

- The Fund for New Jersey is proud to announce that for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022, it has awarded grants in the total amount of \$920,000 to advance public policies in the areas of democracy, racial justice, climate change and the environment. Read the full press release [here](#).
- On June 21, the [Imagine More: Racial Justice Begins With Us](#) series held its fifth event *Ensuring Health for All*. You can access relevant resources and watch the recording for the program [here](#) and [here](#). The next event will focus on *Building Political Power of the Most Impacted* on July 21. Register [here](#).

**Grantee News****Policy Victories:**

- On June 30, Gov. Murphy signed legislation creating the New Jersey Easy Enrollment Health Insurance program. The program allows for automatic enrollment of uninsured tax filers when submitting their tax return to increase health access and equity and help close the coverage gap that exists among children and low-income working adults. New Jersey Citizen Action and partners advocated for this new law. Read more [here](#).
- Due to advocacy efforts by New Jersey Policy Perspective, and partners, Gov. Murphy signed Bill (S2523), creating a child tax credit program for low-income and middle-income families. The new program will provide eligible families earning less than \$80,000 up to \$500 per child under six years old. Gov. Murphy also signed the Thriving by Three-Act, which includes a pair of bills that will award one-time grants to provide an incentive for licensed child care providers, registered family day care providers, and Head Start programs to open new centers serving infants and toddlers. Advocates for Children of NJ and partners advocated for these new bills. Read more [here](#).
- On July 1, Gov. Murphy signed a pair of bills intended to protect reproductive health care providers and increase access to abortion care for people out of state. The legislation bans the extradition of anyone entering New Jersey seeking legal reproductive health care services, makes the disclosure of private patient records without their consent illegal, and prevents the revocation, suspension, or refusal to renew providers' medical licenses for solely providing reproductive health care services. ACLU-NJ, NJPP, and members of the Thrive New Jersey coalition continue to advocate for stronger reproductive rights. Read more [here](#).
- After strong advocacy efforts by Lead-Free NJ and partners, the newly adopted state budget commits \$170 million to remove lead paint from thousands of homes. The state's allocation would eliminate the hazards posed by lead paint in at least 72,000 housing

units occupied by children with unsafe levels of lead paint. The state also appropriated \$300 million for water infrastructure projects such as replacing lead services lines. Read more [here](#).

- After seven years of delay, the newly adopted budget approved nearly 2 billion dollars to the NJ School Development Authority (SDA), resuming construction of new facilities in NJ's Urban School Districts. The funding includes \$1.55 billion to pay for school facilities projects, emergent needs, and capital maintenance in the state's 31 SDA districts, while \$350 million would pay for construction in non-SDA school districts. Advocacy efforts have been led Education Law Center and partners. Read more [here](#).
- The FY23 state budget also includes a \$305 million investment in the Affordable Housing Production Fund. The fund would build 3,300 units of designated affordable housing for residents with low and moderate incomes over the next four years. The Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey and Fair Share Housing Center advocated for this investment. Read more [here](#).

#### Policy Updates:

- On July 5, Gov. Phil Murphy signed seven bills into law that strengthened New Jersey's gun regulations and vowed to seek even more measures while the state navigates [a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision](#) loosening restrictions on carrying a concealed firearm. The set of laws, mandate firearm training for people seeking gun permits, ban .50 caliber weapons, require New Jersey residents to register their firearms, regulate the sale of handgun ammunition and create a database of sales, require firearm retailers to sell microstamping-enabled firearms, upgrade certain gun manufacturing crimes to second-degree, and allow the state Attorney General to sue gun manufacturers. Read more [here](#).

#### Policy Setbacks:

- On June 24, The United States Supreme Court overturned *Roe V. Wade*, declaring that the constitutional right to abortion, upheld for nearly a half-century, no longer exists. Decades worth of research has demonstrated that abortion bans most severely impact people in marginalized groups who already struggle to access health care. Although the ruling is set to have negative implications for millions of women all across the country, in New Jersey, a woman's right to an abortion was codified into law at the beginning of the year. Read more [here](#).

#### Policy Reports:

- New Jersey Policy Perspective released the report, *New Jersey's Teacher Pipeline: The Decline in Teacher Candidates Continues*, analyzing the teacher shortage and providing,

recommendations that would improve the recruitment and retention of teachers. Read more [here](#).

- *\$600k To Damage Our Kids Forever*, a recent report by The New Jersey Institute for Social Justice highlights the large investment that goes into incarcerating an individual in the state's failed youth justice system. The report draws upon the stories of those impacted by youth incarceration, offering a list of recommendations that provide alternative solutions to this significant systemic issue. Read more [here](#).
- The New Jersey Institute for Social Justice and the Prison Policy Initiative released a new report, *Where people in prison come from: The geography of mass incarceration in New Jersey*. The report highlights New Jersey's efforts to circumvent prison gerrymandering to ensure a representative democracy. The report also provides eight detailed data tables including neighborhood-specific data for Newark and Jersey City that serve as a foundation for advocates, organizers, and policymakers to analyze how incarceration relates to other factors. Read more [here](#).

### **Events**

- July 21 – [Imagine More: Building Political Power of the Most Impacted](#)

### **Job Announcements**

- [Virtual Office Manager](#), Council of New Jersey Grantmakers
- [Program Associate](#), [Community Planner/Urban Planner](#), [Community Organizer](#), [Policy and Program Coordinator](#), New Jersey Future
- [Policy Director](#), New Jersey Policy Perspective
- [Senior Staff Attorney](#), [Staff Attorney](#), [Deputy Communications Director](#), [Executive Assistant](#), [Legal Fellowship](#), ACLU-NJ
- [Community Engagement Associate](#), [Policy Director](#), Pinelands Preservation Alliance
- [Director of Development](#), New Jersey Institute for Social Justice
- [AmeriCorps VISTA Program](#), Housing and Community Development Network of NJ
- [Urban Education and Outreach Coordinator](#), NY/NJ Baykeeper
- [Various Positions](#), New Jersey Citizen Action
- [Various Positions](#), Make the Road New Jersey

Please send policy news and updates, job announcements, and staff updates to Erik Cruz Morales at [ecruz-morales@fundfornj.org](mailto:ecruz-morales@fundfornj.org) or you can Tweet to [@FundforNJ](https://twitter.com/FundforNJ).