

Fall Newsletter 2022

Senior Happenings

Gloucester County Division of Senior Services, 115 Budd Boulevard, West Deptford, NJ 08096



Department of Health and Human Services

Division of Senior Services
115 Budd Boulevard
West Deptford, NJ 08096

phone: (856) 384-6900

email: seniors@co.goucester.nj.us

Gloucester County Board of Commissioners

**Frank J. DiMarco, Director
Jim Jefferson, Liaison**



Thanks for Coming to the Senior Picnic!

Thank you to all of our seniors for coming to the Senior Picnic! We had a great time celebrating and can't wait to do it again next year. If you missed the picnic, make sure you join us at the Senior Holiday Parties on December 6, 7, 13 and 14. Tickets on sale November 1 at the Division of Senior Services, first come, first served.

The Gloucester County Board of Commissioners provides services and support systems within the community to help maintain older residents' dignity, independence, and self-determination as they age. In addition, programs and activities are offered to assist seniors in remaining active and engaged in community life.

Dates to Remember

**Tuesday, December 6th
Wednesday, December 7th
Tuesday, December 13th
Wednesday, December 14th**

Senior Holiday Parties

Call For Volunteers

Would you like to give back to your community?
Volunteer at Gloucester County Senior Services!
Volunteers are needed for the Nutrition and Serv-A-Tray (home-delivered meal) programs and at the Senior Services Office.

If interested or to find out more information about these volunteer opportunities, please get in touch with Stacy Reid at **(856) 686-8325** or email **sreid@co.goucester.nj.us**.

Preventing Elder Abuse

Vulnerable adults living in the community who are subjected to abuse, neglect, or exploitation and cannot fully protect or care for themselves can be serviced through Adult Protective Services.

Services could include home care, meals on wheels, health care, legal intervention, and case management to enable these vulnerable adults to live in a safe environment within the community. If you are aware of or suspect abuse of any kind, please call Gloucester County Adult Protective Services at (856) 256-2113 between 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., or dial 211 twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. In cases of physical/sexual abuse and/or medical/mental health crisis emergency, **911** should be called immediately.



What is Adult Protective Services?

Adult Protective Services (APS) programs have been established in each county in New Jersey to receive and investigate reports of suspected abuse, neglect and exploitation of vulnerable adults living in a community setting.

The Purpose of APS:

Stabilize a crisis situation using the least intrusive methods while respecting an individual's right to self-determination.

Making a Referral to APS:

The referral should be made by the person with first-hand information about the client. The referral should be made directly to the county in which the client resides. The referral should consist of as much information as possible including:

- Client's name, address, phone number
- DOB and Social Security number
- Diagnoses - health and/or mental health issues
- Family members/support systems (services/agencies involved)
- A specific allegation of abuse, neglect or exploitation

CONFIDENTIALITY

All records and communications pertaining to any report, evaluation or service provided pursuant to the Adult Protective Services Act (P.L. 1993, Ch. 249, C52:27D) are confidential.

APS is only permitted to share the results of an APS assessment when directed to do so by a court of competent jurisdiction or when disclosure of information is necessary for the Division or the APS provider to perform its responsibilities as set forth by statute.

APS Cases

APS may become involved in situations that meet all of these conditions:

A vulnerable adult is:

- Age 18 years or older, AND
- Residing in the community, AND
- Due to physical or mental illness, disability or deficiency, lacks sufficient understanding or capacity to make, communicate, or carry out decisions concerning his or her well-being, AND
- Is the subject of abuse, neglect or exploitation.

Low Cost Spay/Neuter Program

You may be eligible to have your pet spayed or neutered at a discounted price. Many people want to have their pets spayed or neutered, but due to the costs associated, think it won't be possible. But there are many veterinarians and organizations who are ready and able to help. Spay or neuter your dog or cat for \$10.00 if you receive any of the following: Food Stamps, Medicaid, General Public Assistance, Rental Assistance, Lifeline Utility Credit, Tenants Lifeline Assistance, SSI, or PAAD. Every year many cats and dogs end up in animal shelters. Spaying and neutering helps to prevent pet overpopulation, and decreases the number of animals that end up in shelters. Call Gloucester County Animal Shelter for more information at (856) 881 - 2828

*Source: New Jersey Department of Health



Seniors receive adoption discounts at the Gloucester County Animal Shelter! Call (856) 881-2828 to discuss adoption today
Pictured: Topaz

Led by Love

New Support Group for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

The Gloucester County Division of Senior Services is now offering a new support group entitled “Led by Love” for grandparents raising grandchildren and kinship caregivers. Kinship caregivers have taken on the responsibility of caring for their relatives’ children. Support groups are regularly scheduled meetings for those who share a common bond as caregivers. Meetings can provide comfort, companionship, advice, and suggestions from seasoned caregivers. To join the group or to find out more information, please get in touch with **(856) 686-8338** or email **bvaldez@co.goucester.nj.us**.

Open Enrollment for Medicare

Medicare open enrollment is from October 15 to December 7.

This allows you to change your Part D Prescription Plan or Advantage Plan for 2023. For more information, please call the Senior Health Insurance Program at **(856) 468-1742**.



Seasonal Flu Clinics

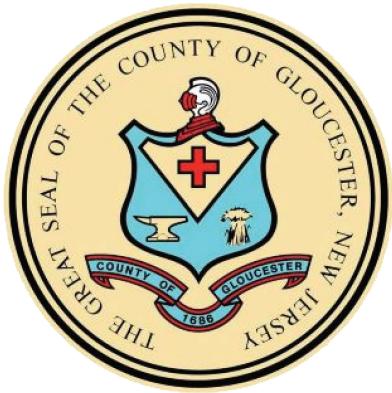
The CDC recommends that seniors get their seasonal flu shot annually. Every fall, influenza vaccinations are available at no cost to Gloucester County residents at scheduled locations throughout the county. The flu clinic schedule is published in the County newsletter, announced in the local newspaper, and is available on the Gloucester County website at **www.goucestercountynj.gov**. Schedule copies are available at the Division of Senior Services and all Nutrition Sites. Information is also known by calling the Gloucester County Health Department at **(856) 218-4101**. Eligibility restrictions and supply availability may apply.

Free Eye Screenings

The Gloucester County Division of Human & Special Services and the New Jersey Commission for the Blind offers free eye screenings open to the public (ages 4 and up), held once a month, and there is no income requirement. The screenings are held at the Gloucester County Health Department, 204 East Holly Avenue in Sewell. Glaucoma tests are also offered.

To schedule an appointment or for more information, please call **(856) 384-6842**.





www.GloucesterCountyNJ.gov

Gloucester County
Board of Commissioners

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The Division of Senior Services is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM. Services are available to all residents of Gloucester County who are 60 years of age and older, regardless of race, color, or national origin in compliance with Title III of the Older Americans' Act.

Free and Discounted Classes Available at Rowan College

Are You
Age 60 or
Older?



Rowan College of South Jersey
offers **FREE TUITION**
for senior citizens.

Additional course fees apply
and are listed at
RCSJ.edu/PayingForCollege

Enjoy college benefits such as library use, fitness center access, counseling services and more!

Questions?

Contact the
Enrollment Administrator
856-681-6272
future@rcsj.edu


Rowan College
SOUTH JERSEY
Gloucester Campus
1400 Tanyard Road, Sewell NJ, 08080
future@rcsj.edu • RCSJ.edu

Thank You, Veterans!



Commissioner Denice DiCarlo, liaison to the Office of Veterans Affairs; Director Frank J. DiMarco; Brian Simmons Jr., US Army; and County Clerk James Hogan.

The Board of Commissioners extend their greatest thank you to all of our Veterans. The Board held the annual Medal Ceremony on Saturday, September 24 at RiverWinds. This year, over 90 Veterans were honored. If you are interested in receiving the Gloucester County Service Medal, please reach out to the Office of Veterans Affairs at

www.gloucestercountynj.gov