

Vibrant Connections

2019



NEWS FROM THE SOMERSET COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

County Mental Health Center Offers Integrated Health Care

DID YOU KNOW?

Richard Hall Community Mental Health Center is the **only** county-operated mental health center in New Jersey that offers integrated health care.

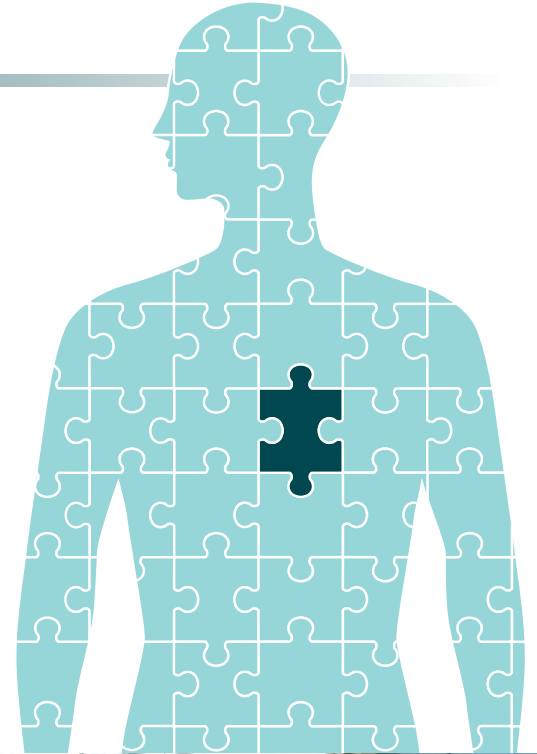
Which is why we are changing its name to the **Richard Hall Community Health and Wellness Center** of Somerset County.

WHAT IS "INTEGRATED CARE?"

Integrated care is a team of mental health and primary care professionals who work together to treat all of the individual's health conditions. That means we treat the **whole person** – mind, body & spirit. In order to offer integrated care, Richard Hall made a **vibrant connection** with Zufall Health, a federally qualified health center.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

It is estimated that about **80%** of people who have a substance use disorder also have a mental illness. Integrated health care is a more comprehensive and cost-effective treatment, which leads to improved overall health outcomes for individuals.



Richard Hall Community Health and Wellness Center

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Meet Your County Officials

BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

ELECTED TO THREE-YEAR TERMS



Brian D. Levine

Director

Ex officio to all county departments and divisions

Former Franklin Township Mayor.
Freeholder since January 2015.



Patricia L. Walsh

Deputy Director

Liaison to Finance & Administrative Services

Former Green Brook Mayor.
Freeholder since January 2008.



Brian G. Gallagher

Freeholder

Liaison to Public Works

Former Somerville Mayor.
Freeholder since January 2018.



Shanel Y. Robinson

Freeholder

Liaison to Human Services

Former Franklin Township Deputy Mayor
and Council Member.
Freeholder since January 2019.



Sara Sooy

Freeholder

Liaison to Public Health & Safety

Former Somerset Hills School District
Board of Education Member.
Freeholder since January 2019.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS



Frank G. Bruno

Surrogate
5-year term



Steve Peter

County Clerk
5-year term



Frank J. Provenzano

Sheriff
3-year term



YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

The general election for national, state, county and local government representatives will be held:

Tuesday, November 5

*Polls will be open from
6 a.m. until 8 p.m.*

Here are upcoming deadlines pertaining to this election:

October 15, 2019

Last day to register to vote in the General Election.

October 29, 2019

Last day to submit a Vote by Mail application by mail.

November 4, 2019

Last day to submit a Vote by Mail application in person (3 p.m. deadline).

For more information on **voting and voter registration**, contact the Somerset County **Board of Elections** at **908-231-7084** or visit www.co.somerset.nj.us/elections.

For more information about **Vote by Mail**, contact the Somerset County **Clerk's Office** at **908-231-7013** or visit www.co.somerset.nj.us/clerk.



Somerset County Services at a Glance

January - June 2019



**14,574
TONS**

of Recycling Collected

Household Hazardous Waste Days



283,724 LBS

1,045 GALLONS
OF MOTOR OIL



68,251 LBS
SHREDDED MATERIAL

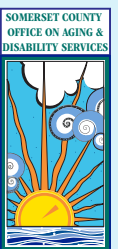
FIRST SATURDAY
OF THE MONTH
DROP OFFS



1,520 LBS
RX COLLECTED



1,300 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
PARTICIPATED
IN THE ANNUAL



**725 CLIENTS SEEKING
EMPLOYMENT RECEIVED**
POST-TRAINING
COUNSELING



**625 STUDENTS
COMPLETED**
EMERGENCY SERVICES
TRAINING (FIRE / EMS)



For more information, contact PublicInfo@co.somerset.nj.us

Introducing Your New Director of Health Namitha Reddy, M.D., M.P.H.

Please tell us about yourself.

Hello - My name is Namitha Reddy and I am Somerset County's health officer and director of the Health Department. I have been a resident of Somerset County for over a decade and joined the Health Department earlier this year.

How would you define your role?

My primary role is to advocate for the health of the community and our residents and provide leadership for its improvement and protection.

How does the Health Department advocate for our health?

We offer many services, but one of our goals is to prevent contagious and infectious diseases from occurring and spreading. We also collaborate with local agencies to control and prevent chronic disease by educating the public and offering workshops to promote healthier lifestyles.

What did you do before joining the county Health Department?

I was the infectious disease epidemiologist for Morris County for almost 10 years, and a regional epidemiology program supervisor for the state Department of Health. Overall, I have 15 years' experience in general medicine, epidemiology, community health assessment and emergency preparedness and response.

What's a good safety tip for residents?

Washing your hands with soap and clean water is an easy way to avoid getting sick and spreading germs.



HEALTH DEPT SERVICES

- Public Health Education
- Emergency Planning & Response
 - Conduct health exercises
 - Respond to public health concerns during emergencies
 - Respond to hazardous material spills
- Communicable Disease Surveillance & Prevention
 - Monitor occurrences
 - Report & investigate outbreaks
 - Free clinics
- Chronic Disease Control & Prevention
 - Partner with local health agencies
 - Promote healthier lifestyles
 - Regional Chronic Disease Coalition of Morris & Somerset Counties
 - Regional Tuberculosis Control & Prevention Program
- Environmental Health
 - Conduct regulated facility inspections
 - Investigate complaints
 - Enforcement hearings
- Medical Reserve Corps
 - Recruit & train volunteers

Don't miss our FREE Flu Clinic

**Wednesday, October 16
Drive-through Clinic at
TD Ballpark, Bridgewater**

For more information, contact HealthDept@co.somerset.nj.us or (908) 231-7155

Somerset County Embraces Diversity & Inclusion

See page 6
for our Event!
Oct 12th

Over the years, Somerset County has become more and more diverse.

What is Somerset County doing to support diversity and inclusion?
We implemented a new diversity initiative,
which includes mandatory training for all employees.

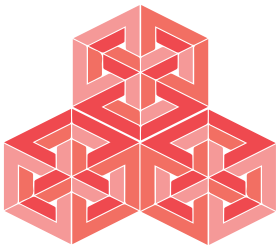
Our Goal

Increase awareness and sensitivity of diversity.

Provide staff with tools for fostering a cohesive and inclusive workplace.

Identify techniques for creating and maintaining a respectful workplace.

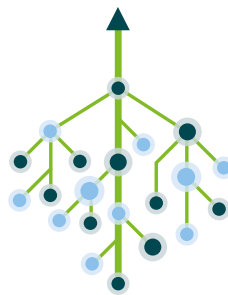
Benefits of Diversity & Inclusion



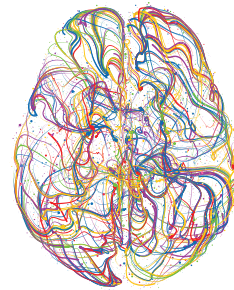
Different Perspectives



Faster Problem Solving



Better Decision Making



Increased Creativity



More Innovation

SOMERSET COUNTY'S DIVERSITY STATEMENT:

The County of Somerset is home to a population of promising individuals from around the world, making Somerset County a unique, vibrant community because of its diversity.

Diversity is among our greatest assets and is fundamental to everything we do. It is inclusive of not only those who look different but those who may think differently.

When Somerset County recognizes, values and embraces diversity, we recognize, value and embrace the uniqueness of each individual.

Upcoming Fall Events

Free Document-Shredding Events for Somerset County Residents

October 5, 2019 (Montgomery High School)

November 9, 2019 (Green Brook Middle School)

Proof of residency is required (*current driver's license, valid lease, or any other bill with a Somerset County address*). **No businesses.**

For more information, visit www.co.somerset.nj.us/shredding



October 5 **Build your own Scarecrow** **9 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

Colonial Park Gardens Stone Cottage, 156 Mettlers Road, Somerset

Bring your favorite scarecrow clothes, creativity and we'll provide the rest.

Pre-registration and payment (\$25) by September 30.

908.722.1200 x5721

www.somersetcountyparks.org



October 12

Diversity Festival

20 Grove Street, Somerville **11 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

Bring a chair and enjoy an afternoon of food, music, artists and exhibits.

908.203.6044

www.co.somerset.nj.us

October 12 & 13

Weekend Journey through the Past

Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

30 historic sites open to the public, plus special programs.

908.231.7110 www.SCHistoryWeekend.com



October 19 **Abilities Expo** **10 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

Senior Wellness Center at Bridgewater, 876 E. Main St. (*next to the ballpark*)

For people with disabilities, their caregivers, family members, friends and the public.

908.704.6334

www.co.somerset.nj.us

November 23 **Colonial Williamsburg Holiday Centerpiece** **1 p.m. - 3 p.m.**

Park Headquarters, North Branch Park, 355 Milltown Road, Bridgewater

Create a centerpiece for your Holiday guests. All material will be provided.

Pre-registration and payment (\$50) by November 18.

908.722.1200 x5721

www.somersetcountyparks.org

December 7-29 **42nd Festival of Trees** **9 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily**

(closed Dec. 24 & 25 for the Christmas holiday)

Environmental Education Center, Lord Stirling Road, Basking Ridge

908.766.2489

www.somersetcountyparks.org

Find other events and a Weekend Top 10 at www.VisitSomersetNJ.org

TOP 4 REASONS to Participate in

LEADERSHIP Somerset

1 Learn About Somerset County

2 Network with Community Leaders

3 Enhance Team & Leadership Skills

4 Make a Positive Impact in the Community

Adults who live or work in Somerset County are invited to apply for the Leadership

Somerset Class of 2020

Application due

Oct. 31, 2019

To learn more, visit:
www.co.somerset.nj.us/LS_Apply

You'll be Surprised by What You Learn at Leadership Somerset!

www.LeadershipSomerset.org

908-231-7040

A Guide to Somerset County Government Offices

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3000, Somerville, NJ 08876-1262

Main Offices: County Administration Building, 20 Grove Street, Somerville, NJ

Human Services Offices: 27 Warren Street, Somerville, NJ • **Website:** www.co.somerset.nj.us

For other county offices not listed below, call 908-231-7000 or email publicinfo@co.somerset.nj.us

ELECTED OFFICIALS & COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

Board of Chosen Freeholders
County Administrator / Clerk of the Board
Public Information Office
County Clerk
Sheriff
Surrogate

EMAIL ADDRESS or WEBSITE

FreeholdersOffice@co.somerset.nj.us
AdministratorsOffice@co.somerset.nj.us
PublicInfo@co.somerset.nj.us
CountyClerk@co.somerset.nj.us
Sheriff@co.somerset.nj.us
SurrogatesOffice@co.somerset.nj.us
HumanServices@co.somerset.nj.us

TELEPHONE

908-231-7030
908-231-7040
908-231-7020
908-231-7006
908-231-7140
908-231-7003
908-704-6300

HUMAN SERVICES

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Finance / Treasurer
Human Resources

FinanceDiv@co.somerset.nj.us
HumanResources@co.somerset.nj.us
PublicWorks@co.somerset.nj.us

908-231-7631
908-231-7120
908-203-6018

PUBLIC WORKS

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY

Emergency Management
Health

EmergencyMgmt@co.somerset.nj.us
Health@co.somerset.nj.us

908-725-5070
908-231-7155

2019
Somerset County

SAVE the DATE!
October 19, 2019

ABILITIES Expo



**Resources for the
Disability Community**

*You are invited to participate
in this community event:*

**Saturday,
October 19, 2019
10:00 am
to 1:00 pm**

**Senior Wellness
Center at Bridgewater
876 East Main Street
(next to TD Bank Ballpark)
Bridgewater, NJ 08807**

FREE ADMISSION!

For more information, please contact:

**Paulann Pierson,
Disability Services Coordinator
Office on Aging & Disability Services:
(908) 704-6334**



**SOMERSET COUNTY
OFFICE ON AGING &
DISABILITY SERVICES**

Show Us

**SOMERSET
COUNTY**

Through YOUR Camera Lens

www.co.somerset.nj.us/photocontest



Entries due November 29, 2019

Themes for this year:

Community Events • Local Historic Sites

Natural Environment • Recreation

\$50 Honorarium for winning entries!

*Made possible by funds from the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage
Commission, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.*

Scan or visit

www.co.somerset.nj.us/photocontest



**SOMERSET COUNTY
BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS**

20 Grove Street, P.O. Box 3000
Somerville, New Jersey 08876

Phone: 908-231-7030

Fax: 908-231-8754

FreeholdersOffice@co.somerset.nj.us

Somerset County is governed and managed by a Board of Chosen Freeholders. The board consists of five members; one or two are elected each year from the county at large to serve three year terms. Unlike a mayor or municipal elected official, a Freeholder represents all 335,432 county residents.

The Board of Freeholders holds regular public meetings the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7 p.m. in the county administration building at 20 Grove St. in Somerville. Agenda sessions, which also are open to the public, are held the same days at 5 p.m. Items discussed at each agenda session will be voted on at the regular meeting that takes place two weeks later.

To view minutes and agendas, select the Government tab on our website at www.co.somerset.nj.us.



PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage Paid
New Brunswick, NJ
Permit # 1

Stay Updated!



Somerset County website
www.co.somerset.nj.us



e-bulletins & news
www.co.somerset.nj.us/subscribe



text alerts!
emergency information
www.co.somerset.nj.us/alerts



www.facebook.com/SomersetCountyNJ
www.twitter.com/SomersetCntyNJ
www.instagram.com/SomersetCountyNJ
http://bit.ly/SCNJ_YouTube



The Census
is Coming in April!



10
QUESTIONS
to answer.



\$675
BILLION
FEDERAL DOLLARS

**Your Census Answers
Help Get Money
for Services When...**



...you
have an
EMERGENCY!



...you
need **HELP!**



... **ROADS &
BRIDGES** need
to be fixed!

72
YEARS



before **ANY** of your personally identifiable information collected in the census is released to **ANY** other individual or agency.



<https://www.census.gov>