



# CAREGIVER CONNECTION

## Welcome to Caregiver Connection.

Welcome to the Caregiver Connection Ezine, your source for the most current information about caregiving events, conferences, and issues that are important to you.

There are many events going on this season, so please keep reading and make sure to check online for even more activities around New Jersey.

Please consult our website for more information:  
[www.njcaregivers.org](http://www.njcaregivers.org).



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## Caregiver Initiative Left Out of FY 2012 Budget

### **FCA Newsletter-**

Congress recently approved spending bills for Fiscal Year 2012, and the analysis from the national Council on Aging indicates a mixed bag for family caregivers. President Obama's "Caregiving Initiative," originally announced in 2010, would have provided an additional \$104.5 million in caregiver supports, but was not included as part of the enacted spending bills for FY 2011. The president re-requested funding for FY 2012, but this funding was also left out of the FY 2012 enacted budget. In the enacted budget for FY 2012, Title IV funding (research in aging) was completely eliminated, and funding for the Alzheimer's Disease Demonstrations were cut 65%. The Senior Community Service Employment Program will remain at the Dept. of Labor with level funding of \$449.1 million while LIHEAP is funded at \$3.5 billion, a large decrease from \$4.7 billion in FY 2011.

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## Alzheimer's and Dementia Education Week and Free Tool Kit

For the fourth year, the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners is offering the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners Alzheimer's and Dementia Staff Education Week February 14th-21st Tool Kit. The Tool Kit is free and available at [www.nccdp.org](http://www.nccdp.org). The Tool Kit includes many free Power Point in-services for downloading.

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## NJ's Elderly Population to Surge

Trenton- The New Jersey of the future will be a bit less white, a lot more gray- and needing a bunch more green.

The Garden State population has grown to 8.8 million, and within 20 years is expected by state demographers to approach 9.4 million. Of greater consequence than the raw numbers is how much growth is expected in the elderly population, equal to more than 90 percent of the overall change.

[continue reading](#)

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## New Jersey's Volunteer Advocate Program

The New Jersey Elder Ombudsman Volunteer Advocate Program helps promote the health, safety, and welfare of residents age 60 and older who live in nursing homes.

Advocates help protect residents' rights and ensure quality of care by making regular visits to a local nursing home.

To become a volunteer advocate, please contact the Elder Ombudsman's Office at 877-582-6995 or visit [www.nj.state.us/ooie](http://www.nj.state.us/ooie)

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## Community Care Keeps Autistic Kids Out of Hospital

The increased use of respite and home/community aid services was associated with a decrease in the risk of psychiatric hospitalizations for children, adolescents, and young adults with autism spectrum disorders, according to a retrospective cohort study

[continue reading](#)

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## Date Set for Shore "Walk for a Brighter Tomorrow"

Please join Caregivers of New Jersey on May 6, 2012 for a 5k walk on the beautiful Seaside Heights boardwalk as we raise much needed funds and awareness for the aging, developmental and physical disabilities and chronic illness.

Now is the time to be setting up your team for registration beginning in February. Check back for further details.

For more information please call Heather or Molly at 609-392-4900

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## Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group

### **Monmouth County**

**Place:** Monmouth Medical Center, Maysie Stroock Pavillion  
Long Branch, NJ

**Date:** Mondays

**Time:** 10:00am-12:00pm  
click [here](#) for flyer

### **Ocean County**

**Place:** Center for Healthy Living, Kimbell Medical Center, 198  
Prospect Street, Lakewood, NJ

**Date:** Mondays

**Time:** 10:30am-12:30pm  
click [here](#) for flyer

For more information, please call Kathy Holahan, MSW, LCSW or Janis Marler, MSW, LSW at 732-730-9112

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# Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (PAAD)

PAAD helps eligible New Jersey residents pay for necessary prescription drugs. Once PAAD has determined your eligibility, you should receive an identification card within 30 days.

With your PAAD card, you pay the pharmacist no more than \$5 for each PAAD covered generic drug or \$7 for each PAAD covered brand named drug.

You qualify for PAAD if you:

- are a New Jersey resident
- are 65 years of age or older, or at least 18 years of age and receiving Social Security Title II Disability benefits
- have a single annual income less than \$24,432 or \$29,956 for a married couple
- are enrolled in Medicare Part D

Spouses must file separate application

For additional information call 1-800-792-9745

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## Coalition Corner

### **Ocean County**

**when:** January 24, 2012

**time:** 1:30-3:30pm

**where:** Ocean County Library, Toms River, Mancini Hall

### **Essex County**

**when:** February 7, 2012

**time:** 9:30am

**where:** Verona Community Center

880 Bloomfield Ave, Verona, NJ

contact Deborah Day to register 973-746-4040 ext 209

### **Morris County**

**when:** February 8, 2012

**time:** 9:30am

**where:** Ukrainian American Cultural Center

60 North Jefferson Road

Whippany, NJ 07981

### **Somerset County**

**when:** February 9, 2012

**time:** 9:30am

**where:** Shimon & Sara Birnbaum JCC

775 Talamini Rd.  
Bridgewater, NJ

**Bergen County**

**when:** February 15, 2012

**time:** 1:30pm

**where:** Ciarco Learning Center of BCC, 355 Main Street,  
rooms 102/103, Hackensack

**Coming Soon:**

Caregiver Coalitions in Monmouth County and Sussex  
County

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## US Launches National War on Alzheimer's

GREAT FALLS, Va. - When doctors told Carol Blackwell that her husband - her best friend and the love of her life - had Alzheimer's disease, they assured her "a cure was just around the corner."

Bob Blackwell was 64, recently retired from the CIA as an analyst on the former Soviet Union and Europe and still functioning normally. "He was brilliant then."

That was five years ago.

"Here we are, and there's no cure and no promise of a cure," Carol says, sitting in her family room, eyes wet with tears.

She is Bob's primary caregiver, and the last couple of months have been "tough," she says. There are days when Bob doesn't know she's his wife. "I've been through a lot of grieving," she says. "I know it's too late for a cure for Bob, the disease has moved into too many parts of his brain, but I'm praying for my children and grandchildren. We have to find a cure."

[continue reading](#)

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## Leave Your Mark!!

Would you like to leave a lasting imprint on the future of Caregivers of New Jersey? Planned gifts, for example bequests in your Will, are the ultimate expression of your commitment and caring - an opportunity to invest in the shared vision of a world in which everyone with epilepsy enjoys the freedom to participate fully in life. Remembering Caregivers in your Will can be the perfect option for an individual who would like to support CNJ's efforts but may not be able to do so during their lifetime.

For more information please visit

[http://www.njcaregivers.org/content/help/planned\\_giving.html](http://www.njcaregivers.org/content/help/planned_giving.html)

or contact Heather Comstock at 609-392-4900.

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