

## CAREGIVER STATISTICS:

- In New Jersey alone, nearly 1.1 million unpaid caregivers support a family member often from birth through adulthood.
- 30,000 NJ children are primary caregivers for parents, grandparents or siblings.
- Caregivers tend to die 12-15 years before non-caregivers.
- The value of the services family caregivers provide for "free" is estimated to be almost \$300 billion a year.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- New Caregiving Statistics
- Summit Call to Action Endorsements
- New Listserv for New Jersey Caregivers
- Paid Family Leave update and lobby day information.

**1,060,000 =**

## Number of NJ Caregivers

Caregivers of New Jersey released the results of a poll conducted by the Monmouth University Polling Institute at a State House press conference on November 19.

The biggest news is that there are far more caregivers in NJ than thought previously. According to the poll, NJ adult caregivers total 1,060,000 as opposed

to the "official" state estimate of 836,000.

A previous survey from the National Alliance for Caregiving suggests that NJ also has well over 30,000 young people under the age of 18 who are primary caregivers for grandparents, parents or siblings. This would push the total for NJ caregivers close to 1.1 million or one in every eight residents.



Executive Director, Eric Joice addresses the audience at the Caregivers of New Jersey Press Conference

## Caregiving Burden in NJ Estimated at 11.2 Billion

AARP has estimated the economic value of family caregiving in New Jersey at \$11.2 billion. The AARP Public Policy Institute has released a study entitled "Valuing the Invaluable: A New Look at the Economic Value of Family Caregiving". The complete study is available at [www.aarp.org/research/housing-mobility/caregiving/ib82\\_caregiving.html](http://www.aarp.org/research/housing-mobility/caregiving/ib82_caregiving.html).

## Community Organizations And Elected Officials Adopt Summit's Call to Action

Has your organization reviewed and endorsed the findings of the First NJ Caregiver Summit? Join the Brain Injury Association of New Jersey, The Light-house Hospice Foundation, and a growing number of organizations by ratifying these proposals. The document is available online at [www.njcaregivers.org](http://www.njcaregivers.org).

Legislators have also endorsed the "themes" from the Caregiver Summit.

State Senator Steve Sweeny wrote "Caring for a loved one who is ill often places families in tight situations because they must work".

Senator Shirley Turner stated, "...it is important to increase awareness among

the public and link physicians, caregivers, agencies and facilities to increase public awareness."



## NFCA Launches New Jersey Listserv for Caregivers

A listserv for parents of children with special needs, "well-spouses", and eldercare caregivers has been launched in New Jersey. New Jersey is the pilot state to connect all caregivers in our state! Caregivers can talk about how to care for themselves while caring for another.

Please help spread the word by visiting:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NJFamilyCaregivers>

Make sure you visit our website where you can view archived Caregiver Connections, find resources and stay up-to-date on CNJ and FRN's upcoming events!

[www.njcaregivers.org](http://www.njcaregivers.org)

## Caregivers of New Jersey Supports Paid Family Leave

Caregivers of New Jersey is a member of the New Jersey Time to Care Coalition. The Coalition supports offering up to 10 weeks of paid family leave for family members who must take time off to care for a child, spouse or parent.

Legislation is expected to be considered this month.

## Caregivers Community Official Family Caregiver Bumper Stickers:

"I am a family caregiver and proud of it!"



<http://www.caregiverscommunity.com/familycaregiverbumpersticker.html>

For more products please visit:  
<http://www.caregivercommunity.com/cooltools.html>

Or contact Liz deNesnera at  
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## New Jersey Time to Care Grassroots Lobby Day to Support Family Leave Insurance

Monday, December 10, 2007  
8:30 AM-4:00 PM

The War Memorial (Behind the State House)  
200 Barrack Street  
Trenton, NJ

Call Atif Malik for more information:  
(973) 643-8800

If you have an article or event that you would like to be included in the next issue, please contact Dana Goldberg at [dgoldberg@familyresourcenetwork.org](mailto:dgoldberg@familyresourcenetwork.org).