Family Support.** Court cases and policy debates confirmed the rights of people to treatment in the least restrictive environment. The debate centered on who qualified for what level of restriction.
- The mid-1970s saw the beginning** of a movement to close state institutions. Also by the mid-1970s were clear signs that family support was being recognized as a strategy with potential.
- In 1971, there were 365 institutions** in the United States; by 2004, there were 186.
- In 1971, under P.L. 92-223**, states were allowed to cover services in Intermediate Care Facilities (ICFs) for elderly people and in ICFs/MR for people with developmental disabilities. The ICFs/MR program was established through Medicaid.
- In 1972, The National Association for Retarded Children (NARC) made clearer the need for community residential services.** NARC urged state governments to establish small, community-based, home-like residential facilities. It further recommended that such residential facilities “take absolute precedence over further capital investments in existing or new large scale institutions.” Then in 1973, NARC released “The Right to Choose – Achieving Residential Alternatives in the Community.” The guide defined community residential services and provided communities with a format for developing a plan, getting funding and implementing their plans.
- In 1972, Geraldo Rivera exposed conditions in the Willowbrook State School** in Staten Island, NY, and the Willowbrook decision (New York ARC v Carey) escalated the language to include “and the most normal living condition possible.”

Groundwork for both the Home Community-Based Waiver (HBC) and its impact was laid in the late 1970s and early 1980s. There was interest in the comparative expense of community-based services to Medicaid beneficiaries compared to institutional care.

1980

In 1981, The Omnibus Reconciliation Act (P.L. 97-35) created the Home and Community-Based Services Waiver program. Senator John Chafee, a Rhode Island Republican, spearheaded an effort that would allow Medicaid funds to be used for alternative community-based responses on a large and broader scale. Federal funds were available to support people to stay in their own homes, some with their families.

During the 1980s, family support took on broader meaning. The range of family support services was seen in several broad categories: Outreach, Training, Counseling, Respite, Transportation, Special Assistance Services, Financial Assistance, Housing Assistance and Crisis Intervention.

In the 1980s, the use of vouchers and cash subsidies to families laid the groundwork for ever-expanding power in the hands of families to control the nature of the support they receive.

The 1980s: Real Support for Community Living and Institutional Closures. As institutions closed, smaller community residential settings increased. Funding shifts were occurring. The balance of funding tipped. In 1977, 85% of the expenditures in residential services for people with developmental disabilities went to institutions. By 1984, that figure dropped to 60%, and by 1988, most of the funds were going to community settings.

During the 1980s, a number of initiatives focused on even deeper dimensions to the idea of “home.” When support to people in their own homes was more available, more attention could be placed on issues such as ownership, control of space, security of tenure and choice about where to live, with whom and with what support. Among other outcomes, these initiatives led to the development of the National Home of Your **Own Alliance in the 1990s and Homeownership for People with Disabilities: The State of the States in 1999.** The National Home of Your Own Alliance was to design and implement a set of strategies to increase opportunities for people with developmental and other disabilities to own and control their own homes. When it ended, the Alliance had promoted homeownership through technical assistance to pilot projects in 23 states.

From 1986 to 1990, funding for family support programs almost tripled (in 1998 adjusted dollars, funding increased from just \$100 million in 1986 to just under \$300 million in 1990). The number of families increased dramatically as well – approximately 60,000 in 1986 to 150,000 in 1990.

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, several federal programs were developed and began to offer housing options for adults with developmental disabilities. They included The Housing and Community Development Act of 1987 (P.L. 100-142), The Stewart McKinney Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 (P.L. 100-77), The National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-402), The Farmers Home Administration’s Guaranteed Loan Program and The Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae).

1990

The 1990s – Explosion of Community Housing, Institution-Free States, A Home of Your Own and Expanding Family Support. In the 1990s, the impact of the Home and Community-Based Waiver and the Community Supportive Living Arrangements were in effect. The Americans with Disabilities Act (1990) extended all civil rights protections to people with disabilities and required states to provide services in the “most integrated setting appropriate.” The ADA was applied in the United States Supreme Court decision, *Olmstead v L.C. and E.W.*, and required states to find homes for people with developmental disabilities in communities instead of institutions, with some significant limitations on that requirement.

The 1990s also saw an increasing number of class action lawsuits involving self-advocacy (especially People First) groups as plaintiffs, co-plaintiffs and plaintiff-interveners.

In 1993, the Health Care Financing Administration (now called the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, or CMS) only required states to demonstrate that the total expenditures for a waiver program would not exceed the cost of serving an equivalent group of people in an institution.

By 1998, more than \$735 million were being spent nationwide on family support programs. This still represented only 3% of the total spending on developmental disabilities programs, but was a massive increase from the past.

In 1998, the source of family support dollars was primarily from state funds. Of the states that broke out their spending by federal and state sources in a 1998 survey, only 23% of their total funds were from federal (HCBS Waiver and other sources). Starting in 1998, the Administration of Developmental Disabilities has provided grant funding to states in order to stimulate the development of innovative family support services.

2000

The 2000s: Olmstead and the struggle over rights and resources. The right of people with developmental disabilities to live in the community was reinforced by the July 13, 1999 decision of the United States Supreme Court in *Olmstead v. L.C.* E.W. Lois Curtis and Elaine Wilson wanted to receive services from the state of Georgia in the community instead of in a psychiatric institution. They argued that Georgia violated their right to services in the most integrated setting under the ADA. Their case went all the way to the Supreme Court. The decision still leaves room for states to maintain “a range of facilities.” In the wake of the *Olmstead* decision, the federal government has issued a series of directives and suggestions for states to comply with the ADA. Advocates filed more lawsuits against states consistent with the *Olmstead* decision.

The Systems Change Grants for Community Living contained three grant programs to assist states to develop and implement their Olmstead plans.

In 2001, the federal government embarked on the New Freedom Initiative (NFI), a multi-agency effort to “remove barriers to community living for people of all ages with disabilities and long-term illnesses. It represented an important step in working to ensure that all Americans had the opportunity to learn and develop skills, engage in productive work, choose where to live and participate in community life.”

By 2003, all of these advances and plans were deemed at risk. State plans were systematically identifying long-standing barriers to complying with the *Olmstead* ruling. State-identified needs included affordable and accessible housing, transportation, assessment tools to identify people’s needs, information tools to link people with services, data systems to monitor quality and track people at risk, adequate staffing, education and outreach and availability of funded Medicaid waivers. Shortfalls in state budgets and the resulting fiscal crises meant a higher need to contain Medicaid costs, not to expand them.

By 2005, the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services described the following types of accomplishments: \$158 million from 2001-2003 in Real Choice Systems Change grants. (These grants provided funding that enabled States and nonprofit agencies to build infrastructure that resulted in effective and enduring improvements in community-integrated services and long-term support systems.) These grants included: The “Money Follows the Person” demonstration projects in eight states; The Independence Plus Initiative to make it easier for States to request waivers or demonstrations; Transitions from Institutions – the use of HCBS waivers to cover one-time expenses in the transition from institutions to “their own home in the community;” and the Promising Practices repository of activities related to NFI initiatives.

Autism New Jersey's Adult Resource Initiative

In 2004, the New Jersey Center for Outreach and Services for the Autism Community (COSAC) established the Adult Resources Initiative. Its mission was to help families and professionals understand and access the adult service system, support the creation of jobs and employment opportunities for adults and advocate for appropriate, comprehensive adult services.

On April 27, 2006, COSAC's Adult Resources Initiative convened a notable gathering of more than 50 individuals to deliberate the service needs of adults with autism and identify the steps to move forward. Participants at the day-long forum worked in facilitated groups, each focusing on one of four specific areas of adult services: in-home and community-based supports; residential services and supports; employment supports; and adult day services. Each group responded to a common set of questions, and was asked to discuss funding, legislative and regulatory issues, transportation, information and referral needs and program development.

This report documented the consensus of the autism community around key areas of service delivery and defined a proactive agenda.

The following "Core Beliefs" are the foundation of the report:

1. People with autism are valuable. They are important members of their families, good employees, colleagues, classmates and friends, and play important roles in the communities in which they live, play and worship.
2. The service system for adults with autism is in crisis. It is unable to respond to the current need. Immediate and proactive steps must be taken to improve it.
3. Adults with autism should have every opportunity to live and work in the communities they choose, with supports and services they and/or their families select and control.
4. Adults with autism have a unique and complex constellation of needs, distinct from individuals with intellectual disabilities, in the areas of receptive and expressive communication, social skills, behavior and sensory issues and environmental needs.
5. Autism is a spectrum disorder and the full range of its functional abilities and limitations must be considered when planning services and supports. Individuals with the capacity for more self-direction must be afforded the opportunity to build on individual strengths to maximize independence.
6. Families, a vital part of the service system, have different needs, expectations, resources, values and priorities, which must be honored in the service delivery process.

New Jersey's autism community envisions a future for adults with autism in which they and their families can choose services and supports from an array of appropriate options to allow them to build and maintain a meaningful life in the community, with opportunities for employment, social relationships and independence.

The challenge is to create a seamless and comprehensive statewide system that:

- offers clinically-appropriate services for adults with autism;
- allows control and decision-making on the part of families; and
- can be customized to meet the identified needs of each individual during his or her lifespan.

Specifically, there were recommendations for Residential Services and Supports that included the following:

Residential Services and Supports

Adults with autism who are not living in their family's home need a range of residential options, each with appropriate supports.

Historically, group homes have been the option of choice for many families. Increasingly, however, adults with autism and their families want more typical housing options including apartments, condos, townhouses and private homes.

Regardless of the housing option, highly specialized support services based on the needs of the adult(s) living there must be consistently provided. These services may include specialized behavioral, communication and social skills supports.

FINDING: Public support for residential services for adults with autism has not kept pace with the demand for services, and is not at a level that is appropriate to the intensive, multifaceted needs of adults with autism.

RECOMMENDATION:

- The State of New Jersey must assess its fiscal commitment to residential services for adults with autism and determine adequate levels of funding based on the history of actual costs.

FINDING: Funding for housing must be considered separately from funding for the residential support services needed by adults with autism.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- The New Jersey Housing Trust Fund should be explored and evaluated as a vehicle for financing housing for adults with autism.
- The State of New Jersey should offer tax credits for builders who create or retrofit housing to meet the needs of adults with autism.
- Reverse mortgages and housing donated from private sources should be encouraged as a means to expand the availability of housing for adults with autism.

FINDING: Residential supports must include a wide array of non-traditional options for individuals and their families to consider.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- New Jersey policy makers must encourage the use of flexible and creative support options including the use of roommates without disabilities who have specified duties; drop-in support; neighbor support; and individuals living with a host family.
- Farmstead options and other non-traditional housing options should be explored and expanded to meet demand.

As the history of housing opportunities has evolved in time, new court cases that affect Public Policy have occurred. One such court case was the "Olmstead Supreme Court Decision," which has literally changed the landscape of housing for people with developmental disabilities.

The 1999 Olmstead Supreme Court Decision and New Jersey

In a landmark interpretation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Supreme Court decided that people with disabilities have a right to receive care in the most integrated setting appropriate and that unnecessary institutionalization violates the ADA. All states must now comply with the decision. The Center for Personal Assistance Services (PAS) is tracking the legal and policy ramifications of the Olmstead decision in each state.

New Jersey Department of Human Services Division of Developmental Disabilities Olmstead Plan Executive Summary (Excerpted from a DHS press release)

The New Jersey Department of Human Services' Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) is pleased to present the Olmstead Plan, "Path to Progress" (The Plan). This Plan outlines the process of transitioning individuals with developmental disabilities from developmental centers (DCs) to the community over the next 8 years (State FY 2008 through FY 2015). The Plan addresses the requirements of state legislation (S1090, PL 2006, Chapter 61) as well as the issues in the New Jersey Protection and Advocacy, Inc. Olmstead lawsuit.

Four public hearings were held in January 2007 to obtain public input for the development of the plan. More than 260 people attended and 76 people provided testimony. After publishing a draft of the Path to Progress plan, the division received 31 comments from people with developmental disabilities, family members, organizations and agency representatives. Stakeholder involvement will continue through an Olmstead Implementation and Planning Advisory Council.

The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)

The Division of Developmental Disabilities, New Jersey Department of Human Services, is the lead provider of community services and programs for people with developmental disabilities.

What is DDD?

The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) serves more than 40,000 people with developmental disabilities. DDD funds most residential programs for adults with autism in New Jersey. Most of the people served by DDD live at home with their families while a smaller number reside in residences that are funded by the Division.

There are a variety of community-based residential programs and residential supports for individuals in emergent need of housing or incapable of living with family. The law requires that DDD services be designed to maximize developmental potential and be delivered in the least restrictive manner (N.J.S.A. 30:6D-9). DDD's regulations stipulate that DDD can assign people to waiting lists when services are not immediately available. Currently, several thousand people are on the various waiting lists for residential services. It's important to know that DDD will place people in an emergency situation. These are people who are seriously at risk or are homeless. They must be served immediately. The availability of services depends upon current resources and the types of available services vary in each country. That being the case, it is important that you have an understanding of what DDD is and the regulations by which it implements and executes its services.

What is the NJ Developmental Disabilities Community Care Waiver (CCW)?

New Jersey's Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) administers the DDD Community Care Waiver (CCW) of federal and state Medicaid funding, which provides flexible services in the community to persons with developmental disabilities as an alternative to institutional care. The Community Care Waiver allows many individuals who are at risk of being placed in nursing homes or Developmental Centers, called Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with Mental Retardation (ICF/MR), to reside in their homes and/or receive necessary residential services and supports to live more independently within the community. Most residential services and supports for people with developmental disabilities are supplied through a Medicaid-funded waiver.

Who is eligible to receive DDD services?

Persons who meet the following eligibility requirements may qualify for services under DDD. To qualify, the person must:

- Have a diagnosis of a developmental disability including autism, mental retardation, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, spina bifida or neurological impairment;
- The condition must have existed before the person reached age 22, and is expected to be lifelong; and
- The person has difficulties in at least three areas of life activities including self care, learning, mobility, decision-making and communication including receptive and expressive language, economic self sufficiency and independent living.

To begin the process, an application for services must be made at the local DDD office. A face-to-face meeting will be scheduled with an intake worker to interview the person and his/her family and gather the information needed to determine eligibility for DDD services. Necessary documentation includes information about the person's functional abilities and diagnosis of a developmental disability. In addition, DDD will request written permission to obtain school records, psychological test reports and medical records that will be used to determine eligibility. Once all of the necessary information is obtained, DDD will make a determination in writing about eligibility. Once determined eligible, a Case Manager will be assigned to begin planning and assist in obtaining needed services. DDD "turn around time" for services depends upon determination of eligibility.

“Autism Spectrum Disorder” is specifically listed in the legal statute defining eligibility. A person’s functional abilities, not his/her I.Q. score, are used in making the determination. An unfavorable decision can be appealed. See Appendix A of COSAC’s Resource Guide for Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders for more details about this eligibility determination process and the availability of resources.

Determination Process

10:46-4.1 Determination

- (a) A Division intake worker shall begin a case file upon receipt of an application for determination of eligibility for services.
- (b) The intake worker shall assist in completion of the application upon request of the applicant.
- (c) Upon receipt of an application including all necessary documentation, the intake team shall make a decision, in writing, based upon specific findings regarding eligibility pursuant to N.J.A.C. 10:46.
- (d) The intake team may make a decision concerning eligibility. If there is a question of eligibility, the intake team may:
 - 1. conduct a face to face interview within 30 days if additional information is needed; or
 - 2. request peer consultation in reaching a final decision.
- (e) The decision of the intake team(s) shall be communicated, in writing, within 10 working days and shall be based upon specific findings.

10:46-4.2 Notice requirements

- (a) Division staff shall notify the applicant, in writing, of the status of the eligibility determination no more than 60 days from receipt of an application for determination of eligibility for services.
- (b) If the eligibility decision cannot be made within 60 days from receipt of an application for determination of eligibility for services, the applicant shall be advised, in writing, as to the specific reasons why a determination cannot be made, and shall be informed of the status of the applicant at least every 30 days. The written notice shall include the name and telephone number of a Division staff member for the person to contact regarding services.
- (c) If the applicant is determined eligible, Division staff shall notify the applicant, in writing, within 10 working days of the determination and such notice shall include information regarding the service(s) deemed most suitable by the intake worker or the intake team.
 - 1. If the most appropriate services as determined by the intake worker or the intake team are not immediately available, the Division shall provide an alternate service.
 - 2. The Division also shall place the eligible individual’s name on a waiting list for day or residential services in accordance with N.J.A.C. 10:46C.
- (d) If the individual is determined ineligible, the Division shall notify the individual, in writing, within 10 working days of the determination. Such notification shall include specific criteria that were not met by the individual, and also shall include information regarding the individual’s right to appeal the determination pursuant to N.J.A.C. 10:48. The individual shall bear the burden of proof and the burden of persuasion.

What services are provided through DDD?

DDD services provide a level of support that enables a person with a developmental disability to remain in the community and receive services to meet his or her needs. DDD offers a wide variety of services in several areas including:

- Residential Services and Supports
- Family Support Services
- Vocational Day Services
- Supported Employment
- Guardianship Services
- Case Management
- Information and Referral
- Clinical Services

Is there a waiting list for residential services?

Yes. A lengthy Community Services Waiting List exists for residential services. After requesting a residential placement through the Case Manager, DDD assigns a person to a category on the waiting list. People are served in the order in which their name is placed on the "Priority Waiting List." Services are distributed based upon funding initiatives, available resources and/or the severity of a person's needs.

The Priority Waiting List is for people who meet one of the following criteria:

- both parents are 55 years of age or older;
- the person is living with someone other than the parent who is no longer willing to provide care;
- there is a risk of abuse, neglect or exploitation;
- one parent has a chronic condition, which significantly limits the ability to care for the person; or
- the person's health or safety is at risk because of behavioral or physical needs.

In emergency circumstances, such as when the existing caregiver can no longer provide care, referrals can be made to existing vacancies within established residential homes funded by DDD. Developmental Centers are only relied upon in emergency situations when no placements are available within the community residences. The intent always is to provide services in the "least restrictive environment" that meets the person's needs.

DDD is the best source of funding for comprehensive residential services, and there is a lengthy waiting list. People are well advised to have their name placed on the "Priority Waiting List" as soon as they are eligible. Because people are served in the chronological order in which their name appears on the list, it may take years for their name to reach the top of the list. When offered an opportunity for residential services by DDD, the family can decline and defer their request for a future date.

Collaborative State Programs

The Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey

145 W. Hanover Street
Trenton, NJ 08618

Phone 609.393.3752
Fax 609.393.9016
E-mail info@hcdnnj.org

The Housing and Community Development Network is a statewide association of more than 250 affordable housing and community development corporations, individuals and other organizations that support the creation of housing

and economic opportunities that support the creation of housing income. The Network believes that community development should engage residents in the building and rebuilding of their communities, and that community-based, nonprofit development corporations are an essential part in that process. The Network and its members share a commitment to promoting economic justice and the empowerment of individuals and communities of low income, and encouraging wider participation in the framing and implementation of public policies. The Network believes that access to safe and decent shelter for residents of low and moderate income should be a priority for all communities in New Jersey.

New Jersey Community Housing Development Programs (NJCHDP)

The New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency (NJMFA), the New Jersey Department of Human Services and the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) are partners in a program that serves individuals with developmental disabilities and their families through innovative housing programs and supportive services. The NJMFA revised the former Developmental Disabilities Housing Program (DDHP) and established the New Jersey Community Housing Demonstration Programs (NJCHDP), which specifically supports individuals with developmental disabilities.

These programs are designed to reduce DDD's Priority Waiting List, leverage additional funds and resources, create residences and programs that are typical of those of the other residents in the community and provide consumer choice and control. The Division has transferred \$6 million to the NJMFA for a revolving loan pool that provides low-interest loans to such persons.

To be eligible for the NJCHDP, individuals with developmental disabilities must be on the DDD Community Services Waiting List or included in a waiting list initiative, and recommended for participation by the appropriate regional office of DDD.

Programs are available to:

Support direct home ownership for persons with developmental disabilities; leverage individuals' and families' existing home equity for long-term services arrangements; utilize Section 811 Bridge loans to finance the acquisition, new construction and/or rehabilitation of properties by nonprofits to enable persons with disabilities to live with dignity and independence within their community; provide financing for not-for-profit, for-profit developers and/or municipalities for the acquisition of land and building with rehabilitation or new construction, or conservation of buildings as rental/apartment units for persons with special needs; and provide subsidies to sponsors who provide housing for persons with developmental disabilities for certain projects recommended by the DDD.

For more information on NJMFA and NJCHDP programs (see page 23):

New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency and
The New Jersey Community Housing Demonstration Programs
637 South Clinton Ave.
P.O. Box 18550
Trenton, NJ 08650
609.278.7400

What DDD residential options exist?

Community Residences. DDD provides opportunities for people with disabilities to live in various types of community residences, within their family home or on their own with supportive services. Because of the great demand for these services, placement outside of the family home generally occurs when it is no longer possible for a person to remain there. Individuals who receive residential services may be required to contribute toward the cost of residential services from their disability benefits or other personal resources. Typically, 75% of a person's monthly social security check is collected by the state to offset the cost of his/her care. Once the person with a disability reaches age 18, parents are not responsible to contribute to the cost of these services.

Many community residences for persons with developmental disabilities and head injuries are licensed by the NJ Department of Human Services. Residents receive food, shelter, personal guidance and assistance in maintaining self-care and developing the potential to live independently. Licensing regulations governing the residences aim to assure that the residents enjoy essential life-safety, health and comfortable conditions within the home. The regulations also govern staffing ratios and staff's educational and professional requirements.

Though commonly referred to as group homes, community residences come in several varieties. They can include, but are not necessarily limited to, group homes, supervised apartments and family care homes. Generally, traditional services within a group home are licensed by DDD. Group home services can be accessed through the Case Manager.

These residential programs could be funded by DDD and, in some instances, private payment from personal resources can secure a placement.

Group Homes are households typically shared by six or fewer people. Group homes generally are established in single family homes. Supervision and training are provided by trained staff that is available to assist around-the-clock.

Supervised Apartments provide trained staff on the grounds of the apartment complex 24 hours per day/seven days per week. Usually, one or two people share an apartment or condominium.

Supportive Housing and Supportive Living refer to living arrangements in which a person receives support services such as tutoring and training and has access to on-call assistance around-the-clock. "Permanent supportive housing" means a range of permanent housing options in settings such as apartments, condominiums, townhouses, single and multi-family homes and single room occupancy housing. Shared living and supportive living arrangements provide access to on-site or off-site supportive services for individuals and families. "Supportive living" refers to services delivered to people who live in homes of their own with assistance. These homes may or may not be licensed by the state.

In a **Skill Development Home or Family Care Home**, a person with a disability lives as a part of the family of a trained caregiver and receives the supportive services and training from the caregiver within that home.

Developmental Centers are large institutional facilities for people with significant disabilities. Referred to as Intermediate Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded (ICF-MR), seven facilities are operated by the State of New Jersey. Residents within these developmental centers receive training, medical care and therapies. In 1999, a Supreme Court decision called OLMSTEAD VS L.C. determined that the unnecessary segregation of people living in institutions may constitute discrimination based upon The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). NJ Protection and Advocacy, Inc. sued the State of New Jersey in pursuit of enforcing an Olmstead plan for NJ. In response to that law suit, DDD established the "Path to Progress," which is a plan to provide residences in the community to individuals currently living in developmental centers during the next eight years. People involved with this funding initiative are working with Support Coordinators to develop Person-Centered Plans detailing where and with whom they want to live.

Self-Direction or Consumer-Directed Supports. Many variations on traditional models of service can be tailored to one's personal preferences. More and more people with the support of their families and friends are opting to design their own living arrangements based upon personal preferences. Some people select an agency or agencies to provide their supportive services. Others choose to "self direct," meaning they make all of the decisions about how their support services will be administered including which staff to hire and fire. Services are available from a Fiscal Intermediary and Support Coordinator to assist people and their families in implementing such options.

Non-Traditional Options. Some examples of non-traditional approaches include, but are not limited to, the following:

Shared Living is where two or more people live together in a small home or apartment and share living expenses and household responsibilities. The housemate may or may not have a disability. Staff supports and other services are available on an individualized basis and based upon a plan developed by the person and those who support him/her.

Independent Living is where someone lives independently and receives needed supports from staff a few times per week. In this living arrangement, a person receives much natural support from family, neighbors and friends. Occasionally, a few families join together and pool their time and financial resources to support their family members with disabilities in this way. Typically, an independent living arrangement is not licensed by the Department of Human Services. This allows for great flexibility in designing a plan that meets one's own needs and preferences.

People can purchase their **Own Home** with low-interest loans and personal resources and receive supportive services from provider agencies or employees they hire. In some instances, families have joined together to purchase a home and provide cooperative arrangements to support the people living there.

Donated Housing is an option where a family donates a home or the resources to purchase a home. Currently, this policy is under review and revision by DDD.

Many options described within this guide can be funded by DDD through its "Community Care Waiver." The current trends are moving away from traditional housing models such as group homes and institutional facilities in favor of highly personalized living arrangements that are based upon the person's preferences. People access generic services and natural supports within the local community whenever possible. Real Life Choices is the name of one DDD initiative that supplies the funding that permits people to implement such plans.

What is the "Self Directed" funding initiative?

Real life Choices is a funding initiative that permits people to design the supports they need to live in their family home or own home. Real Life Choices represents a system change that provides individual services and supports that are "Self-Directed," meaning that the person receiving services takes a very active role in administering the supports he/she receives. Working with people and their families, a personalized and responsive plan of supports, called an Essential Lifestyle Plan, is developed and funded by DDD. An individual budget is determined and administered through a Fiscal Intermediary. The person can select the services he/she wants to receive from a list of qualified providers. Funding under this initiative is assessed and assigned at one of four levels with funding.

For more information, visit:

www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddd/publications/RLC_Pamphlet.pdf

www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddd/about_ddd.html

Where can I obtain more information about DDD?

Contact the Intake Unit or a DDD Case Manager:

Essex	973.693.5080
Camden and Burlington	856.770.5900
Somerset and Union	973.324.2000
Morris, Sussex and Warren	973.927.2600
Monmouth and Ocean	732.863.4500
Hunterdon, Mercer and Middlesex	609.292.4500
Bergen, Hudson and Passaic	973.977.4004
Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland	609.561.5070
Gloucester and Salem	

Additional Housing Options

If you choose to explore housing options other than DDD's traditional selection there are alternate options to consider. Availability and accessibility to safe, decent and affordable housing are the key priorities for families in New Jersey. In some cases this may mean working with traditional affordable housing developments; in other instances it may be the experience of becoming a first-time home buyer. Whichever option you select, it is important to become informed on the issue of your choice.

What Other Residential Options Exist?

There are other possible sources of funding for which an individual may be eligible. New programs are developing all of the time. This section includes names of several organizations that may be helpful in the search for resources.

When people with a disability reach the age of 18, it usually is their personal income, not the family income, which can be considered for financial assistance. Some programs designed for people of low income can provide assistance for the person with a disability to live independently. This section includes some options to consider.

The support of family and friends with time and resources may be necessary for these more creative approaches to be viable. Some families have joined forces to establish co-op arrangements to share responsibilities or develop nonprofit organizations to establish supportive housing. See Section VI regarding the Development of Affordable Housing for more information.

Finding Affordable Housing

In New Jersey, many programs exist to help people with limited income locate affordable housing. Section 8 Vouchers, for instance, provide a supplement so that the person does not spend more than 30% of his/her income on rent. These programs are available with Federal and State funds. They are administered through the NJ Department of Community Affairs, county social services offices and local housing authorities; some affordable housing projects have vouchers. Obtaining a Section 8 Rental Assistance Voucher can be a significant step toward independent living.

There are several programs to assist people with disabilities to purchase a home of their own with subsidies or low-interest mortgages. A few of these programs are listed below. Your local bank also may have special mortgage rates for first-time home buyers.

The Housing Resource Center provides assistance to explore opportunities within the geographic area in which the person would like to live. Individualized supports can be secured from a variety of sources including natural supports so that the person with a disability can live independently. Administered by NJHMFA, the Housing Resource Center provides individuals with information on accessible and affordable housing that can be rented or is for sale in NJ. To access the NJ Housing Center, visit www.njhousing.gov.

Department of Human Services

Division of Disability Services

Toll-Free	888.285.3036
Phone	609.292.7800
TDD	609.292.1210
Website	http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dds
Mailing Address	222 South Warren Street P.O. Box 700 Trenton, NJ 08625-0700

Information and Referral Services:

The Division of Disability Services (DDS) can serve as a resource for all people seeking disability-related information in New Jersey. Certified Information and Referral Specialists are available to confidentially discuss issues and provide information, assist with problem-solving and refer to appropriate agencies or services. Use of a customized database allows for calls to be tracked and information to be stored for quality customer service.

The Division of Disability Services also administers the funding for several programs supplying supports to people with disabilities. There are specific eligibility criteria for each waiver program. For more information, visit the website and call DDS at 888.285.3036.

DCA Housing Programs

The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs administers the federal Section 8 Rental Assistance Voucher Program and a variety of housing programs for families with low income, women, persons with disabilities and aged persons. Services include rental assistance, which includes federal and emergency shelter grants and homelessness prevention. The Department also administers the Community Services Block Grant and Weatherization programs, as well as the Handicapped Person Recreational Opportunity Grants. Additionally, the Division of Housing administers programs of housing rehabilitation, relocation assistance, family self-sufficiency, emergency shelter grants and homelessness prevention.

The Division assists local groups to sponsor low- and moderate-income housing through programs that preserve, rehabilitate and expand the housing supply for families of low- and moderate-income. The Division also provides administrative grants to nonprofit organizations that are involved in the production of affordable housing. In addition, the Division runs a fellowship program through which graduate students in architecture and engineering work with nonprofit housing agencies.

People with disabilities also may receive a preference or priority consideration in obtaining a voucher, on the basis of their disability. When contacting the Department of Community Affairs or the Public Housing Authority, ask about any specific housing opportunities available for people with disabilities. See Appendix for a list of Public Housing Authorities to inquire about the office that handles these vouchers, or contact the Department of Community Affairs for more information.

Renting for Individuals with Special Needs

Renting

NJ State Rental Assistance Program

A2476 (now Public Law 2004, Chapter 140) is intended to help New Jersey residents of very low-income, including people with disabilities, afford housing.

The \$10 million dollar rental assistance bill (A2476) was signed into law on September 9, 2004.

The New Jersey State Rental Assistance Program (NJSRAP):

- Establishes a statewide program under the jurisdiction of the Department of Community Affairs (DCA), patterned after the federal Section 8 Rental Assistance Program.
- Designs the program to be comparable to the federal Section 8 program. The program only is available to State residents who currently are holders of federal Section 8 vouchers.
- Requires the DCA to set aside \$3 million of the \$10 million to assist senior citizens with housing. The legislation states that the remaining \$7 million should be allocated to "other eligible program participants."

For additional information call Customer Service at (609) 292-4080

Federal Section 8 Housing:

- Assists persons of low-income with housing in the private rental market by helping to pay a portion of the monthly rent.
- Section 8 participants pay between 30% and 40% of their adjusted monthly income for rent. The federal Section 8 program pays the balance of the rent to the landlord.
- Sets the maximum monthly rental amount at a level no higher than 110% of the applicable fair market rent in the area.

State Rental Program

- The State Rental Program is a rental assistance program for individuals or households of low-income. The program provides rental assistance grants, comparable to the Federal Housing Choice Voucher Program, and shall be terminated upon the award of federal subsidy to the same individual of the household.

Ownership

Resources for Individuals with ASDs

Research what special programs are offered in your area to help people with disabilities buy or maintain their own homes.

Buying and maintaining a home can be especially challenging for people with disabilities. There may be a program organization in your area that can provide the assistance you need.

There are national, state and local programs that offer mortgage assistance and other types of housing aid to help better serve people with disabilities. In addition, there are a number of organizations that can provide guidance and information about buying a home.

Home Buyers

New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency (HMFA)

The New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency provides a variety of programs to assist prospective home buyers. Further information on purchasing a home with an HMFA mortgage and brochures on the home buying process also can be requested by calling 1.800.NJ.HOUSE (654.6873).

In New Jersey, home prices are expensive. Even for those who are fortunate enough to afford housing without assistance, home ownership can be an overwhelming and costly process. The Close to Home New Jersey Initiative is available. Visit www.state.nj.us/dca/hmfa/consu/buyers.

Frequently Asked Questions

What programs does HMFA have that are different from a bank or mortgage company?

HMFA offers a variety of below-market interest rate loans to first time home buyers. In addition, these loans are available to people who have not owned a home as their principal residence in the past three years and to buyers who are purchasing housing in an urban target area.

Where can I get an HMFA loan?

All of HMFA's programs are available statewide through a network of participating lenders. Call 1.800.NJ.HOUSE to speak to an HMFA representative who will be happy to locate a lender. Approved lenders also are listed on the HMFA website, www.state.nj.us/dca/hmfa.

What are the benefits of using HMFA programs?

Savings! A lower interest rate means lower monthly mortgage payments. Because this saves money on mortgage payments, it also may provide an opportunity to qualify for a higher priced home. HMFA also provides free home ownership counseling to home buyers who receive a mortgage through HMFA's 100% Financing, Reverse Mortgage and Community Home buyers programs. Down payment and closing costs assistance is available under the Smart Start program for the purchase of homes in Smart Growth Areas. Visit www.state.nj.us/dca/hmfa.

How do I qualify for HMFA programs?

To be eligible, you must be a first-time home buyer or not have owned a principal residence in the last three years. You must meet HMFA income guidelines and the home must fall within HMFA's sale price limits, which vary from county to county. You must be able to qualify for a loan and have the ability to make a down payment if one is required.

How long will it take after I apply?

Your mortgage lender will begin the work of verifying the information you have provided. This process can take from one to several weeks, depending on a variety of factors. Within three days of your application, your lender will provide you with an estimate of your closing costs. You also will get a statement about your estimated monthly payment, the cost of your finance charges and other facts about your mortgage.

Please contact an HMFA representative at 1.800.NJ.HOUSE.

Homeownership for First-Time Home Buyers

For first-time home buyers, many programs offer low interest rates and low down payments. Contact your local banks for more information.

Section 8 Homeownership Program

An individual with a low income who applies for a Housing Choice Voucher (www.hud.gov/offices/pih/programs/hcv) may apply under the Homeownership Program (www.nj.gov/dca/hmfa/consu/buyers/wnprg) to have that voucher subsidize a mortgage. The home must pass an initial housing quality inspection before the purchase is approved. In NJ, the individual with a disability currently must reside in HUD Section 8 housing, have good to excellent credit and at least a 1% down payment. The individual also must attend and satisfactorily complete a pre-assistance homeownership and housing counseling program.

The NJ Department of Community Affairs administers the Housing Choice Voucher Program. In 2007, there only were 44 active families in the program, and only two people with disabilities. Very few local Public Housing Authorities participate due to cumbersome federal program requirements, (e.g., income, down payment, credit standards, etc.). The program should be reviewed by individuals or married couples who are disabled, receiving SSI, have an existing housing voucher, and by people who may be interested in jointly purchasing a home.

In order to save money that may be used to support housing, the Individual Development Accounts Program may help.

Individual Development Accounts

NJ Individual Development Account Program

Phone 609.292.9794

Website <http://www.nj.gov/dca/dcr/ida/index.shtml>

Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) are matched savings accounts designed to help families of low income and low wealth accumulate assets of a few thousand dollars to fund investments in their education, homeownership and small business ownership. The eligibility requirements include having an annual income at or below 200% of the poverty level. For a family of two people, this would be \$23,880 per year of income.

Special Needs

The New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency provides various programs to support residents who have special needs. These include programs for individuals adopting children, homeless people living with AIDs, consumers who have mental illnesses and individuals who have developmental disabilities.

The HMFA initiated the Developmental Disability Home Ownership Program in order to assist individuals with disabilities to purchase a home and/or to modify a residence to make it accessible for the prospective homeowner. The program is available to prospective borrowers who have a developmental disability, are at least 18 years of age, have the legal capacity (or a co-signer with the legal capacity) to enter into contract and can demonstrate sufficient income to support the mortgage loan. Additionally, the Division of Developmental Disabilities Regional Office Assistant Director (RAD), Intake Manager or other appropriate DDD designee must refer eligible borrowers, in writing, consistent with requirements of the Department of Human Services 1994 Capital Bond Act.

For information about low-income or special needs housing ownership programs, call NJHMFA at 800.NJ.HOUSE.

Special Needs Housing Trust Fund (SNHTF)

The Special Needs Housing Trust Fund ("Trust Fund") passed into law in New Jersey in 2005 (P.L. 2005, c. 163) to provide capital financing to create community residences and permanent supportive housing for individuals with special housing and service needs. The purpose of this special non-lapsing, revolving fund, which is administered by the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency (NJHMFA), is to develop special needs housing and residential opportunities.

The monies in the Trust Fund are used to enable persons with special needs to live with dignity and independence within communities of their choice. The Trust Fund provides capital funding to increase the supply of affordable and quality housing with funding for support services supplied by other entities. The Trust Fund provides capital financing in the form of loans, grants and other financial vehicles and investments to eligible nonprofit and for-profit developers, as well as government entities at the state, county and municipal levels, to establish new housing units. Funding for rent, operating subsidies and supportive services is not available through the Trust Fund and must be secured from other sources.

The Trust Fund came into existence with more than \$200 million initially allocated to help create 10,000 units of housing during a ten-year period. Applications are accepted by HMFA on an ongoing basis throughout the year. The Trust Fund can provide up to 80% capital funding of projects, but priority is given to projects with higher matching funds. Loans made to projects serving individuals with disabilities and low income may not have to be repaid after providing long-term affordability for at least 30 years.

Eligible sponsors/borrowers must be nonprofit housing sponsors with experience. Projects must include a special needs housing component. The sponsor must submit a Social Services Plan for the target population. Funding may be used for acquisition of land and/or buildings, including rehabilitation of buildings.

The Trust Fund requires a Social Service Plan that includes: identified social service providers; an executed agreement to provide services; and a description of the scope and means of social and supportive services delivery. The service agreement and funding to support it must be in place at the time of application.

Private Funding Sources

The Reinvestment Fund (TRF)

718 Arch Street, Suite 300 North
Philadelphia, PA 19106-1591
Phone 215.574.5800

TRF provides predevelopment loan and acquisition financing to a wide range of nonprofit educational and social service organizations that increase opportunities for individuals and communities. TRF delivers capital where it is most needed and can best transform lives and rebuild neighborhoods. TRF has developed innovative analytical tools and formed strategic partnerships that unite investors, developers and entrepreneurs, enabling them to deliver capital precisely where it will do the most good. TRF has financed more than 1,950 projects, delivering more than \$520 million in capital. TRF can be utilized as a source of bridge and start-up funding.

TRF is a good resource for predevelopment loans, start-up and bridge loans, providing competitive short-term rates and terms. TRF also is a potential resource in securing bridge funding for a HUD Section 811 project, requiring site control at the time of application.

New Jersey Predevelopment Loan and Acquisition Fund for Nonprofits (NJPLAN)

In the last year, TRF worked closely with the Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey to capitalize the \$10 million NJPLAN. The fund provides low-cost, early-stage financing to nonprofit housing developers. In addition to investments from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs and New Jersey Housing Mortgage Finance Agency, the fund has attracted private investors such as Provident Bank Foundation, Washington Mutual and North Fork Bank.

TRF can provide a source of capital financing for a Bridge Loan (e.g., to a HMFA Trust Fund or HUD Section 811 project) with the potential of up to \$700,000. The interest is paid at the end of the loan term. TRF also may be utilized to finance the site control until permanent funding is secured. For more information, contact The Reinvestment Fund.

Neighborhood Preservation Balanced Housing Program (NPBHP) and Balanced Housing Deep Subsidy Program (BHP)

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
Division of Housing and Community Resources
P.O. Box 051
Trenton, NJ 08625
Phone 609.633.6302

The Balanced Housing Program provides direct financial and technical assistance to municipalities during a three- to five-year period to conduct activities associated with the preservation of designated neighborhoods based on revitalization plans within those municipalities. The funding source for the program is the State Aid Appropriation, which has four award periods during the year. A municipality must fall into one of the following categories:

- it has received substantive certification from the Council on Affordable Housing (COAH);
- it has entered into a judicially-approved compliance agreement to settle its fair share housing obligation;
- it is subject to a court-ordered builder's remedy;
- it has been designated as a receiving municipality under a Regional Contribution Agreement (RCA) and the project plans have been approved by the Council on Affordable Housing; or
- it has, at any time since Fiscal Year 1988, been eligible to receive State aid.

Applications are continuously accepted with dates of notification in January, April, July and October.

The BHP is intended to increase the number of rental housing units that are affordable for families with very low income. The Department of Community Affairs (DCA) annually allocates \$5 million to reduce the cost of constructing those units produced under this program. Funding is limited to capital investments and funded from the Neighborhood Preservation Balanced Housing Program.

The NPBHP has been a source of capital for special needs projects, but eligible municipalities have to fall into the aforementioned categories. In 2004 and 2005, the Department of Community Affairs and the Department of Human Services, through its Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), successfully used this program with DDD funding to do repair and maintenance work on several hundred projects in community residences.

About the Council on Affordable Housing (COAH)

The Council on Affordable Housing (COAH) was created by the Fair Housing Act of 1985 as the State Legislature's response to a series of New Jersey Supreme Court cases known as the Mount Laurel decisions. The Supreme Court established a constitutional obligation for each of the 566 municipalities in the state to establish a realistic opportunity for the provision of fair share low- and moderate-income housing obligations, generally through land use and zoning powers. The legislature provided an administrative alternative to this constitutional obligation via the Fair Housing Act. With 12 members appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Senate, COAH is empowered to define housing regulations; estimate low- and moderate-income housing needs; and set criteria and guidelines for municipalities to determine and address their own fair share. Visit www.state.nj.us/dca/affiliates/coah/index/html.

Mission Statement

To facilitate the production of sound, affordable housing for low- and moderate-income households by providing the most effective process to municipalities, housing providers, nonprofit and for-profit developers to address a constitutional obligation within the framework of sound, comprehensive planning.

The New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing (COAH)

101 South Broad Street

P.O. Box 813

Trenton, NJ 08625

Phone 609.292.3000

Fax 609.633.6056

Federal, state and private funding sources may be used in creating community residences, supportive housing and other housing options.

Given the high cost of housing in New Jersey, funding that supports the creation of community residences and supportive housing generally comes from a variety of funding sources. These sources may include a mix of federal, state, county, municipal and private funding sources. Most of the sources of capital financing used in the development of community residences are targeted for agencies that are nonprofit organizations. Parents have joined together in large and small groups to establish their own nonprofit organization to sponsor the development of housing units for people with disabilities. In order to be considered a nonprofit organization, an agency must apply for and receive U.S. Internal Revenue Service code status under (26 U.S.C. 501(c)3, which grants the organization an exemption from payment of Federal Income taxes, state and local real estate taxes, in most states. Most community residences are

developed and funded by nonprofit agencies that secure funding from some of the following sources of federal, state and local sources of capital. The Fair Housing Act: (www.sudoj.gov/crt/housing/title8.htm.) is a federal law prohibiting discrimination in the sale or rental of houses and apartments.

Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Housing Programs

The primary federal department focusing on creating housing opportunities for families and individuals of low- and moderate-incomes is the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development. HUD's mission is to increase homeownership, support community development and increase access to affordable housing free from discrimination. To fulfill this mission, HUD seeks to embrace high standards of ethics, management and accountability and forge new partnerships, particularly with faith-based and community organizations. The following is an outline of several HUD programs that may be directly administered directly by HUD, and through state and local public housing authorities, Housing and Mortgage Finance Agencies and for-profit and nonprofit organizations that may support the creation of affordable housing for people with disabilities. Many other HUD programs can be located at www.hud.gov.

Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

HUD Regional Director
Region II
Jacob K. Javits Federal Building
26 Federal Plaza
New York, NY 10278
Phone 212.264.8000

HUD Newark Field Office

Office of the HUD Field Office Director
One Newark Center
1085 Raymond Boulevard, 13th Floor
Newark, NJ 07102-5260
Phone 973.622.7900

HUD Camden Field Office

Bridgeview
800-840 Cooper Street, 2nd Floor
Camden, NJ 08102-1156
Phone 856.757.5081
Fax 856.757.5373

HUD Section 8 Single Room Occupancy – Moderate Rehabilitation

This program can be used to rehabilitate privately owned, substandard, single-room occupancy rental units providing housing for individuals eligible for Section 8 Rental Assistance. The program generally is used in larger scale rehabilitation of rental housing. Technical assistance is provided to property owners during all phases of rehabilitation including preparing work write-ups, evaluating contractor bids, applying for financing and construction and quality control. Upon completing the rehabilitation work, the project sponsor receives financial assistance during a 10-year period in the form of Section 8 Rental Assistance. Application is made by submission of an application in response to HUD Request for Proposal announcements that are generally announced each year in April or May. Contact HUD for additional information.

Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program (FLIHTCP)

The Tax Credit Program enjoys the reputation of being the most successful federal housing program in history. The tax credit program provides a dollar-for-dollar reduction in federal tax liability and acts as a catalyst to attract private investment into the affordable housing market. The additional capital reduces the loan, or debt burden, incurred in the construction and rehabilitation development process.

The Tax Credit Program's primary focus is on medium-to-large-size rental property developments, which may serve people with disabilities. It is not a good resource for the development of small scale community residence projects.

Currently, each state is vested with \$1.90 worth of credits per capita, giving New Jersey approximately 16 million credits to annually allocate. This program is administered through the **New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency**. Oversight of the program is handled by each state under the auspices of the Internal Revenue Service. Consequently, compliance with the program is strictly enforced.

Given the successful history of the Tax Credit Program, demand exceeds supply by close to three-to-one. This has led to a fairly complex competition, with applications typically due each year in April or May. NJHMFA provides extensive application and compliance trainings to assist provider agencies interested in applying.

NJHMFA currently monitors more than 400 tax credit developments that contain more than 24,000 units and assists with the rehabilitation or construction of approximately 20 projects annually. For additional information, contact HUD or the NJHMFA, which administers the FLIHTCP.

HUD Section 811 Program – Housing for People with Disabilities

HUD provides interest-free capital advances (up-front funding) to nonprofit agencies to help them finance the development of rental housing such as independent living projects, condominium units and small group homes. The capital advance can finance the construction, rehabilitation or acquisition of housing, with or without rehabilitation of the housing. The advance does not have to be repaid for at least 40 years as long as the housing remains available for persons with disabilities and a very low-income.

HUD also provides rental assistance that covers the difference between the HUD-approved operating cost of the project and the amount the residents pay for rent. Each project must have a plan to provide supportive services. The availability of supportive services for persons with disabilities must be confirmed with a letter of commitment from sources such as **DDD**. DDD reviews a potential sponsor's application to determine if the plan is well-designed to meet the needs of persons with disabilities. Services may vary with the target population, but could include case management, training in independent living skills and assistance in obtaining employment. However, residents cannot be required to accept supportive service as a condition of living in the home. Contact HUD for additional information.

HOME Program

In general, under the HOME Program, HUD allocates funds by a formula among eligible state and local governments to strengthen public-private partnerships and expand the supply of decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing. The primary focus of the program is to develop rental housing for families with low-income. Generally, HOME funds must be matched by non-federal funding resources. State, county and local governments that participate in the program may use HOME funds to carry out multi-year housing strategies through acquisition, rehabilitation and new construction of housing and tenant-based rental assistance. These participating jurisdictions may provide assistance in a number of eligible forms, including loans, advances, equity investments, interest subsidies and other forms of investment that address community needs.

The NJ Department of Community Affairs is a participating jurisdiction and administers statewide programs under HOME. Contact HUD or the Department of Community Affairs for more information.

Housing Counseling Agencies

The Department of Housing and Urban Development approves agencies that can provide housing counseling for individuals seeking affordable housing. For a complete listing of agencies in New Jersey visit www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/hcc/hcs.cfm?webListAction=search&searchstate=NJ.

The Federal Home Loan Bank's First Home Club (FHC) New Jersey Operations Center
Federal Home Loan Bank of New York
New Jersey Operations Center
30 Montgomery Street
Jersey City, NJ 07302
Phone 201.356.1000
Fax 201.356.1995
E-mail info@fhlnj.com

The First Home Club was launched in 1995 to offer an incentive for households with incomes at or below 80% of area median income to save toward the purchase of a new home. The FHC provides down payment and closing cost assistance by granting four dollars in matching funds for each dollar saved in a dedicated account (up to \$7,500 in matching funds) to an eligible first-time home buyer purchasing a home.

Each county has several offices that may be of assistance in locating affordable rental housing as well as resources to support independent living.

Support Services

Housing is more than just bricks and mortar

It is the community in which you live. It's important to consider the "personal care"/"support service" needs of an individual with ASDs as housing options are pursued. **Personal care** is defined as "assistance in essential daily activities such as bathing, dressing, transferring, toileting, feeding, grooming and hygiene." **Support services** are defined as "services provided to developmentally disabled individuals and their families that are generally of short-term durations, or are a specific type of care, treatment, training or assistance of device that will help the individual avoid the need for more intensive care, which would require coordination of a sequence of generic or specialized services." Many individuals with ASDs are in need of Activities of Daily Living (ADL) skills training. Without the essential training and support service, there may individuals who would otherwise not be able to maintain independence in a residential setting. In order to know to seek necessary supports, it's important to have an understanding of the primary source(s) and eligibility requirements. Not all individuals need to reach out for support funding mechanisms, but in the event you do, here is an outline to begin your journey.

Local school districts are responsible for providing services to students with disabilities through age 21: other state funding sources assume the responsibility for services after individuals graduate from school. Services for people with disabilities over age 21 are referred to as 'adult services' and, just as the autism spectrum covers a wide range of functional abilities, so do services and supports for adults with disabilities. The primary source of services for adults with autism and related disabilities is the New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD). Visit www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddd.

For Any Generic Benefits to Support Independence

If a person with an autism spectrum disorder or a developmental disability does not earn much money and has limited financial resources, he/she may be eligible for several benefits and services that apply to people with low incomes. The parent's income usually is not considered when an application for an adult with disabilities is made for most of these programs.

211 for Information and Referral

Website <http://www.211.org>

Phone 211

211 is an easy-to-remember telephone number that, where available, connects people with important community services and volunteer opportunities. The implementation of 211 is being spearheaded by The United Way and comprehensive and specialized information and referral agencies in states and local communities. United Way of America (UWA) and the Alliance for Information and Referral Systems (AIRS) strongly support federal funding so that every American has access to this essential service.

Here is a list of eligibility requirements and services offered by the following Social Security programs:

Social Security Programs

Medicaid

Medicaid is a federal funding system administered in New Jersey by the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS). Medicaid pays for a wide array of services for people with disabilities and their families and provides government-funded health insurance and personal care services, for children and adults with disabilities who have limited financial resources. Medicaid also provides government funding for long-term services and support, including institutional care, and, increasingly, community-based services such as traditional and self-directed

services. These community-based services are funded through a “waiver” known as the Community Care Waiver (CCW). In New Jersey, the CCW is the primary funding source for adults receiving services through DDD. The CCW allows the state to use federal and state funding for flexible services that are more person-centered. The CCW is for individuals with developmental disabilities who would otherwise require an institutional level of care, but who can be served at home. The CCW funds case management, respite care, habilitation (including vocational, educational and supported employment services), home and vehicle accessibility adaptations, personal emergency response systems, therapies and other individual supports. (See page 14).

Even if a person has private health insurance, Medicaid may pay for services that most private insurance plans do not cover such as private duty nursing, medical supplies or even residential placement. In order to maximize federal funding, DDD requires all participants to maintain Medicaid eligibility.

Eligibility

Eligibility for Medicaid is based on assessment of both disability and financial resources. Most adults who are DDD-eligible will meet the Medicaid definition of disability. Medicaid has stringent assets and earnings guidelines. Generally, Medicaid eligibility depends upon a person’s satisfying the requirements for the federal Supplement Security Income (SSI) program. Medicaid “waivers” permitting higher monthly earnings may apply in some circumstances. With the exception of these waiver programs, the income and resources of parents of children under age 18 are considered.

Social Security Administration

Phone	800.772.1213
TTD	800.325.0778
Website	http://www.socialsecurity.gov

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

SSI is a Federal program established for individuals with disabilities and the elderly. The program provides a monthly stipend. The federal government administers SSI through the Social Security Administration. People over 65 and people with disabilities, including children, may be eligible for SSI payment and will automatically receive NJ Medicaid. Medicaid eligibility is required for “waiver” services. Application is made through any Social Security office. When a person is past the age of 18, the family assets are not considered in benefit eligibility determination.

Supplemental Security Income

The SSI program makes cash assistance payments to people who are aged, blind and disabled (including children under age 18) who have limited income and resources.

No work history is required to receive SSI benefits. There also is no waiting period. An individual may receive benefits as of the first day of the month following the month of application. The SSI benefit usually ranges between \$400 and \$600 per month. A person who qualifies for SSI also will qualify for Medicaid.

Eligibility

In most cases, to qualify for SSI a person with disability can have no more than approximately \$700 to \$800 in monthly income and no more than \$2,000 in countable resources. Countable resources are the person’s property (other than certain exempt resources, such as the house one lives in and one car). The person also must have a disability that prevents gainful employment. When the person is under age 18 and living at home, family income and resources will be counted. However, once the applicant turns 18, family resources will not be counted even if the applicant continues living at home. What then matters is only the income and resources of the person. For this reason, most people with disabilities qualify for the first time at age 18.

You Should Know...

- Many parents and well-intentioned relatives will open a bank account or purchase saving bonds in the same name of a minor with a disability, only to realize that at age 18 their child is not eligible because savings are in excess of \$2,000. As harsh as this may sound, a child with a significant disability should not have assets put in his or her name. A special needs trust should be considered.
- A bank account or other assets held in the name of the person with autism, which causes SSI disqualification, also will cause Medicaid disqualification. There are several additional ways to qualify for Medicaid, even if the applicant cannot meet the SSI income and resource tests. For example, an applicant who loses SSI simply because he or she is collecting regular Social Security (SSA) as a dependent of a parent who dies or retires will continue to receive Medicaid benefits. Also, applicants whose income placed them slightly above the Medicaid limit may still be eligible under alternative eligibility criteria.

There are waivers and work incentive programs that allow an individual to remain on SSI and Medicaid and still have earnings in excess of the minimum monthly allowable requirements. Families should inquire directly with SSI and Medicaid about these programs. For information on Social Security Work Incentive Programs, contact NJWINS.

Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)

SSDI provides benefits to individuals who are aged, disabled or blind and are “insured” by workers’ contributions to the Social Security trust fund. These contributions are the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) Social Security tax paid on their earnings or those of their spouses or parents. As with SSI, individuals can have no more than approximately \$700 to \$800 in monthly income and no more than \$2,000 in countable resources. If an individual is eligible for SSDI benefits, they also will receive Medicare coverage; however, the first 24 months of disability benefits entitlement is the waiting period for Medicare coverage.

Eligibility

Individuals who are aged, blind or disabled and have worked and paid Social Security taxes for enough years to be covered under Social Security insurance are eligible to receive SSDI. Some of the taxes must have been paid in recent years and the individual must be the worker, the worker’s widow(er) or the worker’s disabled adult child. The disabled child must be unmarried, age 18 or over, and his/her disability must have begun before the age of 22.

Social Security Checklist: Have you applied for the following social security benefits?

- Social Security Disability Income (SDDI)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Medicaid Services

Food Stamps Program

Phone 800.687.9512

The Food Stamps Program issues monthly benefits that can be redeemed at local food stores to purchase groceries. A person can apply through his/her county’s Board of Social Services or by completing an application online at <http://www.njfoodstamps.com> or <http://www.njhelps.org>. Eligibility is determined based upon several factors such as income, household size, resources, etc. There is an online tool to assist in determining eligibility. For more information about the Food Stamp Program and other local benefits, contact your County Welfare Agency or Board of Social Services. See the Appendix for the phone numbers of the county offices. The County Boards of Social Services determine eligibility for Food Stamps.

General Assistance and Local Services

Most counties and some towns offer assistance to people who are elderly or disabled regarding transportation, money management, income tax preparation, telephone reassurance calls, meals on wheels, food pantries, recreational activities, accessibility, home modifications and more. Contact your County Board of Social Services, the Office on Aging and Disability Services and your local municipality. See Appendix for local numbers. The County Offices on Aging and Disabilities will be aware of other programs or services that can be of assistance. Some towns and counties have funds to assist in getting started in a new home by funding a security deposit, purchasing food or household supplies, etc. The local Housing Authorities manage the rental of affordable housing units within their local communities. See Appendix for list of housing authorities.

Pharmaceutical Assistance for the Aged and Disabled (PAAD)

P.O. Box 807

Trenton, NJ 08625

Phone 800.792.9745

Website <http://www.nj.gov/health/seniorbenefits/paadapp.htm>

PAAD is a program that assists eligible New Jersey residents to pay for their prescription medicines with a co-pay of \$5.00 for each covered prescription. Enrollment in this program provides access to additional benefits.

Weatherization Assistance Program

Phone 609.292.6140

This program works with community-based agencies to help seniors, residents with disabilities and low-income households weatherize their homes to improve heating system efficiency, conserve energy and decrease utility bills. The program also provides funds to pay heating bills under emergency circumstances.

Home Energy Assistance (HEA) Program

Phone 800.510.3102

Website <http://www.nj.gov/dca>

Home Energy Assistance helps pay home energy bills for households with limited income. This program provides heating, cooling and emergency energy assistance to eligible applicants.

Caregiver Resources

P.O. Box 807

Trenton, NJ 08625-0807

Phone 800.792.8820

Website <http://www.nj.gov/caregivernj/resources/transportation.shtml>

The Caregiver Resource-Transportation program provides information on transportation programs throughout New Jersey.

LIHEAP Energy Assistance Program

Website <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/liheap>

LIHEAP is a federally-funded program to help eligible residents of low-income in New Jersey meet their home heating and/or cooling needs.

New Jersey Statewide Heating Assistance and Referral for Energy Services (NJSHARES)

1230 Parkway Avenue, Suite 302

Ewing, NJ 08628-3018

Phone 866.657.4273

Fax 609.883.6364

Website <http://www.njshares.org>

NJSHARES is a nonprofit corporation organized to provide assistance to individuals and families living in New Jersey who are in need of temporary help in paying their energy bills.

New Jersey Natural Gas Gift of Warmth

Phone 800.221.0051

E-mail customerservice@njng.com

Funded through NJ Natural Gas, Gift of Warmth assists customers unable to afford their natural gas heating bills.

Verizon Telephone Company

Phone 866.452.4623

Discounted Telephone Service is available from Verizon Telephone Company through its Linkup America Program. Verizon Communications makes residential telephone service more affordable in its service area in New Jersey by offering Communications Lifeline and Linkup America Services for qualified customers of low-income. If a person receives SSI benefits or qualifies for PADD, he/she meets the qualifications for this program as well.

Verizon's Communications Lifeline and Linkup America

<http://www.22verizon.com/about/community/nj/tele/lifeline.html>

Communications Lifeline provides a \$13.31 maximum credit toward your monthly telephone bill, including a full-credit for Touch-Tone service. Communication Lifeline allows you to receive the discount by choosing Flat Rate Service, Moderate Use Message Rate Service or Low Use Message Rate Service Plans.

Transportation

Accessible public transportation and demand-response para-transit are two of the most pressing problems facing individuals with disabilities who want to live independent and productive lives. Public transportation provides greater access to employment, education, medical care and a host of other services and activities to help people with disabilities, and all persons, be active and productive members of their communities. Therefore, individuals with disabilities need the option of accessible public transportation. It's important to identify transportation mechanisms that are in place on a municipal, county and statewide level that will support and individual with ASDs to lead independent and full lives, according to their individual capability.

General Information

888.486.3339 toll-free in NJ

609.292.6500 out of state

609.292.5120 TTY

Customer service representatives are available:

From 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Monday through Fridays.

Pre-recorded general information is available at all other times.

<http://www.state.nj.us/mvc/About/Contact.htm>

Transportation

NJ Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC)

The New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) issues the handicapped license plates and placards that are required to legally park in designated handicapped parking spaces. These license plates and placards are issued free of charge and may be required by drivers with disabilities or by individuals with disabilities who do not drive, but are transported by others. Applications may be obtained by visiting any MVC location or by calling the customer service number. For persons with temporary disabilities, temporary placards (valid for up to six months) are available through local police departments for a small fee. The Motor Vehicle Commission also issues Non-Driver Photo ID card to individuals aged 17 and older who need a valid photo ID for the purpose of identification, but who are unable to drive due to their disabilities. An applicant must appear in person at a MVC office with the required identification documents to obtain this card.

NJ Transit Accessible Services

New Jersey Transit is responsible for making public transportation in New Jersey ascendable to individuals with disabilities by providing accessible train and light-rail stations and cars, and lift-equipped and kneeling buses. New Jersey Transit additionally administers the Reduced Fare Program for seniors and individuals with disabilities who use New Jersey Transit buses or trains. Access Link is New Jersey Transit's para-transit service comparable to the local services. This curb-to-curb service is specifically for individuals whose disability prevents them from using the local fixed route bus service.

County Para-Transit Services

To arrange for a transportation assessment appointment, please contact NJ TRANSIT by dialing 1.800.955.2321 (TT 1.800.955.6765) between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Choose the "not a certified Access Link rider" option to speak with a Certification Assistant.

Each county operates a para-transit system to serve its seniors and residents with disabilities. These services provide curb-to-curb, specialized transportation for a minimal fee, and they generally will not transport passengers across county lines. Individuals who wish to utilize their county's para-transit bus system must complete an application

process before service can begin, and advance notice is necessary in order for transportation to be arranged. Transportation services vary by county.

Red Cross

Some American Red Cross chapters provide limited, non-emergency medical transportation for individuals who are elderly, have disabilities and who have no other means of transportation. For further information, contact the local American Red Cross. You can find this phone number in the white pages of your local phone book.

www.redcross.org

Assistive Technology to Support Independence

Technology

Advances in technology offer many options for people to live with less dependence upon caregivers. Assistive Technology refers to any device to improve the functional capabilities of a person with a disability. These tools can be simple or complex. Some items are expensive and may be reimbursable by insurance plans as durable medical equipment. Other devices can be purchased in any electronics store. Video monitoring, cell phones, communication boards, safety alarms, GPS tracking devices and medication administration devices are examples of ways technology is used to support people with disabilities to live more independently.

Cerebral Palsy of NJ Rehabilitation Technology Services and Technology Lending Center

CPNJ

1005 Whitehead Road Ext., Suite 1

Ewing, NJ 08638

Phone 609.882.4182

Toll-free 888.322.1918

TTY 609.882.0620

Fax 609.882.4054

Website <http://www.cpfnj.org/services/tlc.htm>

The Cerebral Palsy of New Jersey's Technology Lending Center (TLC) features a wide variety of assistive technology including computer access technology, communication devices, adapted toys and an impressive array of adaptive equipment used for daily living. Its Rehabilitation Technology Services Department offers free TLC tours and equipment demonstrations, and encourages TLC membership.

Consider taking advantage of the fully-stocked Technology Lending Center to sample a device. Members can sample or test state-of-the-art equipment in their home, for up to six weeks, before deciding whether to buy.

Other Resources for Technology

Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities University of Colorado

3825 Iris Ave., Suite 200

Boulder, Colorado 80301

Website <http://www.cu.edu/ColemanInstitute/agenda.html>

Assistive Technology Advocacy Center (ATAC)

210 S. Broad Street, 3rd Floor
Trenton, NJ 08608
Phone 800.DIAL.TEC (342.5832)
TDD 609.633.7106
FAX 609.777.0187
Website <http://www.njpanda.org/atacprogram.htm>

Your ReSource

8 Industry Court
Ewing, NJ 08638
Phone 609.530.1513
Website <http://www.yourresourcenj.org>

ReSource collects durable medical equipment and redistributes it to people in need.

The National Technical Assistance Project

Phone 703.524.6686
Website http://www.lsnatap.org/ntap_training_coordinator

The Technical Assistance Project is a sponsored project of the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America (RESNA). RESNA continues to operate the Technical Assistance Project under a new grant from the Rehabilitation Services Administration, U.S. Department of Education. The RESNA Technical Assistance Project Resource Guide provides information about assistive technology and home modifications. The guide covers definitions; laws and guidelines; initiatives from the Assistive Technology Act grantees; advocacy, financing, modification, and research resources; accreditations; online courses; and a bibliography.

Other Useful Links for Assistive Technology

ABLEDATA

Website <http://www.abledata.com>

Assistivetech.net

Website <http://www.assistivetech.net>

Other options are listed on the W3C Website

Website <http://www.w3.org/WAI/eval/Overview.html>

IDEAL Group - free AT applications

Website <http://www.onlineconferencingsystems.com/at.htm>

Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center-Assistive Devices and Hearing Aids

Website <http://clerccenter.gallaudet.edu/infotogo/index.html#assistive>

Lighthouse International

Website <http://www.lighthouse.org/default.htm>

National AT Advocacy Project

Website <http://www.nls.org>

National Resource Center on Supportive Housing and Home Modification

Website <http://www.homemods.org>

Neighborhood Legal Services

Website <http://www.nls.org>

Northeast ADA & IT Center

Website <http://www.northeastada.org>

Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA)

Website <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/rsa/index.html?src=mr>

RESNA

Website <http://www.resna.org>

TechConnections

Website <http://www.techconnections.org>

Housing Design to Support Independence

Center for Universal Design

Website <http://www.design.ncsu.edu/cud>

Legal Services

Community Health Law Project

185 Valley Street
South Orange, NJ 07079
Phone 973.275.1175
Fax 973.275.5210
TTY 973.275.1721
E-mail chlpinfo@chlp.org
Website <http://www.chlp.org>

The Community Health Law Project provides legal and advocacy services, education and related activities to people with disabilities, without charge.

The New Jersey Division on Civil Rights

The Division enforces the housing discrimination law.
Contact the
Housing Hotline
to file a complaint 866.405.3050.
Website <http://www.state.nj.us/lps/dcr>

Disability Rights New Jersey (DRNJ)

210 South Broad Street, 3rd Floor
Trenton, New Jersey 08608
Phone 609.292.9742 or 800.922.7233 (in NJ Only)
Fax 609.777.0187
TTY 609.633.7106
E-mail advocate@drnj.org

DRNJ is the consumer-directed, nonprofit organization that serves as New Jersey's designated protection and advocacy system for people with disabilities. In partnership with individuals with disabilities and their families, DRNJ works to protect and advance the rights of people with disabilities. DRNJ provides information and referral and a broad range of advocacy services, including legal representation in numerous cases in state and federal courts.

Legal Services of New Jersey (LSNJ)

Toll-free hotline 888.LSNJ.LAW
888.576.5529
Legal Services of New Jersey
100 Metroplex Drive, Suite 402
P.O. Box 1357
Edison, NJ 08818-1357
Phone 732.572.9100
Website <http://www.lsnj.org>

Legal Services of New Jersey embraces the vision of full access to essential civil legal aid for all people who are economically disadvantaged and cannot secure a lawyer on their own.

Department of the Public Advocate

240 West State Street, 16th Floor

PO Box 851

Trenton, NJ 08625

Call 609.826.5090

Fax 609.984.4747

E-mail PublicAdvocate@advocate.state.nj.us

The Department of the Public Advocate is charged with making government more accountable and responsive to the needs of New Jersey residents, especially our most vulnerable citizens.

The Public Advocate's mission is to act as a voice for the people on a range of critical issues. This is accomplished through many avenues: legal advocacy, policy research and reform, investigation of abuse and neglect, community partnerships, legislative and regulatory action, education and outreach.

The new Department of the Public Advocate works to protect the interests of the public, with a special focus on the elderly, people with mental illness or developmental disabilities, consumers and children.

Other Government Agencies

Other government agencies that may be able to help:

Many governmental agencies exist to coordinate services for people with disabilities. If a person has a secondary condition such as blindness, or a mental health need, physical disability, medical disability, aging and such, organizations other than DDD may have funding or services from which the individual can benefit.

Generic services that support people in the community also may be of assistance. Research is required to identify the eligibility criteria for each service. Here is a brief description of these services and where to go for additional information.

Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (CBVI)

P.O. Box 47017

153 Halsey Street, 6th Floor

Newark, NJ 07101

Phone 877.685.8878

973.648.3333

CBVI provides a wide range of educational services, vocational rehabilitation services as well as independent living services for New Jersey residents of all ages who are blind or visually impaired. CBVI also offers a number of special programs and services that address specific needs of individuals who are blind or visually impaired. Depending on family income, some people who apply are required to pay a share of the cost of programs or services.

Division of Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DDHH)

P.O. Box 074

Trenton, NJ 08625-0074

Voice/TTY 800.792.8339
 609.984.7281

DDHH serves New Jersey residents who are deaf or hard of hearing by providing advocacy, employment and vocational opportunities, and by assisting with a wide variety of social, legal, medical, educational and recreational issues. DDHH administers New Jersey's primary sign language interpreter referral service, provides assistance through an information and referral hotline and publishes a monthly newsletter as well as other resource information. DDHH distributes Text Telephone equipment and Voice Carryover Phones to assist individuals in their daily activities.

Division of Mental Health Services (DMHS)

P.O. Box 727

Trenton, NJ 08625-0727

Phone 800.382.6717
 609.777.0702

DMHS serves adults with serious and persistent mental illnesses, as well as children and adolescents with emotional and behavioral disorders. Central to the mission of DMHS is the fact that these individuals are entitled to dignified and meaningful lives. DMHS operates six psychiatric hospitals, monitors and helps fund psychiatric services provided by a number of county hospitals and contracts with more than 120 agencies for a wide range of community mental health services. Services may be accessed by contacting a County Mental Health Administrator or a County Screening Center.

DMHS has several new supportive housing initiatives. Most of them are for people who currently live in psychiatric facilities and need housing and support to live on their own.

Division of Addiction Services (DAS)

P.O. Box 362

Trenton, NJ 08625-0362

Phone 609.984.3374

DAS is the single state agency for substance abuse in New Jersey. DAS has the authority to plan, implement, evaluate and regulate New Jersey's treatment and prevention substance abuse efforts. The Division is responsible for providing effective treatment and prevention for alcoholism and drug abuse and enhancing public awareness of the dangers of such substances. DAS budgets State, Federal and other funds, reviews applications, prepares grant documents and monitors expenditures. DAS has several new supportive housing initiatives for people with substance abuse difficulties.

Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS)

Division of Long-Term Care Systems Development and Quality

P.O. Box 367

Trenton, NJ 08625-0365

Phone 609.633.9051

Toll-free in NJ 800.367.6543

Information and Referral:

DHSS has many functions that protect the public health and safety. It is responsible for overseeing and inspecting many services for individuals who are elderly and disabled, such as assisted living, nursing homes and adult medical day care, with the Department of Human Services to assist people to move out of nursing homes into homes in the community.

DHSS maintains a hotline referral service, 1.800.792.9745, which can direct a person to many services offered within a county. In the Appendix, there also is a list of County Offices of Disability and the County Boards of Social Services. Contact these agencies for specific services in your county, which may be of assistance.

New Jersey Ease for Caregivers

Phone 800.222.3737

Website <http://www.caregivernj.nj.gov>

The Department of Health and Senior Services maintains lists of nursing homes and assisted living facilities, which it licenses. These residential facilities might be an option for people with medical care needs in addition to their primary disability. Admission criteria exist for each option; the person must qualify based upon a medical care assessment. Contact the Department of Health and Senior Services for more information. Many of these facilities accept Medicaid, health insurances or private payment.

Some assisted living facilities have openings and may be able to serve someone with a disability who does not meet the age criteria. Such facilities are funded with personal funds, insurances as well as Medicaid and Medicare.

Caregiver Assistance Program (CAP)

P.O. Box 807

Trenton, NJ 08625-0807

Phone 800.792.8820

Website <http://www.state.nj.us/health/senior/cap.shtml>

The Caregiver Assistance Program is a Medicaid Waiver Program that provides a supplement to the assistance an individual receives from his/her natural support network of family, friends and neighbors, as well as from community agencies and volunteer groups. CAP provides case management, respite care, homemaker services, transportation and other services. Eligibility is 65 or older or 21-64 in New Jersey and on Social Security Disability. Note: Must be financially and medically eligible and a cost-share may apply.

Assisted Living Facilities (ALF)

ALF provide a coordinated array of personal and health services, medication management and 24-hour supervision, if needed, in a home-like setting. New Jersey ALF are licensed by the Department of Health and Senior Services and available as a waiver option or on a private-pay basis.

Comprehensive Personal Care Homes (CPCH)

CPCH offer room and board and assisted living services including assistance with activities of daily living, 24-hour supervision when needed and medication management. These facilities, converted from other entities such as boarding homes, typically offer rooms to share. The Department of Health and Senior Services licenses these facilities, which are available as a Waiver option or on a private-pay basis.

Adult Family Care (AFC)

AFC is a package of services including room, board and some health care for no more than three persons living in a home of an unrelated individual who has been trained and approved by a sponsor agency. The Department of Health and Senior Services licenses the sponsor agency. This service is available as a Waiver option or on a private-pay basis.

Centers for Independent Living (CIL)

New Jersey Statewide Independent Living Council

c/o Progressive Center for Independent Living
1262 Whitehorse-Hamilton Square Road
Hamilton, New Jersey 08690

Phone	609.581.4500
Fax	609.581.4550
TTY	609.581.4555

Centers for Independent Living are community-based, consumer-driven, non-residential organizations that help break down the physical, social and attitudinal barriers that may hinder individuals with disabilities from achieving their desired independence and participation in community life. Services provided by CILs generally are free of charge and include information and referral, peer counseling, independent living skills training, advocacy and a variety of services based on the needs of the population. The purpose of the independent living programs is to maximize the leadership, empowerment, independence and productivity of individuals with disabilities and to integrate these individuals into the mainstream of American society. Independent living programs provide financial assistance to provide, expand and improve independent living services; develop and support statewide networks of centers for independent living; and improve working relationships among state independent living rehabilitation programs, centers for independent living, statewide Independent Living Council (SILC), Rehabilitation Act programs outside of Title VII and other relevant federal and non-federal programs.

Developmental Disabilities Agencies

The Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities

Liberty Plaza
335 George Street, 3rd Floor
New Brunswick, NJ 08903-2688
Phone 732.235.9300
Website <http://rwjms.umdj.edu/boggscenter>

The Boggs Center is part of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) - Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Department of Pediatrics. Since its inception in 1983, The Boggs Center has emphasized a community-based, lifespan approach to the needs of individuals with the full range of developmental disabilities and their families. The Boggs Center provides community and student training and technical assistance, conducts research and model demonstrations, disseminates educational material and responds to requests for information. The Boggs Center serves as a source of innovation and capacity building for supports and services to people with disabilities and their families.

New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities

P.O. Box 700
Trenton, NJ 08625-0700
Mary Roebling Building
20 West State Street, 7th Floor
Trenton, NJ 08625
Phone 609.292.3745
Toll Free 800.792.8858
TDD 609.777.3238
Fax 609.292.7114
E-mail cdd.survey@njddc.org
Website <http://www.njddc.org>

Funding by the federal government with matching funds from the State, The New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities is a lead change agent in the State, responsible for a vision of what the lives of people with developmental disabilities should be. Through its membership, activities and projects, the Council provides a forum and resources for making its vision a reality. Many public and private agencies are involved in the lives of people with developmental disabilities. The Council provides a platform for these agencies, together with consumers, parents and advocates, to develop a coordinated social policy. The Council commissions research on policy issues and funds model programs. The Council also funds projects to inform decision makers, legislators and the general public about developmental disabilities.

Community and Natural Supports

Community Supports are critical to the success of any individuals, with or without autism spectrum disorders, to live in their community. In neighborhoods throughout New Jersey there are neighbors, grocery store owners, police officers and others who have a vested interest in the well-being of the neighborhood. It would be helpful to develop a checklist of all existing businesses, faith-based organizations, nonprofit agencies, government offices and other community-based organizations that can be natural supports for an individual on the spectrum. For example, if an adult on the spectrum wants to spend time at the YMCA on weekends, there could be a natural mentor who is willing to participate in activities together. A local faith-based organization may need volunteers on the days or nights of a service. The local food bank may need volunteers to bag or hand out food. Whatever the adult's interest is, the community has built-in community and natural supports to offer that can be invaluable.

Glossary of Definitions

Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs)

Children and adults with autism exhibit atypical, repetitive behaviors and deficits in social and communication skills. Autism is usually diagnosed during the first three years of life and is four to five times more prevalent in boys than in girls. It knows no racial, ethnic or social boundaries.

Autism, Asperger's Disorder and PDDNOS are commonly referred to as Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs). This term conveys the continuum of ability levels, but is not itself an official diagnosis. Autism spectrum disorders affect approximately 1 in 150 individuals nationally and 1 in 94 in New Jersey.¹

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2007). Prevalence of autism spectrum disorders – Autism and developmental disabilities monitoring network, 14 sites, United States, 2002. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, 56, SS-1.

New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)

The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) is New Jersey's agency within the Department of Human Services that coordinates and oversees services for approximately 40,000 people with developmental disabilities. Most of the people served by DDD live at home with their families while a smaller number live in residences that are funded by DDD. People with an ASD who want to access housing and/or any of its component parts (support services, operational and/or capital) will more than likely have to access DDD at some point.

Waiting List

A lengthy Community Services Waiting List exists for residential services, which include support services and, at times, actual housing. After requesting a residential placement through the Case Manager, a person is assigned by DDD to a category on the waiting list. People are served in the order in which their name is placed on the "Priority Waiting List." They do not receive services until they are on the Priority Waiting List.

Services are distributed based upon funding initiatives, available resources and/or the severity of a person's needs.

The Priority Waiting List is for people who meet one of the following criteria:

- Both parents are 55 years of age or older;
- The person is living with someone other than the parent who is no longer willing to provide care;
- There is a risk of abuse, neglect or exploitation;
- One parent has a chronic condition, which significantly limits the ability to care for the person; or
- The person's health or safety is at risk because of behavioral or physical needs.

Operational Funding

Operational funding includes the financial resources, or dollars, that are necessary to cover the day-to-day expenses needed to operate the home or residence. These expenses include: utilities (e.g., electric, gas, water, sewer, phone); maintenance and repair (e.g., landscaping, snow removal, painting, roof replacement, plumbing); administrative expenses; and salaries (general funding needed by an agency in order to staff and operate a residence (e.g., employee benefits, security, office supplies). Some DDD programs cover these expenses.

Service Support Funding

The money to pay for the services to maintain the person's ability to live in the housing option he/she chose.

Capital Funding

Capital funding refers to the financial resources, or dollars, needed to buy or finance the land, building, house or community residence. This may include the funding needed to finance or borrow the money with payback during a short or long period of time.

Self-Direction or Consumer-Directed Supports

Many variations on traditional models of service can be tailored to one's personal preferences. More and more people with the support of their families and friends are opting to design their own living arrangements based upon personal preferences. Some people select an agency or agencies to provide their supportive services. Others choose to "self-direct," meaning they make all of the decisions about how their support services will be administered including which staff to hire and fire. Services are available from a fiscal intermediary and support coordinator to assist people and their families in implementing such options.

Waivers

An amendment proposed by and granted to a State from the traditional federal Medicaid regulations, which typically permit consumers more flexibility and alternatives in their care and living options. Waivers are used to support the current trend, which is moving away from traditional housing models such as group homes and institutional facilities, in favor of highly personalized living arrangements designed upon the person's preferences. People access generic services and natural supports within the local community whenever possible.

Secondary Condition

If a person with an autism spectrum disorder has a secondary condition such as blindness, mental illness, physical disability, medical disability or aging, governmental organizations other than the DDD may have funding or services from which he/she can benefit. These governmental organizations are the Division of Long-Term Care Systems Development and Quality within the DOH; and the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired; Division of Deaf and Hard of Hearing; Division of Mental Health Services; and Division of Addiction Services, all within the Department of Human Services.

New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities - Regional Offices

CENTRAL OFFICE

Division of Developmental Disabilities
5 Commerce Way
Hamilton Township, NJ 08691
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 726
Trenton, NJ 08625.0726
Toll Free 1.800.832.9173

NORTHERN REGION

1-B Laurel Drive
Flanders, NJ 07836
Phone 973.927.2600
(Counties served: Morris, Sussex & Warren)

100 Hamilton Plaza, 7th Floor
Paterson, NJ 07505
Phone 973.977.4004
(Counties served: Bergen, Hudson & Passaic)

UPPER CENTRAL REGION

59 Main Street
West Orange, NJ 07052
Phone 973.324.2000
(Counties served: Somerset & Union)

153 Halsey St., 2nd Floor
P.O. Box 4701
Newark, NJ 07101
Phone 973.693.5080
(County served: Essex)

LOWER CENTRAL REGION

32 Hanover St.
P.O. Box 706
Trenton, NJ 08625-0706
Phone 609.292.4500
(Counties served: Hunterdon,
Mercer & Middlesex)

Juniper Plaza, Suite 1 - 11
3499 Route 9 North
Freehold, NJ 07728
Phone 732.863.4500
(Counties served: Ocean & Monmouth)

SOUTHERN REGION

2 Echelon Plaza
221 Laurel Rd, Suite 210
Voorhees, NJ 08043
Phone 856.770.5900
(Counties served: Burlington,
Camden & Gloucester)

5218 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 205
Mays Landing, NJ 08330
Phone 609.476.5200
(Counties served: Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland & Salem)

County Disability Resources

ATLANTIC COUNTY DIVISION OF INTERGENERATIONAL SERVICES, AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CONNECTION

Shoreview Building
101 South Shore Road
Northfield, NJ 08225
Phone 888.4.ANYAGE (426.9243)
Fax 609.645.5809

BERGEN COUNTY DIVISION ON DISABILITY SERVICES

One Bergen County Plaza, 2nd Floor
Hackensack, NJ 07601
Phone 201.336.6500
TTY 201.336.6505
Fax 201.336.6510

CAMDEN COUNTY DIVISION OF DISABLED AND SENIOR SERVICES

Parkview Terrace
700 Browning Rd., Suite 11
West Collingswood, NJ 08107
Phone 856.858.3220
Fax 856.858.2057

CAPE MAY COUNTY OFFICE OF DISABILITY SERVICES

4 Moore Road, DN 606
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210
Phone 609.465.4117
Fax 609.465.3899

CUMBERLAND COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE DISABLED

122 East Main Street, Suite 101
Millville, NJ 08332
Voice/TTY 856.825.8707
Fax 856.327.2086

ESSEX COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE DISABLED

33 Washington Street, 1st Floor
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone 973.621.4825
Fax 973.621.4832

**GLOUCESTER COUNTY OFFICE
OF DISABILITY SERVICES**

115 Budd Blvd
Woodbury, NJ 08096
Phone 856.384.6840
TDD 856.384.6846
Fax 856.384.6845

**COUNTY OF HUNTERDON DEPARTMENT
OF HUMAN SERVICES**

8 Gauntt Place, P.O. Box 2900
Flemington, NJ 08822
Voice/TDD 908.788.1372
Fax 908.806.4204

MERCER COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE DISABLED

Joyce McDade Administration Building
640 South Broad Street
P.O. Box 8068
Trenton, NJ 08650
Phone 609.989.6468
TDD 609.989.6865
Fax 609.989.6032

MIDDLESEX COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE DISABLED

Middlesex County Administration Building
JFK Square, 5th Floor
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
Voice/TTY 732.745.4013
Fax 732.296.7971

MONMOUTH COUNTY OFFICE ON DISABILITIES

21 Main and Court Center
P.O. Box 1255
Freehold, NJ 07728
Phone 732.431.7399
TDD 732.431.2066
Fax 732.431.7875

MORRIS COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE DISABLED

P.O. Box 900
Morristown, NJ 07963-0900
Voice/TDD 973.285.6855
Fax 973.285.6845

OCEAN COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE DISABLED

1027 Hooper Ave., Building 2, 3rd Floor
Toms River, NJ 08754
Voice/TDD 732.506.5062
Fax 732.288.7791

**PASSAIC COUNTY SENIOR, DISABILITY SERVICES
AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

930 Riverview Drive, Suite 200
Totowa, NJ 07512
Phone 973.569.4060
Fax 973.256.5190

SALEM COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE DISABLED

98 Market Street
Salem, NJ 08079
Phone 856.935.7510
Fax 856.935.2501

SOMERSET COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE DISABLED

92 East Main Street
P.O. Box 3000
Somerville, NJ 08876
Phone 908.704.6334
TDD 908.704.6359
Fax 908.704.1629

SUSSEX COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE DISABLED

Sussex County Administrative Center
1 Spring Street, Second Floor
Newton, NJ 07860
Phone 973.579.0570
TDD 973.383.8247
Fax 973.579.0571

UNION COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE DISABLED

County Administration Building
Fourth Floor, Elizabethtown Plaza
Elizabeth, NJ 07207
Voice/TDD 908.527.4840
Fax 908.558.2562

WARREN COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE DISABLED

C/O DAWN, Inc.
30 Broad St., Suite 5
Denville, NJ 07834
Phone 973.625.1940 or 888.383.DAWN
TDD 973.625.1932

County Board of Social Services

ATLANTIC COUNTY	609.348.3001
BERGEN COUNTY	201.368.4200
BURLINGTON COUNTY	609.261.000
CAMDEN COUNTY	856.225.8800
CAPE MAY COUNTY	609.886.6200
CUMBERLAND COUNTY	856.691.4600
ESSEX COUNTY	973.733.3000
GLOUCESTER COUNTY	856.582.9200
HUDSON COUNTY	201.420.3000
HUNTERDON COUNTY	908.788.300
MERCER COUNTY	609.989.4320
MIDDLESEX COUNTY	732.745.3500
MONMOUTH COUNTY	732.431.6000
MORRIS COUNTY	973.326.7800
OCEAN COUNTY	732.349.1500
PASSAIC COUNTY	973.881.0100
SALEM COUNTY	856.299.7200
SOMERSET COUNTY	908.526.8800
SUSSEX COUNTY	973.383.3600
UNION COUNTY	908.965.2700
WARREN COUNTY	908.475.6301

Affordable Housing through Local Housing Authorities

PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITIES

Asbury Park Housing Authority	732.774.2660	Highland Park Housing Authority.....	732.572.4420
Atlantic City Housing Authority.....	609.344.1107	Highlands Housing Authority	732.872.2022
Bayonne Housing Authority.....	201.339.8700	Hightstown Housing Authority.....	609.448.2268
Belmar Housing Authority.....	732.681.1795	Hoboken Housing Authority.....	201.798.0370
Bergen County Housing Authority.....	201.569.7454	Hunterdon County Housing Authority.....	908.788.1336
Berkeley Housing Authority.....	732.269.2312	Irvington Housing Authority	973.375.1551
Beverly Housing Authority	609.387.0250	Jersey City Housing Authority	201.547.6600
Bloomfield Township Housing Authority.....	973.680.4000	Keansburg Housing Authority	732.787.6151
Boonton Housing Authority.....	973.335.0846	Lakewood Housing Authority	732.364.1300
Brick Housing Authority	732.920.9400	Linden Housing Authority.....	908.298.3820
Bridgeton Housing Authority	856.451.4454	Lodi Housing Authority	973.470.3650
Buena Housing Authority.....	856.697.4852	Long Branch Housing Authority.....	732.222.3747
Burlington City Housing Authority.....	609.386.0246	Madison Housing Authority.....	973.377.0258
Camden Housing Authority.....	856.968.2700	Middlesex County	732.745.3025
Cape May City Housing Authority.....	609.884.8703	Middletown Housing Authority.....	732.671.4477
Carteret Housing Authority.....	732.541.6800	Millville Housing Authority.....	856.825.8860
Cherry Hill Housing Authority.....	856.661.4744	Monmouth County Housing Agency.....	732.431.6028
Cliffside Park Housing Authority	201.941.0655	Montclair Housing Authority	973.744.1400
Clifton Housing Agency.....	973.470.5846	Morris County Housing Authority.....	973.540.0389
Collaborative Support Programs of NJ	732.780.1175	Morristown Housing Authority	973.538.6343
Collingswood Housing Authority	856.854.1077	Neptune Housing Authority	732.774.7692
Dover Housing Authority	973.361.9444	New Brunswick Housing Authority.....	732.745.0514
East Orange Housing Authority	973.678.0250	Newark Housing Authority.....	973.430.2430
Edgewater Housing Authority.....	201.943.6000	Newton Housing Authority	973.383.5191
Edison Housing Authority.....	732.549.3301	Ocean City Housing Authority.....	609.399.1062
Elizabeth Housing Authority.....	908.965.2400	Old Bridge Housing Authority.....	732.721.5600
Englewood Housing Authority	201.871.3451	Orange City Housing Authority.....	973.675.1250
Florence Housing Authority.....	609.499.0575	Passaic County Housing Public Agency	973.881.4369
Fort Lee Housing Authority	201.947.7400	Passaic Housing Authority	973.365.6330
Franklin Township Housing Authority.....	732.545.9430	Paterson Housing Authority.....	973.345.5980
Freehold Housing Authority	732.462.2421	Penns Grove Housing Authority.....	609.299.6495
Garfield Housing Authority.....	973.340.4170	Pennsauken Housing Authority	856.663.0514
Glassboro Housing Authority	856.881.5211	Perth Amboy Housing Authority	732.826.3110
Gloucester County Housing Authority.....	856.845.4959	Phillipsburg Division of Community Development	908.454.5500
Gloucester Township Housing Authority.....	856.227.5077	x371	
Guttenberg Housing Authority.....	201.861.0900	Phillipsburg Housing Authority	908.859.0122
Hackensack Housing Authority	201.342.4280	Plainfield Housing Authority	908.769.6335
Haddon Housing Authority.....	856.854.3700	Pleasantville Housing Authority.....	609.646.3023
Hamilton Township Housing Authority.....	609.890.3675	Princeton Housing Authority	609.924.3448
Harrison Housing Authority	973.483.1488	Rahway Housing Authority.....	732.499.0066
		Red Bank Housing Authority	732.741.1808

Salem Housing Authority	856.935.5022
Sayerville Housing Authority.....	732.721.8044
Sea Isle City Housing Authority.....	609.263.4461
Secaucus Housing Authority.....	201.867.2957
Somerville Housing Authority.....	908.725.2300
South Amboy Housing Authority	732.721.1831
Summit Housing Authority.....	908.273.6413
Trenton Housing Authority.....	609.278.5000
Union City Housing Authority.....	201.864.1515
Union County Housing Authority	732.382.8100
Union Township Housing Authority.....	973.761.0059
Vineland Housing Authority.....	856.691.4099
Warren County Housing Authority.....	908.475.3989
Weehawken Housing Authority.....	01.348.4188
West New York Housing Authority.....	201.868.6100
West Orange Housing Agency.....	973.325.4107
Wildwood Housing Authority	609.729.0220
Woodbridge Housing Authority.....	732.634.2750