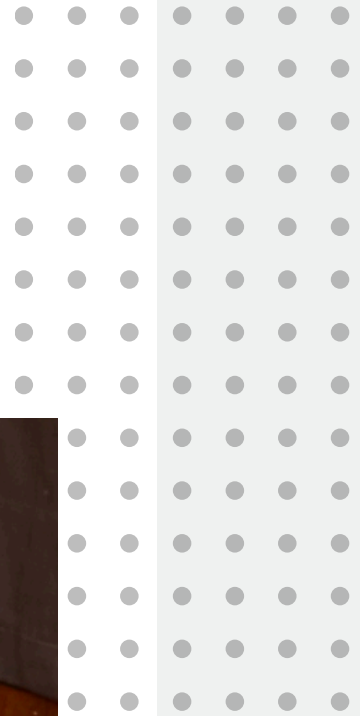




# Impact Report



---

**2024**

Dear Friends,

A thriving community is built on the foundation of strong relationships and positive change in support of those in need. We are thrilled to share this 2024 Impact Report, which shows how your investment directly translated into tangible benefits for thousands of Bergen County residents, and showcases the power of connection and collective action.

Last year, our **CHEER** program matched 50+ volunteers with 77 homebound seniors in our area for a total of 5,672 hours of service. These new friendships and helpful tasks brought meaning and connectivity into so many lives. Our 40+ **CHORE** volunteers helped more than 1,000 seniors stay safe in their homes and completed more than 2,500 minor home repairs. These are just a few quantitative examples of how caring for others and the power of positive change can strengthen our community.

Then, there are the personal stories. Many of you have told us about the heartwarming connections you have made as volunteers. One example was from a **Senior Connections** volunteer about her time working with Flora, who recently passed away.

*"Originally, I was supposed to call every Thursday and check in with Flora for 20 minutes. Well, that didn't last long; our calls became longer and more frequent. Then, I began visiting Flora at her house, and sometimes we would go out for lunch or shopping. I am a better person for having known Flora. Flora taught me life lessons and always gave me the best advice. We became close friends, and I considered Flora family. I love Flora, and I believe she loved me too."*

We hear from people like Abdul, a recipient of the **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)** program, who shared his experience with Bergen Volunteers.

*"I had the pleasure of having your volunteers help me with my taxes. Steve is actually whom I sat with, but he and all the staff members kept a calm, friendly, and stress free atmosphere. I was trying to clean up my back taxes and I thought it would be messy, but your staff made for a great experience for me! Thank you for all you do for us and the community."*

This Impact Report reflects a lot of hard work, dedication and lives changed in 2024. There were also changes *inside* Bergen Volunteers last year. We welcomed new senior leadership with a fresh vision for the organization, moved to a new office, enhanced our communication efforts, and set the wheels in motion for some exciting new initiatives that will be promoted over the coming months.

As we move ahead, we are confident that we can create an even stronger and more vibrant community here in Bergen County by continuing to work together. We invite you to stay connected to us by visiting our website at [www.bergenvolunteers.org](http://www.bergenvolunteers.org), subscribing to our newsletter, or following us on social media @bergenvolunteers.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our mission.

Best,



Paul Collier  
President, Board of Directors



Shara Nadler  
CEO



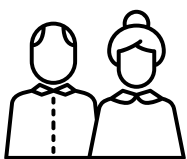


## OUR MISSION

**Providing human service and training programs to improve lives and strengthen communities.**

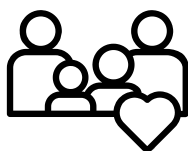
Bergen Volunteers has been an integral part of our community for nearly 60 years, offering a wealth of programs and services throughout Bergen County.

Our volunteer-driven direct-assistance programs support vulnerable seniors, at-risk youth, and families in need. We offer leadership development and civic engagement training to local teens and rising professionals. We also engage individuals and businesses with networking and local community service opportunities.



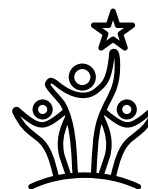
### VULNERABLE SENIORS

- CHORE
- CHEER
- Senior Connections
- Redefining Retirement



### AT-RISK YOUTH & FAMILIES

- Mentoring
- Bergen READS
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)
- All Wrapped Up



### LEADERSHIP TRAINING

- Bergen LEADS
- Teen LEADS

# OUR PROGRAMS

## CHORE

The CHORE program helps vulnerable seniors and those with disabilities in our community by providing minor home repairs and implementing safety measures. Skilled volunteers assist with fixing leaky faucets, replacing light switches and outlets, and installing grab bars, indoor railings, doorbells, locks, carbon monoxide detectors, and smoke alarms. When the seasons change, CHORE volunteers will help with either installing or removing window AC units.



### THE IMPACT OF CHORE IN 2024:

- 1,213 seniors assisted
- 9,920 hours of service by 40+ volunteers
- 2,505 minor home repairs & upgrades



## CHEER

Due to illness, disability, or loss of friends and loved ones, many of our community's seniors experience profound loneliness and are isolated in their homes without support. The CHEER program matches caring volunteers with homebound seniors to offer meaningful social interaction, as well as assistance with errands like grocery shopping, library book returns, prescription pick-up, and other light, helpful tasks.



### THE IMPACT OF CHEER IN 2024:

- 77 seniors assisted
- 5,672 hours of service by 50+ volunteers
- Growing volunteer base with 28 new additions





# OUR PROGRAMS

## Senior Connections

This program is ideal for seniors who miss being connected to others in their community. Participants receive weekly phone calls from our volunteers, providing the friendship and social support seniors need. Matches are renewed on a month-to-month basis, based on the needs of our participants and the availability of our volunteers.



## Redefining Retirement

For retirees seeking a way to make a difference in their community, the Redefining Retirement program is a valuable resource. The program liaisons work with nonprofit partners to identify areas of need and connect them with local retirees who have the specific skill set and past experiences they require.



# OUR PROGRAMS

## Mentoring

The Mentoring program enlists, trains, matches, and supports volunteers to respond to the specific needs of youth, families, first-generation college students, and caregivers in our community. Compassionate mentors help their mentees focus on achieving goals, navigate challenging times, build confidence and self-esteem, and learn about available resources.



### THE IMPACT OF MENTORING IN 2024:

- 29 mentees
- 29 mentors
- 978 volunteer hours of service



## Bergen READS

The Bergen READS program partners with Title 1 schools in our area, and our volunteers work 1:1 with selected students to improve literacy skills and achieve academic success. The program encourages critical thinking, develops confidence, and builds vocabulary. Our volunteers' commitment to the program builds trusted relationships with their students.



### THE IMPACT OF BERGEN READS IN 2024:

- 177 students matched with a reading buddy
- 68 volunteers and 2,850+ hours of supported reading
- 7 elementary schools serviced:
  - 4 in Hackensack School District
  - 3 in Teaneck School District





# OUR PROGRAMS

## Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)

VITA is an IRS-certified program that provides free tax preparation assistance to low-to-moderate income individuals and families, those with disabilities, seniors, and English language learners.



### THE IMPACT OF VITA IN 2024:

- 569 tax returns prepared
- 28 diligent volunteers
- Thousands saved in tax preparation fees



## All Wrapped Up

All Wrapped Up is a gift-giving program that puts a smile on the faces of many during the holiday season. Wish lists, which are procured by trusted agency partners from low-income individuals and families in our community, are shared with willing individual donors or corporate sponsors who then shop for them. This program lifts the spirits of those who might not otherwise receive holiday gifts, and gives donors the opportunity to give back to neighbors in need.



### THE IMPACT OF ALL WRAPPED UP IN 2024:

- 3,279 gift recipients
- 781 generous individual donors
- 62 businesses giving back to our community



# OUR PROGRAMS

## Bergen LEADS

Bergen LEADS is an interactive project-based leadership development program for professionals living or working in Bergen County. Participants learn about community issues from local leaders; receive training on effective leadership, communication, and planning skills; and gain insight into the inner workings of the public and private sectors. LEADS graduates garner skills to help them become more civically engaged and effective stakeholders, who can help shape our community's future.



### THE IMPACT OF BERGEN LEADS IN 2024:

- 30 enrolled in the class of 2024/2025
- 10 sessions of site visits, skill-building workshops, and insightful panels
- Program graduates join an active network of 500+ alumni



## Teen LEADS

Presented in partnership with Veolia Water New Jersey, Teen LEADS is an experiential two-week summer program that builds teens' leadership skills and knowledge of Bergen County. In 2024, 26 teens participated in the program.



### 2024 LEARNING TOPICS:

- Leadership & Team Building
- Communication & Public Speaking
- Goal Setting
- College Readiness





# COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

## Corporate Social Responsibility



Bergen Volunteer's Corporate Social Responsibility branch connects local businesses to meaningful volunteer opportunities. By matching organizations' philanthropic goals with community needs, we empower companies to make a positive social impact.



## Get Connected

---

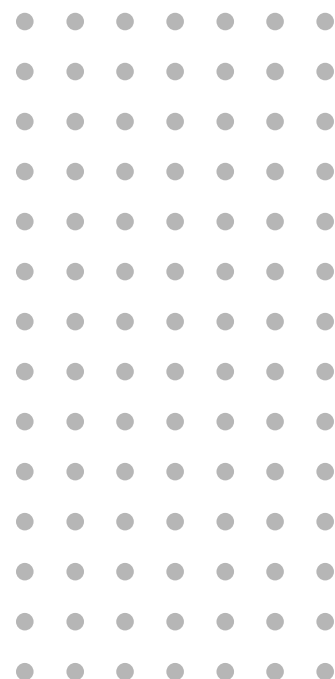
Our Get Connected agency membership is designed to empower other nonprofit organizations with resources, visibility, and support to drive meaningful change. Among the valuable membership benefits is the Get Connected Database, which allows nonprofits to post unlimited volunteer opportunities and connect easily with volunteers. Additional support with marketing, social media, recruiting, and networking is also available.



## SPECIAL EVENTS

During 2024, Bergen Volunteers hosted two successful fundraisers. In July, we held Paddles & Prosecco—our very first pickleball event and charity auction. This sold-out event brought players of all ages and skill levels together to battle it out on the courts. In between matches, attendees enjoyed delicious food and lively conversation in the lounge area.

In November, we celebrated volunteerism, generosity, and the incredible impact we can make together with our Taste & Toast event. Guests were treated to wonderful food and wine pairings, while live music created the perfect atmosphere for an evening of fun and connection.

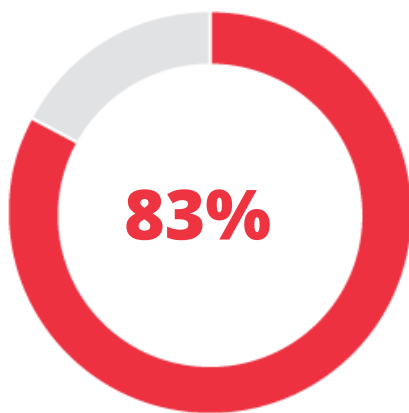




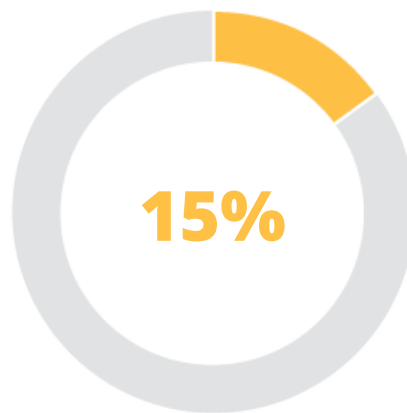
# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Bergen Volunteers receives funding from a variety of sources including individuals, organizations, corporations, foundations, and government entities. Our ability to turn caring into meaningful action is made possible through the philanthropic support of the community.

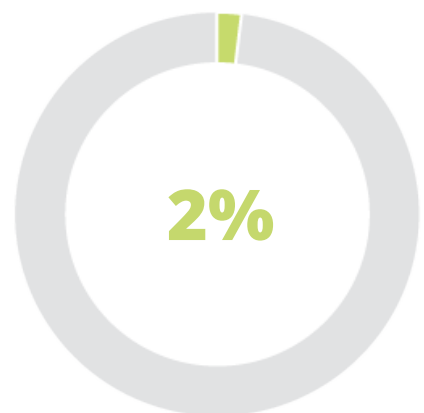
## Functional Expenses:



**Programmatic**



**Fundraising**

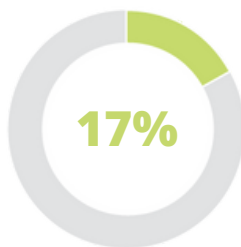


**Administrative**

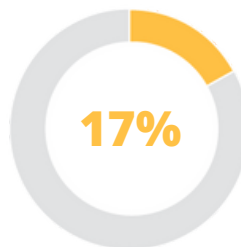
## Sources of Funding:



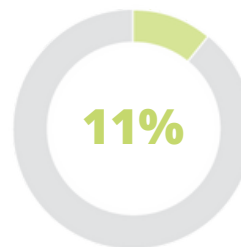
**Government**



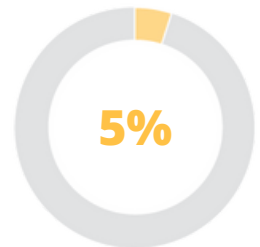
**Donations**



**Miscellaneous**



**Foundations**



**Fee for Services**

# FOUNDATION & CORPORATE DONORS

## **POWER OF VOLUNTEERS \$25,000+**

Lillian Pitkin Schenck Fund  
Synetek Solutions\*

## **AGENT FOR CHANGE \$10,000-\$24,999**

Alfiero and Lucia Palestroni Foundation  
PSEG Foundation  
TD Charitable Foundation  
Veolia Water New Jersey  
Wallerstein Foundation

## **COMMUNITY IMPACT \$5,000-\$9,999**

Advent Lutheran Church  
BCB Community Bank  
Kaplen Foundation  
New Jersey Manufacturers Insurance Co.  
Patricia G. Depol Charitable Foundation, Inc.  
Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc.  
PNC Foundation  
Sharp Electronics Corporation+  
Wiseheart Foundation, Inc.

## **CIVIC INNOVATION \$1,000-\$4,999**

Amy and Mark Shirvan Family Foundation  
Applause Home Care  
Benjamin Moore & Company  
Carlough Foundation  
Community Chest of Englewood  
Community Chest of Leonia  
Fairleigh Dickinson University  
Health Monitor Network+  
Health and Wellness Partners, LLC  
M&T Bank  
Old Paramus Reformed Church  
PNC Wealth Management  
Provident Bank  
PSEG  
Russell Berrie Foundation  
TD Charitable Foundation  
Thermo Fisher Scientific  
The Frank and Brenda Gallagher  
Family Foundation  
UNITS\*  
Wegmans Food Markets, Inc.  
Women's Foundation of New Jersey

\* Denotes Gift in Kind Support

+ Denotes both Monetary and Gift in Kind Support





# INDIVIDUAL DONORS

## LEADERS \$10,000+

Carmen Dominguez  
Judy Gold  
Suzan Gordon  
In Honor of Anthony Santulli

## INVESTORS \$5,000-\$9,999

Donna Orlando  
Michael J. Porro & Co. Benevolence Plus  
Loretta Stratton  
Jennifer & Scott Buhl

## BENEFACTORS \$2,500-\$4,999

In Memory of Hilde Jacobsthal Goldberg  
Michael Glicksman  
Michael Jarmark  
Sherean & Michael Perrone

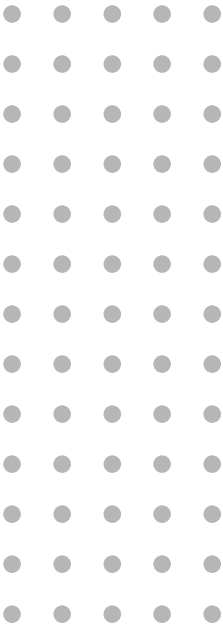
## CHAMPIONS \$1,000-\$2,499

Paul Collier  
Dr. Rajinder Gandhi"  
Peter Hanson  
Sandra & James Healey  
Quentin J. Kennedy  
Jim LoPresti  
Gena Merliss  
Dr. Sharon Pierson & Bernard Milano  
Dr. Catharine Napolitano  
Kathleen & John Spola  
Stephanie & Michael Stern '09  
Roberta J. Sonenfeld '10 & Robert Carroll  
Ira Taub  
Lynne & David Warshaw

## SUPPORTERS \$100-\$999

Allen Aaron  
Steve Abate  
Accurate Precision Fasteners  
Steve & Barbara Adamek  
James Africano  
Joshua Perez-Alejandroe  
Carlos Andujar  
Peter Antonini  
David Apsel  
Catherine Aquassoni  
Bonnie & Dr. Russell Asnes  
Dr. Joyce Baynes  
Linda Bayreuther &  
Robert Leonard  
Susan Bazaar  
Kathleen & Walter Beese '13+  
Gloria Belle  
Lynne Bennett  
Bergen County Bar Foundation  
Ann Bergman  
Marc Berman  
Jagmit Bhatthal  
Helen Biberica  
Barbara & Norman Biener  
Nancy Boitnott  
Aaron Block  
Thomas Bonnell  
George Boyce  
Bruce Brackett  
Carole & Charles Brown  
Theresa & James Brown '10  
Jill & Andrew Burkhardt  
Phylis Burman  
Francine Butensky  
Virginia Calabrese  
Joan Campana  
Fortunata & Myles Campbell  
June Campos  
Kathleen Carletta  
Beverly Carter  
Peter Castillo  
Marilyn Centrella  
Laraine Chaberski  
Mabel & Ngee-Pong Chang  
Marina Chassapis '16  
Lily & Tek Chen  
John Cicchetti  
Terry Ciulla  
Elizabeth Clark  
Marilyn Coco  
Antonio Coelho

Karen Cohen  
Cohn, Lifland, Pearlman,  
Hermann & Knopf  
Elizabeth Cole  
Mark Consuegra  
Debra Conway  
Joni Corn  
Abraham Corsino  
Leslie Cory  
Tim Courtney  
Angela Cozzi  
Patricia Crifo  
Nancy Croland  
Maria Cupo  
Diana Dapito  
Frances Davis  
Ligaya De Gala  
Janet Dengel  
Stefano DeSteno  
Barbara Deutsch  
Wilfredo Diaz  
Donald Dickson  
Nighia Do  
Dorothy Dobek  
Caroline Dorcey  
Barbara Edlin  
Peter Eftychiou  
Judith Eichinger  
Corey Esterow  
Nilene Evans  
Martha Faulkner  
Patricia Feuerbach  
Judy Fialkow  
Mary Fisher  
Carole & James Fitzpatrick  
Marie Flahive  
Charles Fletcher  
Carl Fongeallaz  
Pansie Forbes  
Michael Forman  
Athur Forst  
Carol Frasco  
Barbara Freier  
Susan Freije  
Michael Freyne  
Dr. Ruthellen Fried  
Estelle Friedberg  
Debora Friedman  
Robert Friedman  
Steven Frimmer  
Judith Furer  
Grace Galvin



Gina Garofalo	Joseph Landi	Rosemarie Morisco	Elisabeth Schuck
Michael George	Herb Lang	Cheryl & John Morris	Jennifer Schultz
John Geraghty	Patricia LaRosa	Jon Moscow	Elizabeth Scott
Tracey & David Gerber	Stanley Laser+	Shara & Jeffrey Nadler	Kathleen & James Scott
Ronald Giancristofaro	Sheila Last	Catharine Napolitano	Leon Sculti
Margaret Giannone	Kristin & Donald Lehmann	Patricia Nell	Evelyn Sehr
Al Gillio	Marcia Levy	Kristine Nylund	Joe Seier
Kalman Goldstein	Gary Leventhal	Paul O'Connor	Madjalia Seynou
Beatrice Gopoián	Leo Leyva	Kevin O'Donovan	Barbara Shabet
Bruce Greenberg	Dr. Jennie Li	Annette Oppermann	Janet & Dr. Sansar Sharma
Marion Gregg-Whited	Tracy Limbardo	MaryBeth &	Mona Sharma
Kate Griffith	Patricia & Frederick Lloyd	Ambrose Orapello	Lyn Shaterian
Richard Grossman	C.J. Lombardo	Christine Ordway	Patricia Shea
Amy Gufert	Marie Longo	Barbara & Jeff Ostroth	Stephen Sinisi
Eileen Guiney	Dennis Looney	Richard Pae	Adam Sklar
Nancy Gundersdorff	Mariana & Anthony Lopez	Barbara Pagliocca	John Snyder
Norman Gurman	MaryEllen Lorenzo	Michael Pandolfelli	Lillian Solomon
Glen Gurnari	Jacqueline Luthcke '16	Dr. Eugene Pantuck	MaryJane & William Speciale
Stephen Gylyas	Dr. Paula Madison-Ryner	Kent Papsun	Maria Spina
Eileen Hackett	Rose Mahoney	Madeline Pasko	Joseph Spivack
Gail Haft	Vera Marino	Erin & Victor Perez	Douglas Squasoni
Kristen Halvey	Arthur Markowitz	Tara Perino	Linda Staffieri
Colleen Hardcastle	David Maron	Michael Pernesiglio	Mitchell Steiner
David Harris	Joan Marren	Sonia Petriello	Bernard Superville
Louisa & Thomas Hellegers	Marshall Wace NA, LP	Joe Piecka	John Suter
Heller Family Foundation	Martin Luther King Jr.	Grace Pitcock	Nancy Sweet
Terry Hill	Birthday Committee	Linda Ramagnano	Ron Targove
Denise Hintzke*	Joseph Masiello	Ellen Ray	Jacob Thomas
Robert Hoeber	Joyce Mastrantonio	Edward Redling	Peter Tilgner
Robert Hogrefe	Louis Mastrolia	Doris Reid	Robert Trubac
Judith Hunter	WM McAllister	Robert Relay*	Susan Vander Ploeg
Nancy Hurm	Nancy McDonough	Jody Riger	Xinia Vilchez
Yasmin Hussein	John McGirr	April Rivkin	Roberta Visconti
Francis Imbriale	James McInerney	Natalie Robinson	Irwin Vogelmann
Rosemarie & Kenneth Job*	Richard McKay	Olivia Rafalef	Mary Ellen Walter
Carol Johannesson+	Ross McLeod	Mark Rubinsky	Patricia & Richard White
Theodore Joyner	Patricia McMahon	Maggie Herold Rugg	Patricia Willis*
Margaret Kabakow	Erin McMahon	Judy Ruthazer	Nina Wood
Steve Kalebic	Armetta McQueen	Thomas Sadel	Pamela Woods
Timothy Kane	Joan Mendez	Judith Santos	Rosemary Wormke
Susan Kanrich	Gina Webb-Metz & Kurt Metz	Ingrid Sarier	Jo-Ann Wright
Joanne Kapinus	Thomas Mierswa	Lynda Sauer	Paula Yanes-Lukin
Richard Katz	Janelle Miller	Jack Savage	Toy Younge
Beverly Keitz	Lisa & Steven Miller	Cono Scaffidi	Laura Zanusso
Richard James Kennedy	Leeanne Mitchell	Kenneth Schapiro	Claudia & George Zuorick
Annie Kennelly	Francesca &	Carol Lynn Schinski	
Lori Ketcho	Thomas Molnar	Stacie Schmidt	
Jeffrey Kilbride	Dora Montgomery	Victoria Schrager	
Jae Kim	Barbara Monti		
Nancy & Robert Kossowsky	Cheryl Moran		
Klaus Kretschmer	Noreen Morgan		

**919 Donors gave less than \$100 in cash. Those gifts totaled \$35,612.79.**

\* Denotes Gift in Kind Support

+ Denotes both Monetary and Gift in Kind Support

*Bergen LEADS class year follows graduates' names*

*Every effort was made to ensure that our donor listing is accurate and complete. If your name does not appear or is listed incorrectly, please accept our apologies. Kindly call us at 201-489-9454, ext. 215, so that we may update our records.*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **President**

Paul Coller  
*Retired HR Professional*

### **Vice President**

Dr. Paula Madison Ryner  
*Healthcare Administrator*

### **Secretary/Treasurer**

Lee Michelson  
*Retired Healthcare & Nonprofit Executive*

Carlos Andujar  
*Commercial Banking Professional,  
M&T Bank*

Andrew Burkhardt  
*Assistant Vice President, Morgan Stanley*

Michael Glicksman  
*Retired Business Owner, Viziflex Seels, Inc.,  
Community Volunteer*

James LoPresti  
*Healthcare Technology Executive*

Joshua Perez  
*Senior Finance and Economics Professional*

Natalie Robinson  
*Human Resources Professional*

Maria Spina  
*Manager, Corporate Citizenship,  
PSEG Foundation*

Jacob Thomas  
*Investment Advisor, PNC*

David Warshaw  
*Retired Corporate Communications  
Executive*

## STAFF

Shara Nadler  
*Chief Executive Officer*

Donna Leibe  
*Administrative Director*

Lisa Tredici  
*Director of Community Programs*

Michele Ogden  
*Senior Program Manager*

Hilary Baris  
*Special Events Manager*

Diana Kochaha  
*Community Programs Manager*

Melissa LaRobardier  
*Community Outreach &  
Engagement Manager*

Jeanne Martin  
*Bergen LEADS Manager*





50 Eisenhower Drive, Paramus, NJ 07652  
[www.bergenvolunteers.org](http://www.bergenvolunteers.org)  
201.489.9454

