

CITY OF JERSEY CITY OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Fall Community Festival Hosted By Police Chaplaincy Program Brings Together Jersey City's Youth, Families and the JCPD

Festival Connects the Community by Offering Free Fun Activities for Children of all Ages as well as Health Screenings, Affordable Care Act Counseling, Coffee with a Cop, and other Activities

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Steven M. Fulop, the Department of Recreation, Health and Human Services, and the Office of Cultural Affairs and the Jersey City Police Department announce the Fall Community Festival, an event hosted by the City's new Police Chaplaincy program and aimed at strengthening relations between the community and the police department.

The Fall Community Festival will be held on **Saturday, November 18th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** at the National Guard Armory, 678 Montgomery Street. Activities include: face-painting and activities for younger children, health screenings, Affordable Care Act insurance counseling, a basketball clinic and tournament, and youth-oriented community services. The Jersey City Police Department is also hosting Coffee With A Cop all-day for residents to get acquainted talk with police officers. Coffee is being provided by Starbucks.

"Building quality relationships between police officers and residents is at the heart of community policing," said **Mayor Fulop**. "Part of why we recently established the Police Chaplain program is to boost our efforts in strengthening police/community relations and provide residents with additional links to important resources and services."

Jersey City Police Chaplains, police officers, staff from Recreation, Cultural Affairs, Health and Human Services, and the Mayor's Office will be assisting throughout the day.

The Jersey City Police Chaplain program has been designed to use local clergy members to assist residents who experience violence and other difficult situations. In addition to providing comfort and support, the chaplains will serve as a liaison to social services and other resources that an individual or family may need during a time of loss or violence. The chaplaincy program, as well as the festival, is supported by a \$10,000 grant from the New Jersey Attorney General's Office through the Detective Matthew L. Tarentino Community Policing Grant Program.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary for Mayor Steven M. Fulop at jenniferm@jcnj.org or 201-376-0699.////