

Homelessness MATTERS



October 23rd, 2025

RESOURCE FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS

NJ SHELTER PROVIDERS CONSORTIUM

Tuesday, October 28, 2025 1:30 - 2:30 PM Virtual Session

Identifying Autism, Diagnosis, and Resources for Support

GUEST SPEAKERS

Dr. Rachel Tait
Chief Program Officer
Eden Autism Services, Inc.

Michael Decker
President & CEO
Eden Autism Services, Inc.



Learn more about
Eden Autism Services, Inc.

****Register for Identifying Autism, Diagnosis and Resources for Support
[HERE](#)***



[Rescue Mission of Trenton Opening Community Wellness Center](#)

The Trentonian

The Rescue Mission of Trenton unveiled its new Community Wellness Center, funded by the NJ Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, to provide space for mental health programs, community partnerships, and wellness events. The center expands the Mission's Pathway2Wellness program, which offers counseling, support groups, job readiness, and financial literacy workshops. The Mission also recently broke its fundraising record, raising nearly \$130,000 through its annual miniature golf tournament to continue providing essential services like housing, food, and addiction treatment in Trenton.



[Atlantic City Gets New Mobile Food Pantry with Big Borgata Donation](#)

nj.com

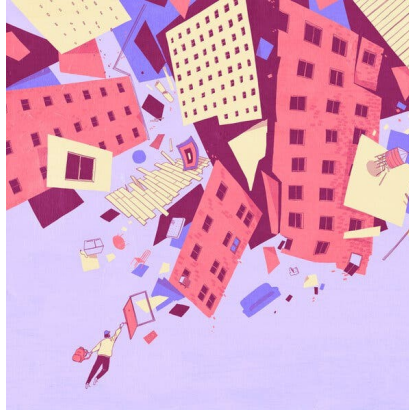
Jewish Family Service of Atlantic & Cape May Counties launched its new mobile food pantry with a ribbon-cutting at the Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa in Atlantic City. The pantry will travel to high-need areas to distribute fresh produce, meats, and nonperishables, expanding JFS's hunger prevention work. Supported by a \$100,000 donation from Borgata, the initiative builds on JFS's long-standing food security and social service programs that serve over 15,000 people annually.

[Homeowner and Renters Have Until October 31st to Apply for ANCHOR Property Tax Relief](#)

TAPinto Morristown

New Jersey's 2025 ANCHOR property tax relief program is now open to homeowners and renters under age 65, with applications due by October 31, 2025. Eligible homeowners can receive between \$1,250 and \$1,750 depending on income, while renters may qualify for \$450 or \$700 if age 65 or older. Payments will be issued starting September 15, arriving within 90 days of filing.





We Found a Solution to Homelessness. **Now the Trump Administration Wants to Throw it Out.**

The NY Times

The Trump administration's proposal to slash HUD's homelessness funding by more than half threatens to displace over 170,000 people and unravel decades of progress achieved through the evidence-based "Housing First" model. For years, this approach—providing stable housing before services—has helped reduce chronic and veteran homelessness nationwide. Reverting to an outdated "services first" strategy would not only abandon those gains but also leave thousands of vulnerable Americans without a path to lasting stability. *(The piece was written by Phil Mangano, who served as executive director of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness under President George W. Bush.)*



Most Homeless Americans Are **Working Families,** **Not Who You Think**

Patriot-News

Challenging harmful stereotypes about homelessness, the piece notes that only about a quarter of unhoused individuals face chronic issues like addiction or mental illness. It condemns the growing criminalization and dehumanization driven by misinformation and punitive policies, instead urging compassion-based, evidence-driven solutions and spotlighting community efforts in Pennsylvania that exemplify empathy, service, and respect for human dignity.



The Next Mayor's Real Test? **Ending New York's Homelessness** **Crisis**

CITY LIMITS

Urging New York City's next mayor to prioritize homelessness and the housing crisis over business interests, the piece highlights a 12 percent rise in homelessness and soaring rents amid a severe shortage. It calls for faster affordable housing development, better shelter intake and outreach, and a streamlined path to permanent housing—arguing that real progress demands cutting through bureaucracy and responding with citywide urgency and coordination.



[A Tiny Plot to Call Home](#)

Newsweek

A long-standing homeless encampment at Union Point Park in Oakland, California became the focus of a community's fight for autonomy after the city attempted to clear it. Residents banded together to advocate for a small piece of land where they could live safely and independently. Reporter Shaina Shealy documented their journey in a five-part KQED series titled *A Tiny Plot*, which explores the struggle for dignity, stability, and self-determination amid homelessness.



[154,000 NYC Students Were Homeless Last School Year, Another Record High](#)

CHALKBEAT NEW YORK

More than 150,000 New York City students experienced homelessness last year, the highest number on record and more than double the total from 2010. The crisis, driven by the city's housing shortage and an influx of migrant families, has severely affected student attendance and academic outcomes, particularly in the Bronx. Advocates are urging the city to improve transportation, increase funding for districts with high homelessness rates, and expand programs that connect students in temporary housing with mentors and school-based support.

[Trump's Push to Institutionalize Homeless Americans Offers Quick Fix and Sparks Fear](#)

NJPR

President Trump's new plan calls for sweeping homeless encampments nationwide and expanding the use of *civil commitment*—forcing people with addiction or mental illness into long-term treatment facilities. Critics argue this approach threatens civil liberties, would be extremely costly, and lacks the infrastructure or capacity to be implemented effectively. While some Democratic-led states like Oregon and California are also exploring limited versions of this policy, experts warn that mandatory institutionalization without adequate funding and housing alternatives risks doing more harm than good.



We love to share news about the accomplishments, events job opportunities and noteworthy activities of NJ's homelessness service agencies. If you have something to share, please send it to us at info@NJCEH.org

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HOMELESSNESS



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