



WINTER/SPRING
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
2025



GOVERNOR MURPHY STATE OF STATE ADDRESS
"FINISHING THE JOB OF BUILDING A STRONGER AND FAIRER NEW JERSEY"



On January 14, 2025, Governor Murphy delivered his State of the State Address, highlighting his Administration's work in advancing New Jersey over the past seven years, and the work yet to come. Through raising wages, creating jobs, and establishing a new era of economic opportunity for every New Jersey's future, the Governor commits to continuing his Administration's work in building a stronger, fairer New Jersey.

The key priorities that were mentioned include: securing New Jersey's reputation as the best state to raise a family; delivering economic security and lowering costs for more New Jerseyans; and strengthening New Jersey's future. He stated that in his final year, his Administration is committed to economic security and opportunity for all New Jerseyans.

[Governor's Full Address](#)

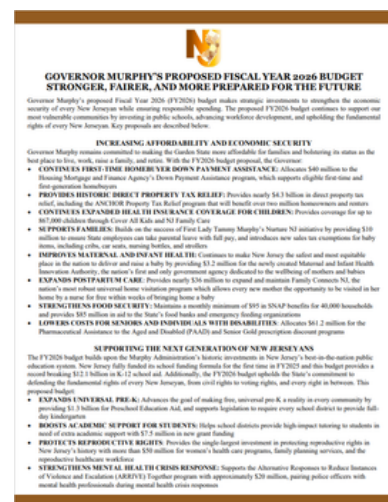
"I'm not done yet. Over the next year, we are going to run through the tape in delivering economic security and opportunity to every New Jerseyan."
- Governor Murphy

GOVERNOR MURPHY'S PROPOSED FY 2026 BUDGET

On Tuesday, February 25, 2025, Governor Murphy delivered his final budget address, echoing similar plans to his State of the State address for a "Stronger, Fairer, and More Prepared for the Future" for all New Jerseyans. The budget proposal continued to build upon the administration's investment in expanding affordability, supporting the next generation, maintaining fiscal responsibility, and building New Jersey's future.

The \$58.05 billion budget proposes record-high property tax relief and school funding commitment to fiscal responsibility with \$1.3 billion advancing universal pre-K and \$6.3 billion surplus redirecting over 74% of that surplus back into New Jersey communities.

[Governor's Detailed Budget](#)



FY2026 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

[Click here to Read](#)

Have you heard? The Wealth Disparity Task Force has released their long-awaited report!

"New Jersey - Building a State of Opportunity: A Report of the Wealth Disparity Task Force to Close Opportunity Gaps and Repair Structural Disparities"

Click this link for more information:
<https://www.nj.gov/governor/wealthdisparity/>



Click the image for the full report



WINTER/SPRING
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
2025

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
EQUITY

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH: WEALTH DISPARITY TASK FORCE TRIBUTE TO LT. GOVERNOR SHEILIA OLIVER



On Tuesday, March 11th, in celebration of Women's History Month, the Wealth Disparity Task Force held a webinar tribute to the late Lt. Governor Sheila Y. Oliver. The Task Force highlighted the findings of their report honored the legacy and impact of the work of the late Lt. Sheila Y. Oliver. The featured speakers included Lt. Governor L. Tahesha Way; Dr. Jonathan Holloway, President, Rutgers University; Jacquelyn Suarez, Commissioner of the NJ Department of Community Affairs; Hon. Jeannine LaRue, Partner at Moxie Strategies; and the family of the late Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the webinar!

HOLIDAYS, OBSERVATIONS, AND EVENTS

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Our Black History Month celebration featured Dr. Ronald Quincy from Rutgers University, who provided us with a deeply insightful discussion on the history of Black Americans.

IRISH HERITAGE MONTH



Our very own Katy Temple gave us a great lesson on the history and evolution of Irish dance with step-by-step instructions to celebrate Irish Heritage Month.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



We concluded Women's History Month with A Chat with the Chiefs: Insights from the Professional and Personal Journeys of State Agency Chiefs of Staff and a keynote address from Assistant Attorney General and Chief Diversity Officer, Lora Fong.



Jayné J. Johnson,
Director of the
Office of Equity

Thank you for connecting with the NJ Office of Equity! We appreciate your interest in learning more about our work.

[If you are not receiving this email directly from us and would like to subscribe to our mailing list, please click here.](#)

Many thanks to Awn Rizvi, Maia Hill, and Mel Walker for their contributions to this issue!