

## The Fund for New Jersey News

- The Fund for New Jersey is proud to announce that in June it awarded grants in the total amount of \$1,335,000 to advance public policies in the areas of climate change and clean energy, environmental protection, criminal justice reform and social justice, and transportation. Read the full press release [here](#).
- The Fund for New Jersey supports a fair and accurate count of all New Jersey residents in the 2020 Census. To learn more about how nonprofits and civic organizations can get involved, read more [here](#).
- The Fund for New Jersey's 2017 research and policy report, Crossroads NJ, was cited in a New Jersey 101.5 radio report about the Attorney General's call to end minimum sentences for non-violent crimes. Read more [here](#).

## Grantee News

### Leadership and Organizational Developments:

- The New Jersey office of Drug Policy Alliance closed abruptly in May. We thank Roseanne Scotti, Meagan Glaser, and Ami Kachalia for their great work to make New Jersey's drug policies more just and less punitive. DPA-NJ will be missed. Read more [here](#).
- Archange Antoine is transitioning out of his role as Executive Director of Faith in New Jersey to further his studies at Princeton Theological Seminary. We wish him the best of luck in his new endeavor. Read more [here](#).
- Eastern Environmental Law Center's Executive Director Aaron Kleinbaum has stepped down from the organization to become the Assistant Attorney General for Environmental Enforcement and Environmental Justice at the New Jersey Attorney General's Office. We wish him well as he transitions to this new role. Read more [here](#).
- The Anti-Poverty Network graduated the Spring class of its Garden State Leaders and is recruiting for the Fall 2019 cohort. Read more [here](#).

### Policy Victories:

- Following advocacy by Advocates for Children of New Jersey, Governor Murphy signed into law a 2020 budget that includes \$9 million in increased child-care funds for human services workers to offset the rising minimum wage and \$68 million to expand preschool access to additional districts, increase support to existing programs, and provide wraparound services. Read more [here](#) and [here](#).
- After persistent advocacy by Advocates for Children of New Jersey, the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice, Wind of the Spirit, Make the Road New Jersey, the Latino Action Network Foundation, and other advocacy organizations, Governor Murphy signed into law a 2020 budget

that includes \$9 million for Census outreach to ensure a fair and accurate count of all New Jersey residents. Read more [here](#).

- As a result of advocacy by the Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey, Governor Murphy signed a state land bank bill meant to provide another option for preserving affordable homes in the state for those with low or moderate incomes. Read more [here](#).
- The New Jersey Institute for Social Justice and the American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey cheered an appellate court ruling affirming the powers of the Civilian Complaint Review Board to foster a cooperative relationship between the Newark Police Department and the local community. Read more [here](#).
- Following advocacy by New Jersey Policy Perspective, the Anti-Poverty Network, and partners, Governor Murphy signed a budget including a \$30.2 million increase to the Earned Income Tax Credit program and to maintain the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit created in 2018 to continue supporting low to moderate income households. Read more [here](#).
- In an effort supported by New Jersey Citizen Action, legislation was signed into law to create a new state-based health insurance exchange to protect New Jersey residents' healthcare coverage against healthcare changes at the federal level. Read more [here](#).
- With support from the American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey, Salvation and Social Justice, and the American Friends Service Committee, a new law signed by Governor Murphy will severely restrict the use of solitary confinement in New Jersey jails, prisons, and detention centers. Read more [here](#).
- Following litigation by the Eastern Environmental Law Center representing environmental groups in the state, the proposed Transco Northeast Supply Enhancement pipeline project has been temporarily blocked by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection. Read more [here](#).
- As a result of advocacy by the recently-closed Drug Policy Alliance of New Jersey, three bills were signed into law strengthening the state's ability to combat the opioid crisis. Read more [here](#).
- With support from Environment New Jersey, the state has officially rejoined the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative to reduce pollution from power plants. Read more [here](#).
- Following advocacy by the Jersey Renews coalition including Environment New Jersey, GreenFaith, and the New Jersey Work Environment Council, Governor Murphy returned over \$70 million to the Clean Energy Fund to help the state meet its sustainable energy goals. Read more [here](#).
- The Pinelands Preservation Alliance's efforts led to Governor Murphy nominating proven conservationists to the Pinelands Commission in hopes of further preserving the region. Read more [here](#).
- After persistent advocacy from the Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey, Governor Murphy signed a budget that included investment in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to create more affordable homes in the Garden State. Read more [here](#).

- Coincident with priorities articulated in the Giffords Law Center’s reports ([New Jersey Gun Violence Impact Analysis and Policy Audit](#) and [The Economic Cost of Gun Violence in New Jersey](#)), Governor Murphy signed four new gun control bills to further position New Jersey as a national leader in gun safety. Read more [here](#).
- With support from New Jersey Policy Perspective, Governor Murphy signed a budget including \$400 million to be deposited in the state’s rainy day fund to bolster New Jersey’s ability to stay afloat in the case of another economic downturn. Read more [here](#).
- As a result of advocacy by the Jersey Renews coalition and other partners, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities names Orstead/OceanWind as the winner of the first round of solicitations to build offshore wind turbines on New Jersey’s coast, making it the largest off-shore wind project in the U.S. Read more [here](#).
- Following advocacy by the American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey and the recently-closed Drug Policy Alliance of New Jersey, a new law to further develop the state’s medical marijuana program called Jake’s Law will allow expanded access to patients in need of this medication alternative. Read more [here](#).
- After combined advocacy by the American Friends Service Committee, New Jersey Alliance for Immigrant Justice, Make the Road New Jersey, the American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey, and New Jersey Policy Perspective, Governor Murphy signed a state budget including \$2.1 million in funding for deportation and detention legal defense. Read more [here](#).
- With support from the New Jersey Alliance for Immigrant Justice, the American Friends Service Committee, Faith in New Jersey, Make the Road New Jersey, the American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey, and Wind of the Spirit, Governor Murphy signed an executive order that will establish an Office of New Americans to help new immigrants integrate into the state. Read more [here](#).
- In May, the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions celebrated the passage of the 50<sup>th</sup> municipal ordinance to control plastics pollution. Read more [here](#).
- After persistent advocacy by Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey, the Anti-Poverty Network and other advocacy groups, Governor Murphy signed a pair of bills into law to support emergency assistance efforts in the state and to collect and maintain data on homelessness and state programs aiding in emergency services. Read more [here](#).
- After persistent advocacy by the Anti-Poverty Network and New Jersey Policy Perspective, Governor Murphy signed a state budget including a 20 percent increase in TANF benefits to enable more families to enroll and benefit from the program. Read more [here](#).
- After successful advocacy by the Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey, Governor Murphy signed a package of nine bills to alleviate the foreclosure crisis facing the state. Read more [here](#).
- As a result of advocacy by the New Jersey Work Environment Council, the New Jersey Schools Development Authority will require a certification from manufacturers of rubberized and urethane floors installed to ensure the floors do not contain toxic mercury catalysts. Read more [here](#).

### Policy Updates:

- Environment New Jersey, Delaware Riverkeeper Network, New Jersey Conservation Foundation, and other environmental groups advocated for comprehensive, sustainable clean energy recommendations for New Jersey in the draft Energy Master Plan, released in June. While the Plan proposes a dramatic shift away from natural gas and other fossil fuels, particularly in the transportation and building sectors, some advocates remain concerned about the Plan's failure to include a moratorium on new fossil fuel infrastructure given the growing climate crisis. Read more [here](#).

### Policy Setbacks:

- Despite advocacy led by the Pinelands Preservation Alliance, New Jersey Natural Gas began construction of the Southern Reliability Link pipeline through the Pinelands National Preserve. Read more [here](#).
- New Jersey Policy Perspective, the Anti-Poverty Network, and partners advocated for a millionaire's tax in the recently passed state budget to offset New Jersey's growing income inequality, but it was ultimately not included by the Legislature.

### Policy Reports:

- The New Jersey Institute for Social Justice released the report *Reclaiming the American Dream: Expanding Financial Security and Reducing the Racial Wealth Gap through Matched Saving Accounts*. The report proposes a robust state-sponsored Individual Development Account program to empower residents to build wealth through matched savings accounts, financial education and financial coaching. Read more [here](#).
- New Jersey Policy Perspective released the report *It's Time for All Kids Health Coverage: Closing New Jersey's Major Health Divide for Children*. The report found 78,000 New Jersey children are currently uninsured and lays out legislative and administrative recommendations for New Jersey to move towards all kids coverage. Read more [here](#).
- Advocates for Children of New Jersey published the second *Trenton Kids Count* report in 20 years. It provides data on seven areas of child well-being – including demographics, family economic security, child health, child protection, childcare, education and data on teens and young adults. Read the full report [here](#).
- Jersey Promise published *A Report on the State of Asian Americans in New Jersey* – the first of its kind. The report covers a broad range of topics: demographics and history, family & social issues, public education, economic opportunity, health care, immigration & justice and civic participation, and looks to increase visibility and representation of the community in the Garden State. Read the full report [here](#).
- The National Low Income Housing Coalition published its annual *Out of Reach* report for 2019, which finds that those living in New Jersey making minimum wage would have to work 130 hours a week to afford rent for a modest two-bedroom home. Further, New Jersey ranks fifth for states with the largest shortfall between average renter wage and two-bedroom housing wage. Read more [here](#).

- Jersey Renewables published the report *Transportation Electrification: Keeping an Eye on Equity*. This report is broken down into categories of electrification: private vehicles, private fleets, public fleets, and NJ Transit and addresses why electrification of each system matters, who it helps, barriers, and steps to make electrification a reality. Read more [here](#).
- The New Jersey Conservation Foundation published the report *Environmental and Social Costs of Natural Gas Pipeline Development in the Delaware River Basin*. The report found the development of natural gas pipelines and associated infrastructure is resulting in significant costs to the environment and communities in the Delaware River Basin. The costs that can be quantified could be as much as \$2.4 billion for two pipelines alone — in addition to costs that cannot yet be quantified. Read more [here](#).
- The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation published the report *Building a Culture of Health: A Policy Roadmap to Help All New Jerseyans Live Their Healthiest Lives*. The report includes 13 multilayered recommendations designed to help policymakers give parents and new families a stronger start, improve community health, and create more effective and equitable programs. Read more [here](#).

### Events

- August 7<sup>th</sup> — [Garden State Equality Transgender Taskforce Meeting](#), Jersey City
- August 8<sup>th</sup> — [Advocates for Children of New Jersey Trenton Kids Count Community Conversation](#)
- August 20<sup>th</sup> — [New Jersey Highlands Coalition Harmful Algal Bloom Information Session](#)
- August 21<sup>st</sup> — [New Jersey Citizen Action Small Business Forum](#)
- September 14<sup>th</sup> — [New Jersey Citizen Action First-time Homebuyer Seminar](#)
- September 25<sup>th</sup> — [Anti Poverty Network General Meeting](#)
- October 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> — [New Jersey Black Issues Convention 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Black Leadership Conference](#)
- October 4<sup>th</sup> — ANJEC 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Environmental Congress
- October 18<sup>th</sup> — [Housing and Community Development Network of NJ Under One Roof Annual Conference](#)
- October 24<sup>th</sup> — [Anti Poverty Network 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Poverty Summit](#)
- November 20<sup>th</sup> — [Anti-Poverty Network General Meeting](#)
- December 4<sup>th</sup> — [Center for Non-Profits 2019 NJ Non-Profit Conference](#)
- Multiple dates — [Center for Non-Profits Learning and Networking Opportunities](#)

### Job Announcements

- [Program Coordinator](#), New Jersey Future
- [South Jersey Community Organizer](#), Faith in New Jersey
- [Policy and Program Internship](#), New Jersey Alliance for Immigrant Justice
- [Director of Law and Policy](#), New Jersey Institute for Social Justice
- [Senior Detention Attorney](#), American Friends Service Committee Immigrant Rights Program
- [Communications Associate](#), Make the Road New Jersey
- [Executive Director](#), Eastern Environmental Law Center

- [Staff Attorney](#), Eastern Environmental Law Center
- [Development Manager](#), New Jersey Conservation Foundation

Please send policy news and updates, job announcements, and staff updates to Vanessa Raymond-Garcia at [vraymond-garcia@fundfornj.org](mailto:vraymond-garcia@fundfornj.org) or you can Tweet to @FundforNJ.