

## United Way 5K Run to be held in July

On Saturday, July 18, Bergen County's United Way will hold its 12th Annual PSE&G Teterboro Airport 5K Run to benefit 2-1-1, United Way's free, 24-hour statewide service – putting people in need of assistance, in-touch with people who can help.

“2-1-1 is easy to use. It’s accessible by phone and online at nj211.org. In the last six months call volume has increased 40 percent and web traffic has exploded increasing 60 percent. Almost half of all requests are from men and women who are unemployed or facing lay-off and now find themselves in desperate need for help to pay the rising cost for basic needs,” said Tom Toronto, President of Bergen County’s United Way. “I want people to know that we’re here to help. We pledge to do all we can at this difficult time.”

The PSE&G Teterboro Airport 5K Run has raised over \$300,000 to help 2-1-1. The event attracts over 800 runners and hundreds more spectators because of the unique venue. The sheer number of participants has created a need for additional volunteers and Bergen County’s United Way is looking for interested individuals

and families who might like to get involved.

Volunteers are needed to help with every aspect of the event including registration, refreshments, water distribution on the course, finish line and clean-up. No special skills or knowledge of road racing is required. Children over 5-years-old may volunteer accompanied by a parent or guardian. All volunteers receive an event T-shirt and are eligible for a special volunteer raffle.

Volunteers are needed from 6:30 until 10:30 a.m. and must pre-register by May 29. Because of the increased security at the airport since September 11, all volunteers must be pre-approved by the airport and pre-screened by local law enforcement, before a temporary airport ID badge can be issued for race day.

For further information about the Teterboro 5K Run and how you can become a volunteer, contact Rachel White at Bergen County’s United Way at 201-291-0619 or via email at rwhite@bergenunitedway.org. Volunteer applications are also available online at [www.bergenunitedway.org/specialevents](http://www.bergenunitedway.org/specialevents).

