



For More Information:

Lucy Vandenberg

609-356-0421 ext. *13

lvandenberg@fundfornj.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 25, 2020

The Fund for New Jersey Awards \$910,000 in Grants

Princeton, NJ – The Trustees of [The Fund for New Jersey](#) awarded \$910,000 in grants to non-profit organizations at their March 2020 quarterly Board meeting. Grants were awarded to [16 organizations](#) working in the areas of immigration, housing, education, public media, and worker rights.

Kiki Jamieson, President of The Fund for New Jersey, stated, “The Fund for New Jersey is pleased to invest in these non-profit organizations working to increase affordable and equitable housing, promote early childhood education, advance workers rights, and support local public affairs reporting in New Jersey.”

“Particularly urgent is the grant to build capacity and support for a domestic workers’ bill of rights in the state. It is estimated that New Jersey has close to 60,000 domestic workers, most of whom are immigrant women and women of color. Because of changing demographics and social arrangements, the U.S. Department of Labor projects that the demand for domestic workers will grow significantly as home health and personal care aides are among the top five fastest growing occupations.¹ However, domestic workers in New Jersey and across the country tend to receive the lowest wages and experience worse working conditions due to a host of issues, including but not limited to: federal exclusion in labor protections and benefits, lack of familiarity with state laws that govern hours and wages, and challenges with regulating work that takes place in private homes. Additional challenges faced by domestic workers today include wage theft, unpredictable work schedules, and a lack of accessible, affordable health care. New Jersey has the opportunity to support a particularly vulnerable workforce that makes all other work possible,” Jamieson said.

¹ See the United States Department of Labor Occupational Outlook Handbook, September 4, 2019: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/fastest-growing.html>

Grants awarded in March 2020 include:

Immigration

- A \$100,000 general operating grant to [New Jersey Alliance for Immigrant Justice](#) to support a strong statewide coalition to advance immigrant-friendly state policies with an emphasis on advancing the campaign for a Fair and Welcoming State and implementing Driver's Licenses for All.
- A \$100,000 program grant to [American Friends Service Committee](#) to reduce detention of immigrants, to advocate for universal representation, and to secure comprehensive pro-immigrant policies.
- A \$75,000 general operating grant to [Make the Road New Jersey](#) to advance pro-immigrant and pro-worker policies in New Jersey.
- A \$50,000 general operating grant to [Wind of the Spirit](#) to build immigrant power through grassroots organizing and policy innovation to create a more welcoming Garden State.
- A \$50,000 general operating grant to [Faith in New Jersey](#) to inform decision makers and the public and to advocate for policies that promote the human rights of immigrants and advance racial justice in New Jersey.
- A \$50,000 program grant to the Funders Collaborative for Immigrant Families in the Garden State to address the serious and growing needs of immigrant communities in New Jersey.

Housing

- A \$100,000 general operating grant to the [Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey](#) to advance the rights of New Jersey renters through its RENT: Renter Empowerment and Neighborhood Tools campaign, and to advance complementary policies that combat homelessness, prevent foreclosure, foster healthy homes, and promote equitable and affordable urban development.
- A \$100,000 general operating grant to [Fair Share Housing Center](#) to advance racial equity and expand affordable housing creation in geographic areas of opportunity near jobs, transit, and high-quality schools.

Education

- A \$75,000 general operating grant to [Advocates for Children of New Jersey](#) to advance state and federal policies that support low-income children and families and improve educational outcomes for children in disenfranchised communities.

Workers' Rights

- A \$60,000 program grant to [New Jersey Domestic Workers Coalition](#) develop and implement a New Jersey-specific campaign to advocate for a statewide Domestic Worker Bill of Rights.
- A \$50,000 operating grant to [New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault](#) develop and advocate for policies to prevent sexual assault and harassment and to better serve sexual assault survivors.

Public Media

- A \$50,000 program grant to [WHYY](#) to provide high-quality public affairs reporting and fill the local news void in New Jersey through collaborations with media partners, community organizations, and local communities.
- A \$50,000 program grant to [New Jersey Public Radio](#) to provide high-quality public affairs reporting and fill the local news void in New Jersey through collaborations with media partners, community organizations, and local communities.

[The Fund for New Jersey](#) 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.

###