

THE NJ COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED
INVITES YOU TO:
THE MARCH 2026
COMMUNITY CONNECTION CALL

***“Social Workers Can Be Found Making the World Go Round;
Social Workers: Uplift. Defend. Transform.”***

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2026 | 10:30AM TO 12:00PM

Hosted by Krystle Allen, CBVI Community Outreach Specialist

Are you seeking a transformation? Is there a woman in your life you want to honor during this year’s women’s history month? Every year in March, social workers and women continue to be observed around the world. Did you know that the National Association of Social Workers was founded during Blindness Awareness Month, precisely on October 1, 1955?

According to online sources, a **social worker** is a trained professional who helps individuals, families, and communities improve their well-being by addressing social, emotional, and practical challenges. Social workers connect people to resources, provide counseling and support, and advocate for policies or services that protect vulnerable populations.

Today, many social workers are women. During this year’s Women’s History Month, we will observe 70 years of community building and change making from social workers across NJ as they continue to leave lasting impacts statewide.

Join us as we hear from DHS’ Deputy Commissioner for Aging and Disability Services, Rutgers University’s Associate Director of Practicum Education in the Social Work Department, and methods of navigating grief on all aspects of change while being in service to others.

Remember, where there’s social workers, resources will follow. So be sure to tap into your resources from our providers who can’t wait to share various options with you in mind.

Tell a friend to tell a friend!

Department of Human Services:

- Kaylee McGuire, Deputy Commissioner for Aging and Disability Services

Rutgers University

- Kaleena Rogers, Associate Director of Practicum Education in the Dept of Social Work

Keynote Presenter:

- Candice Chapman, Board Member – NFB Human Services Division

Resource Provider:

- Twana Barrett, MSW, EDM – Social Worker, CBVI
- Harold Rogers, West Virginia University, MSW Student
- Bernadette Noll, MEd GRMS – Emotional Wellness and Grief Recovery

The benefits of networking and sharing information are the primary focus of the Community Connection Calls. This month's ***"In Our Own Voices"*** panelists will share their stories. All are members of New Jersey's blind, deafblind, and visually impaired community.

***"In Our Own Voices"* Panelists:**

- Nimit Kaur, MSW Disability Services Coordinator
- Laurel King, Home Instructor

Here are the simple directions for participating in the CBVI Community Connections Call:

Option 1: Join via Zoom

1. Either Click the Zoom meeting link here: [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
2. Or Open the Zoom App and Enter the Meeting ID and Passcode

Meeting ID: 161 116 2134

Passcode: 1910

Option 2: Join on the phone via One Tap Mobile (click the link from your mobile device)

- [+16468287666,,1611162134#,,,,*1910#](tel:+16468287666,1611162134#,,,,*1910#) (New York)

Option 3: Dial-in via Phone

1. Dial the conference phone number: **1-646-828-7666**.
2. Enter the Meeting ID: **161 116 2134** when prompted
3. When asked for a participant ID, simply press the pound key (#).
4. Enter the Passcode: **1910**

That's it! You're all set to join the meeting.

Relay Captioning Link for individuals who are Deaf or Hearing Impaired:

(At the start time of the event, please login by clicking on the link below)

<https://www.captionedtext.com/client/embed.aspx?EventID=6146014>

If you have any questions, or would like to be a Community Connections Call panelist, please don't hesitate to email: Krystle.Allen@dhs.nj.gov or call: 973-648-4497