

# ON BOARD

August 10, 2026



News and Views from the New Jersey Local Boards of Health Association

**Next Meeting:**

**Saturday, September 12, 2026**

**NJLBHA Board Meeting**

**10:00 AM EST**

Zoom Meeting Link: [Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting](#)

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## Current Articles and Requests for Participation

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### Important court decision on our case: QC+Kempthorne vs EPA

Congratulations on a great victory for public health and population protection. good luck with getting a meaningful remedy from the courts.

Paul David Roman,  
President, NJ local boards of Health Association.

The press release is below and is being sent to media contacts today. The news has already appeared in the legal press.

[Court Limits EPA's Noise Control Responsibilities in Ruling](#)

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## Disability Information Hub

The DIH offers a wealth of information about programs, services, and resources available across New Jersey. It includes user-friendly tools like Quick Start Guides to assist individuals in navigating important topics such as housing, employment, education, and healthcare.

We believe the DIH can be a valuable resource for your organization and the communities you serve. You can explore the Hub and its offerings by visiting <https://www.nj.gov/disabilities>.

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*NJLBHA is proud to partner with njaccho in asking our members and supported to use the link immediately to ask congress to provide sufficient and appropriate funding for those public health agencies that support state and local prevention, education and enforcement programs.*

*thanx, Paul David Roman, president, NJ local boards of health association*

On behalf of the NACCHO Government Affairs team, please see the message and invitation to participate below.

Public Health Champion,

Last year, we urged Congress to support federal health agencies and invest in programs that strengthen local public health. Thanks to your advocacy, Congress passed a final Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 bill that maintained responsible federal funding levels for local health departments.

As Congress continues negotiating FY 2027, we need your help once again to make sure that these commonsense investments continue. Local health departments are on the frontlines of ensuring the health and safety of communities and using federal grants and resources to implement important programs and services. By supporting federal public health agencies, Congress invests in securing the health of families and protecting the economic prosperity of communities across the country.

Please contact your Members of Congress directly and let them know that strong federal support in FY 2027 is essential to local public health.

TAKE ACTION - <https://www.naccho.org/advocacy/take-action#/21>

In partnership,

Victoria Van de Vate  
Director, Government Affairs

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The New Jersey Lung Force Walk will take place Saturday, September 26, 2026, at TD Bank Ballpark and we would love to have you join us. Yes, the venue has moved and we are looking forward to holding it at the ballpark. Hours are 8:30 am- 12:30 pm.

# Volunteer with LUNG FORCE!

## LUNG FORCE Walk New Jersey

September 26 | TD Bank Ballpark Bridgewater, NJ

Do Good, Feel Great! From lifesaving research to early detection initiatives and clean air advocacy, we work to give people with lung disease a fighting chance. Come volunteer in the fun of a LUNG FORCE Walk while making a difference.

**Scan the  
QR Code to  
Register**



- Set-up & Tear Down
- Registration
- Mission Tents & Tables
- Cheerleaders & Route Marshall
- And more!

### Shifts Available

7:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.



**LUNG FORCE WALK**  
American Lung Association.

Contact: Emily Mancino | 917-210-5641 | [NJWalk@lung.org](mailto:NJWalk@lung.org)

*Please read the announcement and click on the link in paragraph ten to see the summary of awards. although I suspect that some of our local, county or regional departments or boards are partners in some awards, not one is mentioned in the summaries. we should be interested as to which if any are actual partners for funding. pdr*



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
GOVERNOR MIKIE SHERRILL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
July 31, 2026

**Contact: Maggie Garbarino, Tom Hester, Dalya Ewais**

**Press Office: Governor's Office, NJ Department of Human Services, NJ Department of Health**

**Email: [Maggie.Garbarino@nj.gov](mailto:Maggie.Garbarino@nj.gov), [Tom.Hester@dhs.nj.gov](mailto:Tom.Hester@dhs.nj.gov), [Dalya.Ewais@doh.nj.gov](mailto:Dalya.Ewais@doh.nj.gov)**

## **New Jersey Awards First Round of Rural Health Transformation Grants**

### **Historic \$83M Investment Will Strengthen Healthcare Workforce, Infrastructure, Technology, Prevention, and Chronic Disease Services in Rural Communities**

**TRENTON** – Governor Mikie Sherrill today announced the first round of grant awards through New Jersey's Rural Health Transformation Program (NJRHT), investing \$83 million in projects that aim to strengthen healthcare access and improve health outcomes for residents living in rural communities across the state.

The awards represent the first investments made through New Jersey's five-year Rural Health Transformation Program, a federally funded initiative designed to improve healthcare infrastructure, expand access to care, strengthen the healthcare workforce, and support innovative approaches to prevention and chronic disease management in rural communities.

"Every New Jersey resident deserves access to quality healthcare, regardless of where they live," **said Governor Sherrill**. "These grants will help strengthen hospitals, community health providers, and the healthcare workforce that families rely on every day. While these funds do not make up for a federal government that is gutting funding for healthcare, by investing in innovative, community-driven solutions, we are taking a healthier and more affordable future for New Jersey into our own hands."

Today's awards support projects across NJRHT's five priority areas:

- **Workforce:** Recruiting, training, and retaining clinical and non-clinical healthcare professionals;
- **Infrastructure:** Strengthening hospitals, primary care providers, and other essential healthcare facilities;
- **Technology:** Expanding the use of health technology and innovative care delivery models;
- **Prevention:** Improving community health through prevention-focused initiatives; and
- **Chronic Disease:** Supporting programs that improve the management of chronic health conditions.

"In order to make good health possible for everyone, we have to identify the challenges facing distinct populations and craft innovative solutions to meet their health needs," **said Health Commissioner Dr. Raynard E. Washington**. "These investments will help strengthen the overall health of rural New Jersey communities and move us closer to our goal of making New Jersey the healthiest state in the union."

"These investments are about more than funding individual projects," **said Human Services Commissioner Dr. Stephen Cha**. "They are about transforming how healthcare is delivered in rural New Jersey. We are investing in stronger healthcare systems, a more resilient workforce, and innovative models of care that will improve access and affordability for residents today while building lasting capacity for the future."

While New Jersey is the most densely populated state in the nation, approximately one in ten New Jerseyans live in rural communities. Rural communities are more likely to experience healthcare workforce shortages, hospital maternity unit closures, higher rates of substance use-related health impacts, and lower rates of annual pediatric well visits.

New Jersey received more than \$147 million from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for the first year of the five-year Rural Health Transformation Program, which was approved by Congress last year, with New Jersey receiving one of the highest per-capita Rural Health Transformation awards in the nation for this first year of funding. The funding levels for the remaining four years of NJRHT are not yet known.

The Department of Human Services serves as the state's lead agency overseeing the program, with the Department of Health administering approximately \$95 million in competitive grant funding.

The Department of Health received more than 200 applications across six grant categories.

Today's awards represent the first year of investments that will fund 103 projects. A summary of grant awards can be found [here](#).

While the Rural Health Transformation Program represents a historic investment in New Jersey's rural healthcare system, it comes at a time when changes in federal law are expected to place significant financial pressure on hospitals, providers, and health coverage programs nationwide. As a result of H.R. 1, New Jersey is expected to face a \$3.3 billion cut to hospitals and public health funding annually.

Changes to Medicaid could result in **[more than 300,000 New Jerseyans](#)** losing **[NJFamilyCare](#)** coverage. **[Nearly 70,000 New Jerseyans](#)** dropped their **[GetCoveredNJ](#)** plans in the months after the federal government's elimination of enhanced Affordable Care Act subsidies. Amid such challenges, the Sherrill Administration remains committed to using Rural Health Transformation funding strategically to strengthen rural healthcare systems and maximize its long-term impact for New Jersey communities. For more information about the Rural Health Transformation Program, including future funding opportunities, please join NJ's RHT Listserv **[here](#)**. Program questions can be directed to the RHT email address: **[mahs.njrht@dhs.nj.gov](mailto:mahs.njrht@dhs.nj.gov)**.

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**[Department of Health | News | New Jersey Health Commissioner Announces New Executive Leadership Team](#)** [Go to article on web](#)

*July/August*

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NEWSLETTER | JUNE 2026

NEW JERSEY HUMAN SERVICES



**Division of  
Developmental  
Disabilities**

**New Law Strengthening Oversight and Accountability of  
Developmental Disabilities Service Providers Takes Effect July 1**

*Law Allows for Civil Penalties for Serious Violations*

*July/August*

**NJLBHA LinkedIn Account Reactivated**



The New Jersey Local Boards of Health Association is excited to announce the re-activation of their official LinkedIn account! This platform will now serve as a hub for updates, resources, and collaboration opportunities to strengthen public health across the State. Follow along to stay connected with local initiatives, upcoming events, and important health news.



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