FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

WFNJ/General Assistance (GA) offers cash and medical assistance to single individuals or childless couples to transition to jobs and take the first step toward self-sufficiency. The 2010 law change did not change any of the current GA regulations regarding conviction of a drug offense. Under the law, any person convicted on or after August 22, 1996 of a drug offense will be permanently ineligible to receive cash assistance. Persons convicted of possession or use of a controlled substance on or after August 22, 1996 may be eligible for WFNJ/GA benefits, if the person enrolls in and actively participates in or completes a Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Addiction Services (DAS) licensed or approved Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program, and meets the provisions of the program.

Emergency Assistance (EA) is a supportive service to meet the emergent needs of WFNJ recipients who are at risk of homelessness and/or are experiencing emergencies.

FOOD ASSISTANCE

NJ Food Stamps (http://www.njfoodstamps.com) gives eligibility requirements and provides an application for food stamps, which are available to low-income households including families, couples without children, individuals, seniors, disabled persons, legal immigrants and victims of family violence. When you apply online, you can also choose to apply for welfare and/or Medicaid health insurance programs at the same time.

End Hunger NJ.org (www.endhunger.org) helping individuals and families locate food assistance at pantries and soup kitchens. The site also provides nutritional advice and information about food safety.

HEALTH CARE

NJ FamilyCare.org (www.njfamilycare.org) provides information and an application on low or no-cost health insurance for families 350% or below the federal poverty level.

NJ HealthLink (http://www.nj.gov/njhealthlink/) provides information about health related services.

HOUSING

The NJ Housing Resource Center (www.njhousing.gov) is an online tool for finding and listing affordable housing, helping people with disabilities find housing and finding housing information. Vacancies are updated bi-weekly.

The Homelessness Prevention Program provides short term assistance to applicants meeting the program’s eligibility guidelines. For renters facing eviction, go to www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dhcr/offices/docs/hppcontacts.pdf. For homeowners facing foreclosure, go to www.nj.gov/foreclosremediation/ or call 1-888-989-5277.

MENTAL HEALTH

Designated Psychiatric Screening/Crisis Centers (http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmhs/MH-screeningcenters.html) mental health screening centers and related hotlines.