

Help us OFFER HOPE and DELIVER HELP this holiday season!



Electricity and home heating costs are expected to rise as the temperatures drop this holiday season. Many fellow New Jerseyans will need to turn down their thermostats to offset these rising energy costs. Please join all of us at NJ SHARES as we strive to assist all in need... support NJ SHARES with your tax deductible contribution today.

Visit njshares.org/donate
to make your contribution today!

NJ SHARES is turning 25!

All of us at NJ SHARES are pleased to kick off our 25 year anniversary in January 2023! When the organization began in 1998 it was with a vision to assist those New Jerseyans experiencing a temporary financial crisis with their utility needs. That original mission has held true all these years and expanded in ways we could not have imagined.

Today NJ SHARES assist with more than utility needs. Limited rental, mortgage and property tax assistance has been in place these last few years with the NJ

SMART Housing program. The VetSMART program is also expanding to assist our NJ veterans in need.



As we look towards the next 25 years we will continue to broaden our scope and our reach. Essential services are always changing and if we've demonstrated nothing in the past 25 years we've shown that NJ SHARES can

grow both our acumen and our partnerships and know that we will be here to continue to Offer Hope and Deliver Help.

Smart Meter Upgrades Deploying Across Atlantic City Electric Service Area

Atlantic City Electric's new smart meters upgrade began in 2022 for its nearly 565,000 customers in South Jersey as part of the company's new Smart Energy Network. Smart meters will be installed across Cape May, Atlantic, Ocean, Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, Cumberland and Salem counties. These upgrades will support new tools and programs to help save money and energy, enhance reliability and improve the resiliency of energy service.

Once a customer's upgraded smart meter is activated, they will have more tools to help them manage their energy usage and save money, including high bill alerts and bill forecasts to stay on budget each month and new online features to identify energy saving tips.

The Smart Network and Its Benefits

Smart meters allow for secure communication between a property and Atlantic City Electric's central operations facility, providing real-time information about energy service, as well as a host of other benefits related to an improved customer experience. This real-time information will be particularly important for quicker power restoration following increasingly common disruptive weather events – and for programs that will allow customers to closely monitor and manage energy use. Benefits will include:

- Enhanced reliability with faster and more efficient power restoration efforts.
- More detailed outage information when outages occur.
- Tools that can help customers use energy more efficiently and save money.
- Reduced need for estimated billing.
- Automatic readings.

Once the Smart Energy Network is complete, customers can use new tools and features on the Atlantic City Electric app and My Account to monitor their energy use in new ways to save money and energy. Customers will be able to:

- See real-time electricity usage.
- Receive high bill alerts when electricity use reaches a selected level so you can manage your energy use.
- Check bills to date at any point to stay on budget each month.
- Participate in potential future programs that could offer new ways to save money and energy.

For customers facing challenges paying their energy bill, Atlantic City Electric offers options like payment arrangements and extended payment date plans. The company also partners with various agencies to connect customers with energy assistance. For all customers, Atlantic City Electric has programs like budget billing that can help customers avoid seasonal peaks in their energy bills and energy efficiency programs and energy saving information that can help save money by reducing energy usage. For more information, visit atlanticcityelectric.com/EnergyAssistance.

During installation, Atlantic City Electric expects that a small number of customers will have damaged meter pans. This can be very dangerous, and the company will notify affected customers quickly and give them ample opportunity to repair them. For customers who qualify, NJ Shares and Atlantic City Electric offer onetime grants of up to \$750 to help cover the cost.

For more information about Atlantic City Electric's Smart Energy Network, visit atlanticcityelectric.com/SEN

NJ SHARES On the Move

With over 200 partners, NJ SHARES is active all over the state providing utility, rent, mortgage/tax assistance. Community events, county fairs and holiday tree lightings just to name a few. Below are a few snapshots of our team out in the community.



NJ SHARES joins the community for the Allenwood Tree Lighting.

NJ SHARES Programs Update

Please reach out to NJ SHARES with questions or to apply for any of the programs below. NJ SHARES staff can be reached at 866.657.4273.

Utility Assistance Programs

- AQUA NJ
- Atlantic City Electric
- Elizabethtown Gas
- JCP&L
- NJ American Water
- NJ Natural Gas
- PSE&G
- Rockland Electric Company
- South Jersey Gas
- Veolia

ERA Program (Utility only)

County of Monmouth

Affordable Connectivity Program and Lifeline Program

Verizon NJ

Health Insurance Enrollment Support

Get Covered NJ

Housing Assistance Programs

NJ SMART Program - Mortgage, Property Tax and Rent Assistance

East Orange COVID-19 Rental Assistance Grant Program - Phase II