

The Fund for New Jersey News

May 2022

 On May 17 the <u>Imagine More: Racial Justice Begins With Us</u> series held its fourth event Reaching Equity in Education. You can access relevant resources and watch the recording for the program <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>. The next event will focus on <u>Ensuring Health</u> for All on June 21. <u>Register Here</u>.

Grantee News

Policy Updates:

- As of result of advocacy efforts by Salvation and Social Justice, ACLU-NJ, and partners, Gov. Murphy proposed new legislation that would create a statewide police licensing program. If enacted, the bill would require all law enforcement officers to hold valid, active licenses issued by the Police Training Commission (PTC). Read more here.
- Housing and Community Development Network of NJ's (HCDNNJ) HouseNJ campaign achieved several big wins this month with the passage of municipal resolutions in support of the campaign in Metuchen, Asbury Park, Red Bank, and Highland Park. The NJ Senate Urban and Community Affairs Committee also advanced a version of the resolution in the NJ Legislature. HouseNJ urges federal and state leaders to make investments in housing affordability, stability, and security to lay a foundation that helps create a more affordable NJ for generations to come. To learn more read here.
- Education Law Center (ELC), along with the ACLU of NJ, filed a petition, representing 19 organizations, urging the adoption of rules to guide the use of state security aid provided to school districts. The petition seeks rules to ensure the funds are spent on evidence-based, effective practices that support student mental health and an inclusive school climate. Read more here.

Policy Setback:

• The Task Force for the Continued Transformation of Youth Justice in New Jersey released a 70-page report that lists about 45 recommendations for reforming the juvenile justice system in New Jersey. Recommendations include the construction of three new facilities to replace the closing of current youth prisons. Fund grantees Latino Action Network, Salvation and Social Justice, New Jersey Institute for Social Justice, and ACLU-NJ strongly oppose this recommendation. Read more here and here.

Policy Reports... and Podcast:

• The Center for Non-Profits released its annual *New Jersey Nonprofits: Trends and Outlooks 2022* report. The report is the latest in a series of annual surveys designed to



gauge trends, experience, and expectations among New Jersey nonprofit organizations and explore the effects of the economy on New Jersey's charitable community. Read more here.

- Electric School Buses and the Grid, a report by Environment New Jersey Research and Policy Center argues that transitioning to electric school buses would provide numerous benefits to communities and the environment with the potential to bring even greater benefits if equipped with technology that allows them to deliver power to buildings and back to the energy grid. Read more here.
- The New Jersey Institute for Social Justice released the report, Black Homeownership Matters: Expanding Access to Housing Wealth for Black New Jerseyans. The report examines the present-day barriers that limit access to and financial rewards from homeownership. These barriers include the racial wealth gap, limiting access to homeownership; high housing costs; higher home lending costs; and credit scoring systems. Even when Black New Jerseyans are able to overcome these obstacles and purchase homes, their homes are often undervalued due to ongoing segregation and are more vulnerable to foreclosure. Read more <a href="https://energy.new.org.new.new.org.new.new.org.ne
- Education Law Center launched a podcast series, produced in collaboration with <u>Legal One</u>, The Fight for Educational Equity Past, Present and Future. The series focuses on New Jersey's fight to ensure educational equity for all students. To listen, click <u>here.</u>

Leadership and Organizational Announcements

- New Jersey Policy Perspective announced that Nicole Rodriguez will be the organization's next President. Congratulations Nicole, we wish you much success in your new role! Read more here.
- Congratulations to ACLU-NJ Executive Director Amol Sinha for being appointed to the New Jersey Asian American and Pacific Islander Commission! Read more <a href="https://example.com/here.com
- NJ Citizen Action recently launched a monthly email newsletter as part of its 40th anniversary celebration this year. Sign up to stay up to date on the organization's political advocacy work and community empowerment services, from healthcare to financial justice and more. Subscribe here.

Events

- June 9 <u>Beyond Either/Or: The Constitutional Right to an Equitable and Diverse Public Education</u>
- June 11 Re-Envisioning the Future of Educational Equity in New Jersey



• June 21 – Imagine More: Ensuring Health for All

Job Announcements

- <u>Senior Immigration Attorney</u>, <u>Director of Worker Organizing and Policy</u>, <u>Student Success</u>
 <u>Center Coordinator</u>, <u>Warehouse Worker Organizer</u>, <u>Make the Road New Jersey</u>
- <u>Senior Staff Attorney</u>, <u>Staff Attorney</u>, <u>Deputy Communications Director</u>, <u>Major Gifts</u>
 <u>Officer</u>, <u>Executive Assistant</u>, <u>Legal Fellowship</u>, <u>ACLU-NJ</u>
- Organizer, Bilingual Community Educator, New Jersey Citizen Action
- <u>Communications Manager</u>, <u>Program Manager</u>, <u>Policy and Program Coordinator</u>, New Jersey Future
- Associate Counsel for Democracy and Justice, Associate Counsel for Criminal Justice Reform, Director of Development, New Jersey Institute for Social Justice
- Communications Specialist, Director of Development, Fair Share Housing Center
- AmeriCorps VISTA Program, Housing and Community Development Network of NJ
- Policy and Program Associate, Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions
- Urban Education and Outreach Coordinator, NY/NJ Baykeeper
- Director of Development, Ironbound Community Corporation
- Part-Time Events Coordinator, NJ Highlands Coalition
- Chief Financial Officer, Hyacinth AIDS Foundation
- Various Positions, New Jersey Conservation Foundation

Please send policy news and updates, job announcements, and staff updates to Erik Cruz Morales at ecruz-morales@fundfornj.org or you can Tweet to @FundforNJ.