

The Fund For New Jersey

December 2023

The Fund News

The Fund for New Jersey invites interested grantee partner organizations to join an online discussion of Self-Care for Organizations. The virtual conversation will take place on January 19 at 11am. Hear from NJ Alliance for Immigrant Justice Executive Director Amy Torres and Manager of Member Empowerment Viri Martinez, about how their organization institutionalizes self-care. We will explore why self-care is essential for organizations working on public policy, what the challenges are for your organization, and how it connects to your mission. To participate, please email abaron@fundfornj.org.

Grantee News

Policy Update

- Although a decision on the Latino Action Network (LAN) et al v. State of New Jersey case
 acknowledged a clear racial imbalance in student demographics across school districts,
 there was little clarity about what that meant for the state moving forward. Now, the
 parties have entered mediation to address the state's long-standing segregation in
 schools. A tentative settlement deadline has been set for January. Read more here.
- Policy advocates presented "The People's Lame Duck Agenda" to legislators. Supporters include a host of organizations, such as the League of Women Voters of New Jersey, the American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey, Fair Share Housing Center, Faith in New Jersey, Ironbound Community Corporation, Latino Action Network, Make the Road New Jersey, New Jersey Alliance for Immigrant Justice, New Jersey Citizen Action, New Jersey Institute for Social Justice, New Jersey Policy Perspective, Salvation and Social Justice, and Wind of the Spirit Immigrant Resource Center. Read more here; read the full agenda here.

Policy Reports

- New Jersey Policy Perspective and the City of Newark's Movement for Economic Equity collaborated on the release of: New Jersey's Path to Prosperity. The report documents findings from the city's two-year guaranteed income pilot program and includes recommendations for key policy changes to lift families out of poverty. Read full report here.
- The COVID-19 pandemic had a major impact on public education across the country, illuminating troubling conditions in public schools, such as poor air quality, insufficient staffing, and crowded classrooms. Despite this reality, many school districts during the pandemic made substantial budget cuts. Education Law Center's Making the Grade 2023: How Fair is School Funding in your State? provides further detail through its state-



by-state analysis of school funding levels using data from the 2020-21 school year. Read ELC's report <u>here</u>.

Job Announcements

- <u>Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation</u> <u>Communications and Events Associate</u>
- Green and Healthy Homes Initiative Housing Intervention Specialist
- New Jersey Conservation Foundation Campaign Coordinator for New Jersey Clean Building Campaign
- New Jersey Institute for Social Justice multiple positions
- New Jersey Future Development Director
- The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation multiple positions

Please send policy news and updates, job announcements, and staff updates to Hellen Zamora-Bustos at hzb@fundfornj.org or you can Tweet: @FundforNJ