



# OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

## NEWS RELEASE

**CN-001**

**Contact:**

EMMA BYRNE  
NANCY KEARNEY  
609-292-8956

**TRENTON, N.J. 08625**

**Release:** THURSDAY  
AUGUST 9, 1990

### GOVERNOR SEEKS PORT AUTHORITY FUNDING FOR HOMELESS "DROP-IN" CENTER

Governor Jim Florio today asked the Commissioners of the Port Authority to approve an expenditure of \$1 million to establish a "drop-in" center for the homeless near the bistate agency's Journal Square Station in Jersey City.

In a letter addressed to Port Authority Chairman Richard C. Leone, the Governor noted that the money to be used was the remaining New Jersey share of the Bank for Regional Development Fund and that the \$1 million, combined with an additional \$300,000 from the Port Authority, would be adequate for acquisition and renovation costs. The Bank was established under a 1983 agreement between the Governors of New York and New Jersey. Florio asked the Port Authority Commissioners to consider his request at their meeting scheduled for 2:00 p.m. today.

"We need to be able to do two things," said Florio. "We must be able to provide good, safe, on-time transportation for the thousands of New Jersey commuters who travel to New York each day and, at the same time, recognize our responsibility to deal with the growing problem of homelessness."

It is expected the Jersey City center will have the capacity of serving 40-60 single homeless adults and will provide meals, showers, medical screening and a wide array of social services. It will be administered by a not-for-profit subsidiary of the Christ United Methodist Church of Jersey City.

The Port Authority has, in the past, cooperated with local community, religious and social service organizations in the City of New York to provide "drop-in" centers for the homeless near the Port Authority Bus Terminal in Times Square and another near the World Trade Center in lower Manhattan. This would be the first such facility in New Jersey.

#####

8/9/90

STATEMENT BY GOVERNOR JIM FLORIO

Stanley Brezenoff has established a reputation as a tough but fair administrator and decision-maker. In meeting with him, as I did last week, I am satisfied that his appointment is good for this entire region and good for New Jersey.

I was impressed with his sensitivity to the needs of this state and with his commitment to continue to develop economic opportunities for our bi-state area. The impact of Port Authority activity on this region's economy is so vast in terms of the airports, public transportation, bridges and the shipping ports it oversees, that it is essential to have someone with Stan Brezenoff's experience and character.

The Chairman of the Authority, Dick Leone, has long been a forceful, vocal advocate for our state. Together, they make a very strong team for New Jersey.