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The Fund for New Jersey Awards \$167,000 in Grants

Princeton, NJ – The Trustees of <u>The Fund for New Jersey</u> awarded \$167,000 in grants to non-profit organizations at their fall 2017 quarterly Board meeting. Grants were awarded to <u>four organizations</u> in the areas of public education, environmental sustainability, healthcare, workers' rights, tax reform, and gun violence prevention.

Kiki Jamieson, President of The Fund for New Jersey, stated, "The Fund for New Jersey is proud to support these non-profit organizations working to build an environmentally sustainable Garden State with educational and economic opportunities for all New Jerseyans."

Jamieson continued, "We are particularly excited about a new grant to research gun violence policy in New Jersey. While New Jersey has one of the lowest gun death rates in the country, gun violence is still pervasive, with one person killed with a gun every 19 hours." Jamieson said, "Furthermore, racial disparities in gun deaths make nuanced policy development even more essential. African-American people comprise close to 15% of New Jersey's population but account for approximately 75% of gunrelated homicide victims. The Fund looks forward to the results of the research from the Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence. We recognize the importance of addressing these disparities and developing evidence-based policy solutions to the tragedy of gun violence."

Grants awarded in fall 2017 include:

Public Education

A \$100,000 general operating grant to <u>Education Law Center</u> to preserve and enhance New
Jersey's strong public education system by advocating for fair school funding and advancing
equity through initiatives such as preschool expansion, adequate facilities, and fair standards
and assessments.



Other

- A \$17,000 program grant to <u>Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence</u> to publish an audit of New Jersey's gun policy, which will include an equity impact analysis and cost benefit analysis of community intervention programs, and to host an educational event to share findings with policymakers, advocates, and other interested stakeholders.
- A \$25,000 program grant to New Jersey Citizen Action Education Fund to advance state policy issues by advocating against rollbacks of federal policies that would have broad negative impacts on New Jersey residents and state policy, disproportionally affecting low-and moderate-income residents, with a focus on healthcare, tax reform, and worker's rights.
- A \$25,000 program challenge grant to New Jersey Sustainable Business Council to build a
 network of New Jersey business leaders working to advance state policies that protect water
 quality, promote renewable energy, improve infrastructure, and foster sustainable economic
 development and economic justice.

<u>The Fund for New Jersey</u> works to improve the quality of public policy decision-making on the most significant issues affecting the people of New Jersey and our region. For more than 40 years, The Fund has supported organizations and initiatives that advance systemic and sustainable solutions to public problems through the work of policy, advocacy, analysis, and organizing.