

MAIL LIST
September 12, 2025

| | Date | From | Pertains to: | Agenda/Committee/ Liaison |
|----|-------------|--|---|--|
| 1. | 09-05-2025 | NJLM | Governor and State Unions Announce Health Care Savings Agreement | Mayor and Council Borough Administrator |
| 2. | 09-08-2025 | NJLM Mike Cerra | FY2025 AHTF RFP Released on September 5, 2025 Affordable House Trust Fund – Request for Proposal | Mayor and Council Borough Administrator |
| 3. | 09-08-2025 | Bergen County Division Mental Health & Addiction Services | 988 Day | Mayor and Council Borough Administrator |
| 4. | 09-12-2025 | Bergen County | Weekly Roundup <u>State Issues</u> FY2026 AHFT RFP to be released on September 5 UPDATE - 2026 SHBC Rate Renewal Meeting Governor and State Unions Announce Health Care Savings Agreement FAST Annual and Supplemental Debt Statement Update Comment Period for DEP’s Proposed “REAL” Rules Ends DEP Approves DuPont Settlement NJ START 101 Training Webinar NJ <i>Municipalities</i> Blog: Lakewood’s Squad Goals for Fundraising <u>Federal Issues</u> Housing Transportation Committee Advances FEMA Reform Legislation <u>Conference Connections</u> <u>Grants</u> Grants for the DOJ Violence Against Women Program Available 2026 Recreation Opportunities for Individuals with Disabilities (ROID) Grant Programs Update on Urban Heat Island Mitigation Grant Program <u>Also of Interest</u> Renewals 2026 | Mayor and Council Borough Administrator |
| 5. | 09-12-2025 | Bergen County Derek Sands | Bergen County POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony September 19, 2025 @ 12:30 P.M. | Mayor and Council Borough Administrator |



1 ML 9.12.2025

Mari Margiotta <mmargiotta@closternj.us>

Governor and State Unions Announce Health Care Savings Agreement for NJLM

1 message

Local Administration & Operations <noreply@civicplus.com>

Fri, Sep 5, 2025 at 2:29 PM

Reply-To: noreply@civicplus.com

To: mmargiotta@closternj.us

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September 05, 2025

Governor and State Unions Announce Health Care Savings Agreement

Governor Murphy and 17 public sector unions representing State workers have [announced an agreement](#) designed to achieve approximately \$75 million in recurring health benefit savings for the final six months of Fiscal Year 2026. While this agreement does not include local governments in the SHBP and represents a short-term remedy, it is our hope that this agreement influences discussions for the SHBP Local Government Employere Group. It is likely that legislation will be required to apply these savings to the Local Employer Group and avoid bargaining with local units.

The [Memorandum of Agreement](#), which outlines the agreed-upon changes will be proposed and voted on by the State Health Benefits Plan Design Committee later this month. It will mean the State can begin implementing changes, and realizing savings, as close as possible to the start of the new Plan Year on January 1, 2026. This agreement the first update in nearly 15 years includes:

- A \$110 in-network deductible for individuals and \$220 in-network deductible for families for all plans that currently have lower deductibles.

- A \$750 out-of-network deductible for individuals and \$1,500 out-of-network deductible for families for all plans that currently have lower deductibles.
- A \$2,500 out-of-network, out-of-pocket maximum for individuals and \$6,000 out-of-network, out-of-pocket maximum for families for all plans that currently have lower out-of-network, out-of-pocket maximums.
- New co-pays on GLP-1, generic, brand, non-preferred brand, and specialty medications across all plans.
- New co-pays on lab visits and imaging across all plans.
- Incentivizing use of in-network ambulatory surgical centers for certain procedures across all plans.
- Limits on out-of-network physical therapy visits across all plans.
- Expansion of the forthcoming Centers of Excellence pilot program for all plans.

The State has also [agreed to continue to work with the unions](#) on identifying longer-term, significant cost containment strategies.

Item number 10 of the Memorandum of Agreement state that due to the cost savings agreed to by the unions, no escalator will be applied to the members' contributions to the cost benefits for plan year 2026.

Per the terms of the agreement, the Governor's Office has [agreed to send a letter](#) to the Legislature expressing its willingness to sign into law legislation repealing budget language in the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget that sought to achieve \$100 million in recurring health care benefit savings through the Plan Design Committee.

The League and its State Health Benefits Task Force are reviewing the agreement and will report more information as necessary. For municipalities in the State Health Benefit Program, we encourage you to review the Memorandum of Agreement with your professionals to determine what cost savings may be achieved if these parameters are applied to local governments.

[View it on website](#)

Unsubscribe



2 ML 9.12.2025

Mari Margiotta <mmargiotta@closternj.us>

NJLM FY2026 AHTF RFP Released on September 5

1 message

Affordable Housing <noreply@civicplus.com>
Reply-To: noreply@civicplus.com
To: mmargiotta@closternj.us

Mon, Sep 8, 2025 at 3:20 PM

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September 08, 2025

FY2026 AHTF RFP Released on September 5

The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) released the [Fiscal Year 2026 Affordable Housing Trust Fund \(AHTF\) Request for Proposal \(RFP\)](#) on Friday, September 5. The deadline to apply is 5:00 p.m. on October 3, and the funding is anticipated to be announced on November 7. Applicants may apply for up to \$3 million per project. Any previously submitted applications must be resubmitted.

This application process will be a competitive process. All applications will undergo a threshold review process. The projects that satisfy the threshold review will then proceed to a scored review. A final list of projects ranked by score will be submitted to the DCA Commissioner, who will have the final determination of which projects will receive AHTF funding. The FY26 AHTF [RFP Guide](#) is located in the DCA's application portal, [SAGE](#).

A [webinar](#) on the AHTF RFP will be held on September 11, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The webinar will review the FY26 AHTF RFP, including the application process, timeline, and process for submitting RFP related questions. The State will be unable to answer questions while the RFP is open. However, applicants can submit questions via email at AHTF@dca.nj.gov, and answers to questions will be posted on the DCA Affordable Housing Trust Fund website in the form of FAQs.

Contacts: Mike Cerra, Executive Director, mcerra@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x120, or Sadayah Q. DuRant-Brown, Legislative Counsel, sdurantbrown@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x137.

[View it on website](#)

3 ML 9.12.2025



Mari Margiotta <mmargiotta@closternj.us>

988 Day-Spread the word.

1 message

Bergen County Div. Mental Health & Addiction Services <dtrippeda-bergencountynj.gov@shared1.ccsend.com>
Reply-To: dtrippeda@bergencountynj.gov
To: boroclerk@closterboro.com

Mon, Sep 8, 2025 at
9:09 AM



September 8th is 988 Day. Join us to spread awareness, reduce stigma, and make compassionate care accessible to anyone in need.


The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline is available 24/7 for anyone in emotional distress, facing substance use challenges, or even loneliness.

The goal of 988 Day is to raise awareness and positive buzz about the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline through a variety of creative activities spearheaded by communities, organizations, and individuals.

We look forward to creating a memorable #988Day with all of you. Let's ensure people know that 988 provides Compassionate Help. Anytime. Anywhere.

For ideas on how to get involved click the button below.

988 Day



CALL. TEXT. CHAT.
988 IS HERE FOR YOU—
ANYTIME, ANYWHERE.

The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (988 Lifeline) provides judgment-free, compassionate support for anyone experiencing:

- Emotional distress
- Mental health challenges
- Problems with substance use
- Loneliness
- Thoughts of suicide or self-harm


You'll be connected with a caring, skilled 988 counselor who can provide culturally-competent support.

WHY 988 MATTERS

The 988 Lifeline connects people to 988 counselors across a network of more than 200 local crisis contact centers, offering support rooted in local communities.

WHEN YOU CONTACT 988, YOU RECEIVE:

- Support from someone who cares
- Help planning next steps
- Information about local resources and option for follow-up



Compassionate Help. Anytime. Anywhere.
 Call or Text 988, or Chat 988lifeline.org

988 | SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE **988 DAY** | Compassionate Help. Anytime. Anywhere.

Bergen County Div. Mental Health & Addiction Services | One Bergen County Plaza 4th Floor | Hackensack, NJ 07601 US

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Mari Margiotta <mmargiotta@closternj.us>

AHTF RFP; SHBC Rate Renewal; FEMA Reform

1 message

NJLM Weekly Roundup <noreply@civicplus.com>

Wed, Sep 10, 2025 at 2:03 PM

Reply-To: noreply@civicplus.com

To: mmargiotta@closternj.us



View a Featured Ad at the End of this Email

September 10, 2025

State Issues

FY2026 AHTF RFP Released

The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) released the Fiscal Year 2026 Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF) Request for Proposal (RFP) on Friday, September 5. The deadline to apply is 5:00 p.m. on October 3, and the funding is anticipated to be announced on November 7.

[Read more: FY2026 AHTF RFP Released](#)

Contacts: Mike Cerra, Executive Director, mcerra@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x120, or Sadayah Q. DuRant-Brown, Legislative Counsel, sdurantbrown@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x137.

UPDATE - 2026 SHBC Rate Renewal Meeting

The State Health Benefits Commission (SHBC) met last week and adopted the proposed Plan Year 2026 renewal rates.

[Read more: UPDATE - 2026 SHBC Rate Renewal Meeting](#)

Contacts: Lori Buckelew, Deputy Executive Director, lbuckelew@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x112, or Erin Knoedler, Legislative Analyst, eknoedler@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x116.

Governor and State Unions Announce Health Care Savings Agreement

Governor Murphy and State public sector unions announced an agreement to achieve \$75 million in health benefit savings for the last six months of FY26. This does not apply to participating local government employers and employees, but may provide a template.

Read more: [Governor and State Unions Announce Health Care Savings Agreement](#)

Contacts: Lori Buckelew, Deputy Executive Director, lbuckelew@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x112, or Erin Knoedler, Legislative Analyst, eknoedler@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x116.

FAST Annual and Supplemental Debt Statement Update

The Division of Local Government Services (DLGS) has created an updated process for the Financial Automation Submission Tracking (FAST) System for Annual and Supplemental Debt Statements.

Read more: [FAST Annual and Supplemental Debt Statement Update](#)

Contact: Erin Knoedler, Legislative Analyst, eknoedler@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x116.

Comment Period for DEP's Proposed "REAL" Rules Ends September 19

Comments for the DEP's proposed substantial changes to its Resilient Environment and Landscapes (REAL) rules can be submitted until September 19 through the [NJDEP's site](#).

Read more: [Comment Period for DEP's Proposed "REAL" Rules Ends September 19](#)

Contacts: Mike Cerra, Executive Director, mcerra@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x120, Sadayah Q. DuRant-Brown, Legislative Counsel, sdurantbrown@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x137, or Erin Knoedler, Legislative Analyst, eknoedler@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x116.

The DEP Approves DuPont Settlement

On September 2, the DEP and the NJ Spill Compensation Fund approved a Settlement with DuPont, et al. to resolve pending litigation involving discharges of PFAS in the state.

Read more: [The DEP Approves Dupont Settlement](#)

Contacts: Mike Cerra, Executive Director, mcerra@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x120, Paul Penna, Director of Government Affairs, ppenna@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x110, or Sadayah Q. DuRant-Brown, Legislative Counsel, sdurantbrown@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x137.

NJSTART 101 Training Webinar

The NJ Department of Treasury, Division of Purchase and Property (DPP), is hosting a NJSTART 101 Training Webinar to provide local governments with information concerning

procurement and purchasing through Statewide contracts.

[Read more: NJSTART 101 Training Webinar](#)

Contact: Erin Knoedler, Legislative Analyst, eknoedler@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x116.

NJ Municipalities Blog: Lakewood's Squad Goals for Fundraising

[This week's NJ Municipalities blog](#) shares the story of Lakewood's part in the fight against breast cancer.

Lakewood Township municipal employees have formed a special "[Lakewood Squad](#)" fundraising team for the upcoming "2025 New Jersey More Than Pink Walk," by Susan G. Komen for the Cure breast cancer foundation, slated for Sunday, October 5, at Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson.

Want to share your local story? Please send in your 300- to 1,000-word items and photos to Editor Amy Spiezio at aspiezio@njlm.org.

Contact: Amy Spiezio, Editor, aspiezio@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x123.

Federal Issues

House Transportation Committee Advances FEMA Reform Legislation

Last week, the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee advanced bipartisan legislation to reform the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

[Read more: House Transportation Committee Advances FEMA Reform Legislation](#)

Contact: Paul Penna, Director of Government Affairs, ppenna@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x110.

Conference Connections

Book Your Conference Hotel Today

Ensure your best Conference experience, [book your housing for the Annual Conference now](#). The League's room blocks, which close in October, provide the best rates and shuttle bus service to the AC Convention Center. Book early for your preferred hotel—room blocks will sell out!

Check for Session Updates

The [Annual Conference Session Schedule](#) has been expanding over the past weeks as details are finalized and CEU credits are approved. Please visit often to confirm your session planning.

Exhibit Hall Expands for 2025

This year, the Exhibit Hall will be four aisles larger to create an even more informative and inspiring experience for attendees. Plan now to maximize your networking opportunities by reviewing the [Exhibit Hall interactive map](#).

Save Time for League Events

On Tuesday at 9:00 a.m., the NJLM Educational Foundation will hold its annual kick-off event. More information will be published as it becomes available. Also on Tuesday, at 3:00 p.m., the Resolutions Committee will gather to [discuss the resolutions](#) that local government officials have submitted for consideration. The session is open to all, but only members of the Resolutions Committee may vote.

On Wednesday, the Mayors' Lunch Briefing will welcome state department heads and will also recognize the [nominees for the Mayors' Hall of Fame](#) for 10, 20, or 30+ years of service, and [nominated Elected Officials](#) with at least 20 years of service. Fee: \$30. At the end of the day, show your support for women's outstanding achievements at the Women in Municipal Government Networking & Awards Event from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m. Fee: \$35

On Thursday, the Annual Conference ends strong with the League Delegates Luncheon, which puts you in the room with League and State leadership. Fee: \$45. The League's final event for the Conference is the Annual Business Meeting at 3:00 in the Sheraton's Crown Ballroom. Meet the newest Officers and Executive Board members and learn about the plans for 2026. No fee to attend.

Tickets can be purchased during the registration process or added later by [editing your existing Conference registration](#). Only those with a Conference badge may attend the ticketed events.

Apply for the Innovation in Governance Program

The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) and the New Jersey League of Municipalities (NJLM) are accepting applications for the [Innovation in Governance through our annual recognition program](#) through Friday, October 3, 2025.

Showcase innovative solutions developed in your municipality. [Visit our awards page](#) to see previous years' ideas created by our winning municipalities, as well as the full invitation and application to this year's program. For more information on the contest, contact Ciara Bradley, League Research Associate, CBradley@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x128.

Grants

Grants for the DOJ Violence Against Women Program Available

The U.S. Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) is offering municipalities the opportunity to lead community-based justice reform through the [FY 2025 Restorative Practices Pilot Sites Program](#).

[Read more: Grants for the DOJ Violence Against Women Program Available](#)

Contact: Ciara Bradley, Research Associate, cbradley@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x128.

2026 Recreation Opportunities for Individuals with Disabilities (ROID) Grants Program

The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) announced the 2026 Recreation Opportunities for Individuals with Disabilities (ROID) Grants program.

[Read more: 2026 Recreation Opportunities for Individuals with Disabilities \(ROID\) Grants Program](#)

Contact: Ciara Bradley, Research Associate, cbradley@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x128.

Update on Urban Heat Island Mitigation Grant Program

NJBPU has an update on how to apply for the Urban Heat Island Mitigation Grant Program.

[Read more: Update on Urban Heat Island Mitigation Grant Program](#)

Contact: Ciara Bradley, Research Associate, cbradley@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x128.

Also of Interest

NJ Municipalities Magazine: Watch for Renewal Emails

Our new subscription system is slowly rolling out to ensure we have a smooth transition. Those who have an email address on file have been emailed their subscription renewals. Ask your staff to check their inboxes for renewal notifications. The new online system will make it easier for subscribers to update and manage their subscriptions online throughout the year. If your subscription is part of a group subscription, renewals have been sent to the person responsible for managing your group.

Not a subscriber yet? Visit the [League's website to sign up](#) before the October issue mails.

Contact: Tasneem Kapadia, Advertising & Subscription Manager, tkapadia@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, x121.




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on issues affecting your municipalities!**





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5 ML 9.12.2025

Mari Margiotta <mmargiotta@closternj.us>

Bergen County POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony

1 message

Sands, Derek <DSands@bergencountynj.gov>

Fri, Sep 12, 2025 at 10:02 AM

To: "Sands, Derek" <DSands@bergencountynj.gov>

Cc: "Pellicano, Breanne" <BPellicano@bergencountynj.gov>, "Dorsett, Craig" <CDorsett@bergencountynj.gov>, "Lautz, Jared" <JLautz@bergencountynj.gov>

Good morning:

Please join Bergen County Executive Jim Tedesco and the Bergen County Board of Commissioners for our POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony on **Friday, September 19, 2025 at 12:30pm** in the Piazza of One Bergen County Plaza, Hackensack.

BERGEN COUNTY EXECUTIVE
JAMES J. TEDESCO, III
 AND THE
 BERGEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
 TOGETHER WITH THE
 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF VETERANS SERVICES
 CEREBALLY INVITE YOU TO

POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY CEREMONY

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2025
12:30 PM

**BERGEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
 THE PIAZZA AT ONE BERGEN COUNTY PLAZA
 HACKENSACK, NJ 07601**

PLEASE CALL (201) 336-6325 OR EMAIL: [VETERANS@BERGENCOUNTYNJ.GOV](mailto:veterans@bergencountynj.gov)
 FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REQUEST SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

JAMES J. TEDESCO, III
 BERGEN COUNTY EXECUTIVE

BERGEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
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 RAFAEL MARTE - GERMAINE M. ORTIZ - THOMAS J. SULLIVAN - TRACY SILVA ZUR

BERGEN COUNTY EXECUTIVE
JAMES J. TEDESCO, III
AND THE
BERGEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TOGETHER WITH THE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF VETERANS SERVICES
CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO

POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY CEREMONY



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2025
12:30 PM

BERGEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
THE PIAZZA AT ONE BERGEN COUNTY PLAZA
HACKENSACK, NJ 07601

PLEASE CALL (201) 336-6325 OR EMAIL: [VETERANS@BERGENCOUNTYNJ.GOV](mailto:veterans@bergencountynj.gov)
FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REQUEST SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

JAMES J. TEDESCO, III
BERGEN COUNTY EXECUTIVE

BERGEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MARY J. AMOROSO, CHAIRWOMAN · STEVEN A. TANELLI, VICE CHAIRMAN · DR. JOAN M. VOSS, CHAIR PRO TEMPORE
RAFAEL MARTE · GERMAINE M. ORTIZ · THOMAS J. SULLIVAN · TRACY SILNA ZUR



Derek Alan Sands (*he/him/his*)

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of County Executive James J. Tedesco III

County of Bergen

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