

## A day of celebration for 2-1-1 Partnership

### Editor:

In anticipation of "2-1-1 Day" on Thursday, the NJ 2-1-1 Partnership (your local United Way) wants to express our sincere appreciation for the community's continued commitment and support for 2-1-1 service on our fifth anniversary. Last year, our 2-1-1 system saw a 25 percent increase for 367,000 requests for information and community resources from people seeking help with many of our callers seeking help for the very first time.

Our resource database includes 12,000 local services throughout the state and more than 30 resource pages dedicated to helping New Jersey residents navigate a sometimes complex and overwhelming social service system. The latest resource at [www.nj211.org](http://www.nj211.org) is an assistance guide for those New Jersey residents who want to help in Haiti or have Haitian relatives who need help now. All 2-1-1 information is reliable and credible and is a great place to start to give or get help confidentially, with over 170 languages supported.

On 2-1-1 Day, we should celebrate. We celebrate the many donors and volunteers and legislators who support the

7,000 organizations to which we refer, including state programs that are the safety net of our community. We celebrate that our community supports food pantries, financial assistance programs, counseling, support groups, after-school and tutoring programs and so many more programs. We celebrate that our community members work tirelessly to take care of those individuals who are most vulnerable and those who have been affected by the economic downturn.

Thank you, New Jersey. Remember, if you want to give or get help, just dial 2-1-1, we will be there for you 24/7, 365 days a year.

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