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Subject: NJCA is here to help
Date: March 31, 2020 at 19:28
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NEW JERSEY CITIZEN ACTION

An update on NJCA's response to COVID-19

Dear Friend,

Now more than ever before, the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has shown us that we are dependent on each other. As the situation continues to evolve day by day, and New Jersey families are faced with mounting economic and health care hardships, New Jersey Citizen Action wants you to know that we are here for you.

NJCA's COVID-19 Resource Directory and Free Services

While COVID-19 is temporarily shifting the way we work, it will not change our mission to fight for social, racial, and economic justice for all New Jerseyans through issue advocacy, education, and the provision of free direct services. We don't yet know the full ramifications of this global pandemic, but we do know this: New Jersey's underserved, marginalized, and vulnerable communities are being hit the hardest.

NJCA's Advocacy Team and Empowerment staff are hard at work, and continue to advocate for policies and resources critical to individuals and families across the Garden State, especially those most impacted by COVID-19. If you or someone you know is in need of information or assistance on housing, health care, worker and income support, consumer protection and fair housing, [visit NJCA's COVID-19 Resource Directory](#) on our website.

What resources & services does NJ Citizen Action provide for those affected by COVID-19?

(Note: All services are available in English and Spanish)

- **For homeowners and renters who are facing a housing crisis**, NJCA's HUD-certified Loan Counselors provide statewide virtual and telephonic counseling sessions. If you are a homeowner in need of a forbearance or other foreclosure assistance, or a renter in need of counseling due to COVID-19, [**click here to complete our online application.**](#)
- **For individuals struggling with debt**, NJCA's Financial Coaches are available to provide one-on-one sessions over the phone to help you manage your debt and navigate the resources and assistance available to you. [**Click here for more information.**](#)
- **For individuals who are uninsured or have questions about their health care coverage**, you may be newly eligible for coverage if you have been affected by COVID-19. NJCA has Certified Enrollment Counselors who can answer your questions on how to get covered. Email us at [**getcovered@njcitizenaction.org**](mailto:getcovered@njcitizenaction.org).
- **For help in accessing work and income support programs, including Unemployment Insurance, Paid Family Leave, Earned Sick Days, and Temporary Disability Insurance**, email NJCA at [**needincomesupport@njcitizenaction.org**](mailto:needincomesupport@njcitizenaction.org).
- **For questions related to free tax preparation or tax counseling for the elderly**, email Naomi Anderson at [**naomi@njcitizenaction.org**](mailto:naomi@njcitizenaction.org). As with our other offices, in accordance with state and local guidance for the public health and well-being of our staff and clients, we have had to close our in-person tax preparation sites. Once we are able to re-open our offices, our free tax preparation services will resume immediately. To make an appointment once our offices are open, contact Naomi at the link above. *Also, as announced by the Internal Revenue Service on March 17th, the IRS has granted a 90 day extension for most individuals and some businesses to pay any federal taxes owed. If you have any questions about how this may affect you, contact Naomi.*
- **For questions or guidance in completing the 2020 Census**, contact Michelle Maas at [**michelle@njcitizenaction.org**](mailto:michelle@njcitizenaction.org) or Maria Menendez at [**maria@njcitizenaction.org**](mailto:maria@njcitizenaction.org), or go to [**www.2020Census.gov**](http://www.2020Census.gov) and complete the Census online today!
- **For questions related to fair housing and housing discrimination**, email Candace Harper at [**candace@njcitizenaction.org**](mailto:candace@njcitizenaction.org).
- **For information on how you can save money on oil heat**, email Wende Nachman, NJCA's Oil Group Director, at [**wende@njcitizenaction.org**](mailto:wende@njcitizenaction.org). NJCA's Oil Group uses collective bargaining power to negotiate discounted prices on heating oil and acts as an information resource and advocate for New Jersey heating oil consumers.

- Additional information is available on assistance for small business owners, information on COVID-19 jobs, energy payment assistance, food security, and FAQs about the Stimulus checks.

Whenever possible, NJCA's staff will continue to share important updates and resources for New Jersey families, seniors, workers and small business owners through email and social media, so be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).

For all other information, or for questions regarding ongoing work you may be conducting with NJCA, [**please contact our staff directly**](#). You can also call our main office at (973) 643-8800, x210 and leave a message in the general mailbox and it will be forwarded to the appropriate staff member. **Hablamos Español.**

On behalf of New Jersey Citizen Action, we hope that you and your loved ones are healthy and safe. We want to thank everyone who is staying home to prevent the virus from spreading. We also want to express our deep appreciation for the front line health care workers, law enforcement, grocery store workers, mail and package delivery people, emergency responders, makers of necessary food and products, government workers and anyone else who continues to work — for the sake of us all. We are all in your debt!

NJCA's COVID-19 Resource
Directory and Free Services

Stay safe,

Phyllis Salowe-Kaye
Executive Director
New Jersey Citizen Action

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