



THE MCBOS BUZZ



What's New – What's Now – What's Happening In addition, how it affects you!

Emergency Assistance Program (EA) Housing and Homelessness Assistance

Our Social Service staff works with individuals/families who are eligible for WFNJ/TANF, WFNJ/GA, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or have a limited income. Emphasis is placed on social rehabilitation, crisis intervention and problem solving. *The Emergency Assistance Program* provides assistance to prevent homelessness for recipients of WFNJ TANF, WFNJ GA and SSI. Benefits include but are not limited to: essential food, clothing, shelter, household furnishings, temporary rental assistance or back rent, mortgage payments, utility payments (such as heat, water, and electric), transportation to search for housing and moving expenses. For more information call us toll free at 1-(800) 564-1595 or visit us at www.mcboss.org.

Mercer County Board of Social Services Homeless Hotline Program

The Mercer Homeless Hotline provides housing assistance for families and individuals in a homeless situation, you may be placed in a motel/hotel for one night per year. The program also provides services that link recipients with other emergency assistance programs for which they may be eligible. For immediate assistance, contact the Mercer Board of Social Services toll free at 1-(800) 564-1595 or at (609) 989-4320 during “regular business hours”.

Please Note: The Homeless Hotline is also available “After Hours” seven days a week by calling “2-1-1”. The Hotline will assist the homeless in locating shelter after hours. For further details on the “After Hours” Homeless Hotline, dial “2-1-1” or (877) 746-5211.



NJ FamilyCare – 24 Month Extension

You and your family may be eligible for a 24-month extension of your NJ FamilyCare health benefits. As your income changes, so will your NJ FamilyCare eligibility. For more information visit www.mcboss.org or call us at 1-(800) 564-1595

Apply for the 2019 Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)

EITC is a special federal and state tax benefit for individuals and families who earn low to moderate incomes in NJ. A Tax Credit may reduce the amount of taxes you owe or provide you with a refund, even if you do not owe any taxes.



EITC Income Eligibility Guidelines for 2019

Household Size	Annual income
Families with three or more qualifying children	If you earn less than \$50,162 (\$55,952 if married and filing jointly) in 2019, you could get a refund of up to \$6,557.
Families with two qualifying children	If you earn less than \$46,703 (\$52,493 if married and filing jointly) in 2019, you could get a refund of up to \$5,828.
Families with one qualifying child	If you earn less than \$41,094 (\$46,884 if married and filing jointly) in 2019, you could get a refund of up to \$3,526.
Families or single adult between the age of 25 & 64 with no qualifying children	If you earn less than \$15,570 in 2019, you could get a refund of up to \$529.

EITC and Receiving Other Benefits

EITC refunds will not count as income when you apply for renewable benefits like SNAP, SSI, Medicaid, Cash Assistance, or Public Housing. Refunds that are saved do not count against federally funded benefit programs resource/asset limits for 12 months after the refund is received.

Get FREE Tax Help

Free tax preparation is available at over 300 Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites. For the nearest location, call NJ's resources hotline, 2-1-1 (877) 746-5211 or visit www.nj211.org. To obtain more information on New Jersey's EITC, call toll-free 1-888-895-9179 or visit www.njeitc.org. For more information on federal EITC, call the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) toll-free at (800) 829-1040 or visit www.irs.gov/eitc.

CONTACT NUMBERS

Consumer Information-All Programs

(609) 989-4320

Adult Protective Services &

Adult Social Services

(609) 989-4346 or (609) 989-4347

Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator

(609) 656-6301

Child Support-General Information

1-(877) NJKIDS1 (1-877-655-4371)

Emergency Assistance, Family Planning &

Early Periodic Screening and Treatment Programs

(609) 989-4451

Homeless Hotline

(609) 989-4320

After Hours Dial "211"

Fraud Tip Line

(609) 989-4400

Work First NJ Case Management Unit

(609) 989-6248

Toll Free Information-All Programs

1-(800) 564-1595

Fax (609) 394-6638

CONTACT INFORMATION

E-MAIL INQUIRY:

Email inquiries may be directed to
mcboss@mcboss.org

ADDRESS:

Mercer County Board of Social Services
200 Woolverton Street
P.O. Box 1450
Trenton, NJ 08650-2099

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday and Wednesday through Friday:

8:30am - 4:30pm

Tuesday: 8:30am - 8:30pm

NEW JERSEY EBT CARD WEBSITE

[HTTP://WWW.EBT.ACS-INC.COM](http://www.ebt.acs-inc.com)

NEED TO CONTACT YOUR HMO?

AMERIGROUP 1 (800) 600-4441,

UNITED HEALTHCARE 1 (800) 941-4647,

HORIZON 1 (877) 765-4325,

WELLCARE 1 (888) 453-3534



What is the FLU?

Viruses that infect your nose, throat and lungs cause the flu. The flu can spread easily when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. It is also possible to get the flu by touching a surface or object that has the flu virus on it and then touching your mouth, nose or eyes. Infected people can spread the flu up to 24 hours before they show symptoms.

What are the symptoms?

Common symptoms may include: fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headaches, fatigue (tiredness), vomiting and diarrhea.

Actions to Fight the FLU:

Get a Yearly Flu Vaccine! The vaccine is recommended for everyone six months of age and older. You should get the flu shot as soon as it is available for the season, which can last as late as May. Getting the vaccine late in the season can still protect you.

Practice Healthy Habits! Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or use your upper sleeve (elbow,) wash your hands often, avoid sick people, clean commonly touched objects and surfaces.

What should I do if I get sick with the flu?

- Stay home for at least 24 hours
- Get plenty of rest
- Drink plenty of liquids
- Contact your doctor or health provider



Where can I get the flu vaccine?

The flu vaccine is available at clinics, health departments, pharmacies and the doctor's office. Visit the "Flu Vaccine Finder" (<https://www.vaccines.gov>) to find a location near you.

Where can I find more information on the flu and prevention?

- The Mercer County Division of Public Health (609) 278-7165
- New Jersey Department of Health <http://nj.gov/health/cd/topics/flu.shtml>.



WINTER 2020 Holiday Schedule

MCBOSS will be closed on the following business days:

- January 1 - New Year's Day
- January 20 - Martin Luther King Day
- February 17 - President's Day
- April 10 - Good Friday



MCBOSS will close at 4:30PM on Tuesday: March 31, 2020

Mercer County Board of Social Services Winter 2020