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The Fund for New Jersey Awards \$870,000 in Grants

Princeton, NJ – The Trustees of <u>The Fund for New Jersey</u> awarded \$870,000 in grants to non-profit organizations at their June 2017 quarterly Board meeting. Grants were awarded to <u>16 organizations</u> in the areas of climate change and clean air, water quality, and criminal justice reform and social justice.

Kiki Jamieson, President of The Fund for New Jersey, stated, "The Fund for New Jersey is proud to support these policy organizations working to mitigate climate change, reform the criminal justice system, address unemployment, and advocate for policies that promote opportunity for the residents of New Jersey."

"Particularly pressing," said Jamieson, "is the portfolio of grants to nonprofit organizations working on environmental protections, climate change, and clean energy. New Jersey has 130 miles of beaches, and is unusually vulnerable to rising sea levels and coastal storms. The state also has more federal superfund sites than any other state and has serious air pollution problems, particularly in vulnerable communities surrounding the Ports of Newark & Elizabeth. In the absence of federal action on climate change and environmental protection, state policy will become increasingly important. Through the leadership of these nonprofit organizations, we are confident that New Jersey will once again become a standard bearer in advancing clean energy, clean air, and climate protection – for the benefit of all our residents."

Grants awarded in June 2017 include:

Climate Change & Clean Air

 A \$60,000 program grant to the <u>Coalition for Healthy Ports</u> to support policy change to significantly reduce diesel emissions and other pollution that harm children and families in lowincome communities of color surrounding the Ports of Newark and Elizabeth through collaboration by <u>Clean Water Fund</u>, <u>Ironbound Community Corporation</u>, and <u>New Jersey</u> <u>Environmental Justice Alliance</u>.



- An \$85,000 general operating grant to <u>Eastern Environmental Law Center</u> to support New Jersey's only public interest environmental law firm to provide legal advocacy and expertise in order to advance clean energy and environmental justice.
- A \$75,000 general operating grant to <u>Environment New Jersey Research and Policy Center</u> to advocate for clean energy and climate change mitigation policies in New Jersey, and to provide leadership to <u>Jersey Renews</u>, a statewide coalition working to advance climate justice, clean energy, and good jobs in collaboration with <u>GreenFaith</u> and <u>NJ Work Environment Council</u>.
- A \$50,000 program grant to <u>GreenFaith</u> to educate and mobilize faith leaders on climate and clean energy policies and to provide leadership to <u>Jersey Renews</u>, a statewide coalition working to advance climate justice, clean energy, and good jobs in collaboration with <u>Environment New</u> <u>Jersey Research and Policy Center and New Jersey Work Environment Council.</u>
- A \$75,000 general operating grant to <u>New Jersey Work Environment Council</u> to advance policies
 to protect New Jersey's environmental and workplace safeguards, increase the transparency of
 chemical storage and crude oil movement, and to provide leadership to <u>Jersey Renews</u>, a
 statewide coalition working to advance climate justice, clean energy, and good jobs in
 collaboration with <u>Environment New Jersey Research and Policy Center</u> and <u>GreenFaith</u>.
- A \$65,000 program grant to New Jersey Conservation Foundation to foster a rapid transition to renewable energy in New Jersey through its Rethink Energy NJ campaign, while advancing strategies to stop the construction of proposed natural gas infrastructure through conserved lands.

Water Quality & Land Use

- A \$60,000 general operating grant to <u>Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions</u> to support education of environmental commissions and public policy advocacy to protect the environment with a particular focus on improving water quality.
- A \$55,000 general operating grant to New Jersey Highlands Coalition to protect and defend the
 NJ Highlands Act and the Regional Master Plan and to educate the public and decision-makers
 about the importance of policies to protect water quality and other natural resources of the
 Highlands.
- A \$50,000 general operating grant to <u>NY/NJ Baykeeper</u> to protect, preserve, and restore the
 water quality of the Hudson-Raritan Harbor Estuary, with a focus on policies to improve storm
 water management, address combined sewer outflows and reduce plastics pollution.
- A \$50,000 general operating grant to <u>Pinelands Preservation Alliance</u> to advance and enforce policies to protect and preserve the natural resources of the Pinelands region.

Criminal Justice Reform & Social Justice

- A \$50,000 program grant to <u>Drug Policy Alliance—NJ</u> to advance policies that promote a fair and
 racially just criminal justice system and to reduce the number of people in New Jersey
 incarcerated for drug law violations, with an emphasis on bail reform implementation, parole
 reform, fair and equitable marijuana reform, and sentencing reform.
- A \$35,000 general operating grant to <u>Jersey Promise</u> to improve understanding of New Jersey's Asian American population by publishing a comprehensive statewide report including policy recommendations to advance the welfare of New Jersey's Asian American communities.



- An \$85,000 general operating grant to New Jersey Citizen Action Education Fund to advance
 public policy solutions that promote economic and social justice for low- and moderate-income
 families in NJ, with a focus on advancing policies to help families achieve work/family balance,
 economic security, and access to affordable health care.
- A \$75,000 general operating grant to New Jersey Institute for Social Justice to advance racial and economic justice in NJ's urban communities through its Newark 2020 initiative to promote local employment and its Youth Justice New Jersey Decarceration campaign to transform the juvenile justice system.

<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.