

NJAAW Collects Opinions and Insights from Older Adults in New Jersey

NJ residents age 60 and above are invited to complete a comprehensive survey which will shape policy priorities to better serve the state's growing population of older adults.

HAMILTON, NJ — **February 20, 2024.** <u>NJ Advocates for Aging Well</u> (NJAAW), the only statewide nonprofit focusing solely on issues impacting older adults in New Jersey, is seeking respondents for a statewide survey on issues related to aging.

The survey, which launched February 2024 and will run throughout the spring, focuses on challenges, plans and decisions related to aging in New Jersey. The results will inform NJAAW's policy advocacy efforts, which have historically included issues such as housing, cost of living, and transportation safety. The organization plans to share findings from the survey with the public later this year.

"Our older residents are the people who have built New Jersey and its communities," said Dr. Cathy Rowe, Executive Director. "They have an ever-evolving set of needs and challenges, and it's important to hear directly from community members about the changes they'd like to see."

NJAAW celebrated its 25th anniversary last year, adopting the slogan "Daring to Envision a Brighter Future for Older Adults in New Jersey." The organization reflected on past accomplishments toward its mission to create an age-friendly society, and also shed light on a new set of issues, including the direct care workforce shortage.

"We've made a lot of progress in 25 years, but our work never stops. We hope NJ residents will take this opportunity to make their voices heard," Dr. Rowe added.

To qualify for the survey, participants must be 60 or older, consider New Jersey their primary residence, and live independently in the community. NJAAW will not collect any personal or identifying data; participants are only asked to disclose age and county of residence.

The survey is <u>accessible online</u>, but paper copies are available upon request. To do so, call (609) 421-0206 and leave a message with your name and address.

To access the survey and learn more about NJAAW's work, visit www.njaaw.org.



About NJAAW

NJ Advocates for Aging Well (NJAAW), formerly NJ Foundation for Aging, has been on the forefront of revolutionizing the aging experience since 1998. It is the only statewide nonprofit focused solely on providing leadership in public policy and education to enable older adults to live with independence and dignity in their communities. NJAAW's social action issues include senior housing and hunger, elder economic security, older workers, the direct care workforce, and transportation. The award-winning Aging Insights, a monthly topical TV program and podcast produced by NJAAW, connects caregivers, seniors and their families to community based services and resources. The show is available on YouTube, NJAAW's website and on more than 70 public access TV stations. NJAAW also presents educational forums and an Annual Conference offering development opportunities and best practices for professionals entrusted with caring for seniors.