



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 13, 2008

Economic Stimulus Payments Still Waiting to be Claimed Eligible Senior Citizens and People with Disabilities Must File by October 15th

Paramus, NJ October 9, 2008 – It is estimated that 120,000 New Jersey residents may miss out on collecting an Economic Stimulus Payment (ESP) simply because they never filed a 2007 tax return. The deadline for doing so is October 15th and NJ 2-1-1 is doing all that it can to encourage eligible citizens to take advantage of the program.

“We’ve posted a page to our Web site that provides all of the necessary information,” states Laura Marx, executive director of NJ 2-1-1. “Not only will people find a description of the program, but they can also access a listing of the current addresses of IRS and VITA locations that are open to assist the state’s senior and disabled population who are eligible to receive payments,” she continues.

Eligibility requirements for individuals are that they must have had \$3,000 or more in income from earnings; Social Security benefits, Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI); Veterans disability benefits; Railroad Retirement benefits; or a combination of any of these benefits and pay in 2007. Individuals (and their spouses and children) must have a valid Social Security number. Citizens cannot get the Economic Stimulus Payment if they can be claimed as a dependent by another person.

To receive the payment, individuals must file a 2007 tax return. Even people who are otherwise not required to file, because they have very low incomes or nontaxable benefits, must file a Form 1040A to claim their ESP. Anyone who has already filed a Form 1040 or 1040A — or a 1040EZ showing \$3,000 or more for 2007 — does not need to do anything else.

To learn more about this program, go to <http://nj211.org/100208ecstim.cfm> or dial 2-1-1 from anywhere in the state to be connected with a caring resource professional who will provide information and assistance.

About NJ 2-1-1

NJ 2-1-1 is a statewide information and assistance network that connects NJ citizens with government, social service and community resources. Working closely with state government agencies and department leaders as well as local community organizations, NJ 2-1-1 provides information that will help NJ residents find solutions to everyday challenges as well as critical life issues. The organization has a statewide database of health and human service resources and call centers that are staffed around the clock. This free, confidential service is accessed by dialing 2-1-1 from any phone in the state or by going to www.nj211.org. NJ 2-1-1 is supported by United Way in partnership with the State of New Jersey.