



COUNCIL OF NEW JERSEY GRANTMAKERS

Harnessing Philanthropy's Potential

2019 PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Serving New Jersey's Philanthropic Sector

The Council of New Jersey Grantmakers' mission is to strengthen and promote effective philanthropy throughout the state of New Jersey. To assist grantmakers in their work, CNJG programs and services provide members with valuable resources, networking opportunities, educational programs, collaborative opportunities, and links to a national network of organized philanthropy.

Throughout the year, CNJG programs bring together all types and sizes of grantmakers with leaders from government, business, academia, and New Jersey's nonprofit community. The Council offered over 80 roundtable and panel discussions, workshops, teleconferences and webinars, events, and gatherings providing grantmakers with the opportunity to gain knowledge, and share ideas on best and emerging practices in philanthropy and areas of funding interest in 2019.

See selected highlights on the following pages.

SIGNATURE EVENTS

The Council welcomed nearly 200 foundation and nonprofit leaders to the **2019 New Jersey Conference for the Social Sector - Census 2020: Defining the Next Ten Years** on June 11 for a full day exploring how the philanthropic and nonprofit sectors can help ensure a complete and accurate 2020 Census. The conference featured national and state experts who shared information and tools to meet the many challenges communities across the state will face to be counted.

The day kicked off with an information-packed "Census 101" presentation from Jeff Behler, Director for the Census Bureau's New York Regional Office; followed by an engaging session on philanthropy's role in the count moderated by CNJG President and CEO Maria Vizcarrondo with panelists, Vanita Gupta, Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, and Gary Bass, Bauman Foundation.

Subsequent panels emphasized the need for greater involvement and collaboration as we approach 2020. "Challenges to a Fair Count," moderated by Bob Atkins of New Jersey Health Initiatives, featured panelists Ryan Haygood, New Jersey Institute for Social Justice and Ezra Rosenberg, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law who helped us understand the impact of the citizenship question on already hard-to-count communities. The session "Where are the Kids? The Undercount of Children" with Peter Chen and Alana Vega, Advocates for Children of New Jersey, and facilitated by Melissa Litwin of The Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation, detailed the importance of counting all children, and why an accurate count is essential for our children's futures. We heard from an impressive panel of stakeholders during "Opportunities for Action." Kiki Jamieson, The Fund for New Jersey, Betsy Plum, New York Immigration Coalition, Inge Spungen, Paterson Alliance, and Secretary of State Tahesha Way, joined moderator Linda Czipo, Center for Non-Profits for a session offering concrete examples and resources for foundations and nonprofits to get involved.

The keynote address "Call to Action for the 2020 Census: A Once-in-a-Decade Opportunity to be Counted" presented by Arturo Vargas, CEO of the NALEO Educational Fund, reminded us that making informed decisions for the people of New Jersey is absolutely dependent on having a full and accurate count. The day ended with an ice cream reception, affording the perfect opportunity to network with colleagues and reflect on next steps.

CNJG thanks our conference sponsors and supporters: Signature Sponsor – PSEG; Collaborator Sponsors – The Fund for New Jersey and JPMorgan Chase & Co.; Connector Sponsors – New Jersey Natural Gas and Wells Fargo; Colleague Sponsors – FirstEnergy Foundation and Subaru of America Foundation; Exhibitor Sponsors – Glenmede and PKF O'Connor Davies; and Venue Sponsor – The Palace at Somerset Park.

The **2019 Annual Meeting & Holiday Luncheon** gathered nearly 150 members on December 13 for a day of learning and reflection focused on the central theme, "Challenging Power Dynamics to Build Strong Partnerships."



2019 Annual Meeting & Holiday Luncheon

The Pre-Meeting Workshop, "Finding Balance: Addressing Grantmaker-Grantee Power Dynamics Head-On" led by Center for Non-Profits President and CEO Linda Czipo and Tim Delaney, President and CEO of the National Council of Nonprofits, opened the day with a look at how funders can overcome the power dynamics often inherent in grantee-grantmaker relationships. Tim and Linda discussed strategies to create more powerful partnerships, such as multi-year funding, advocacy, and unrestricted general operating support, and shared hero and horror stories worth remembering when working with nonprofits.

Following the workshop, the business portion of the Annual Meeting included various reports, as well as the election of new trustees, Kimberly Boller, The Nicholson Foundation; Andy Fraizer, Community Foundation of South Jersey; Diane Hagerman, New Jersey Health Initiatives; Patricia Hartpence, NJM Insurance Group; Melissa Litwin, The Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation; Lucy Vandenberg, The Fund for New Jersey; and Atiya Weiss, The Burke Foundation. We also said good-bye to a number of trustees as they rotated off the board. Thank you to Amanda Bauman, Campbell Soup Foundation; Cynthia Evans, Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation; Kiki Jamieson, The Fund for New Jersey; Andy Johnson, William Penn Foundation; Barbara Lawrence, The Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation; Annmarie Puleio, The Fred C. Rummel Foundation; and Barbara Reisman, Maher Charitable Foundation for their service on the Council's board.

Following the business portion of the meeting and member-to-member networking over lunch, Phil Buchanan, President of the Center for Effective Philanthropy took the stage for a thoughtful and riveting keynote, "Giving Done Right: The Challenge and Opportunity." He discussed the vital importance of directly engaging grassroots organizations to inform a giving strategy, and walking the talk when it comes to racial equity. Phil ended his presentation with a list of seven ways grantmakers can - and hopefully will - challenge power dynamics and work more effectively with our partners in the new year.

CNJG sincerely thanks our generous event sponsors: Novartis - Signature Sponsor, The Prudential Foundation – Sustaining Sponsor, New Jersey Health Initiatives – Speaker Sponsor, Princeton Area Community Foundation – Gift Sponsor, Devils Care Foundation and Sixers Youth Foundation – Pre-Meeting Workshop Sponsors, Novo Nordisk – Program Sponsor, The Provident Bank Foundation – Performance Sponsor, Horizon

Blue Cross Blue Shield of NJ – Contributing Sponsor, and The Jay and Linda Grunin Foundation – Supporting Sponsor. Additional support provided by NJM Insurance Group.

PROGRAMS

► FUNDERS BRIEFINGS

Throughout the year, funder briefings provide a forum to exchange knowledge and insights relating to pressing societal issues that affect our communities. These sessions include panel discussions, teleconferences and webinars.

The Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit, Opportunity Zones, and equity in community development were just some of the major topics discussed at the March 19 **Thriving Cities: A New Urban Agenda** funders briefing. Funders gathered to learn more about a new report from the Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey. Attendees heard from an experienced and passionate group of panelists including Staci Berger, HCDNNJ, Michellene Davis, RWJBarnabas Health, Leslie Anderson, New Jersey Redevelopment Authority, and Wayne Meyer, New Jersey Community Capital. Moderating the panel was Michael George Johnson of JPMorgan Global Philanthropy, a major contributor to the report. The program ended with Q & A, and a discussion on how the findings and policy suggestions from the report directly relate to philanthropy's work.

The funders briefing **Supporting ALICE: How Philanthropy Can Fill the Gap** on July 10 welcomed 64 attendees for a robust discussion to brainstorm opportunities that support the state's ALICE population. ALICE stands for Asset, Limited, Income, Constrained, Employed and refers to those families and individuals who are working, but still cannot afford basic necessities. Participants learned about the ALICE report from the United Way of Northern New Jersey, heard examples of success and first-hand accounts of ALICE families from the Pascale Sykes Foundation, and explored how



CNJG members invest in communities throughout New Jersey.

“ CNJG is an informed philanthropic community that provides me with connections and inspiration for my giving. The affinity groups help me learn where philanthropy is needed the most and where it has the greatest impact.”

policy recommendations from Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's *Building A Culture of Health* work can support ALICE populations.

► AFFINITY AND INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS

CNJG affinity and interest groups provide a valued forum through which New Jersey grantmakers can connect, exchange information, and learn from experts in a wide range of fields and sectors.

The pressing issue of racial disparities in maternal and infant health received a full airing when the **Health and Aging Affinity Group** met with Assistant New Jersey Health Commissioner Lisa Asare on January 8. Following the general format of a “Conversations with the Cabinet” program, the discussion highlighted how the Department of Health has been working with The Nicholson Foundation, The Burke Foundation and The Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation in funding community-based solutions for reducing black infant and maternal mortality in New Jersey. CNJG thanks Health and Aging Affinity Group co-chairs Diane Hagerman, New Jersey Health Initiatives and Renie Carniol, Grotta Fund for Senior Care as well as Council members Atiya Weiss, The Burke Foundation and Shannon Ayers, The Nicholson Foundation for helping to plan this program.

The **Strong and Thriving Affinity Group** hosted **Opportunity Zones 101** on May 23. The gathering heard from Leslie Anderson, New Jersey Redevelopment Authority, Tai Cooper, New Jersey Economic Development Authority, and Wayne Meyer, New Jersey Community Capital. Opportunity Zones were created as part of the Tax Cut and Jobs Act of 2017 allowing certain investments in lower income areas to have special tax advantages. The speakers provided a broad overview of the program, outlined New Jersey's plan and designated Opportunity Zones, discussed the impact on communities and grantees, and shared how philanthropy might play a role. Many thanks to Strong and Thriving Affinity Group co-chairs, Lois Greco, Community Foundation of South Jersey and Craig Drinkard, Victoria Foundation, for organizing this program.

The **New Jersey Corporate Philanthropy Network** took 2019 by storm and hosted quarterly meetings throughout the year. Among the broad array of meeting topics: the group learned about collective impact strategies from the Campbell Soup Foundation and Audible during

a snow-day webinar; participated in a communications workshop from Taft Communications; visited Candid in New York City for a special summer field trip; and ended the year discussing impact measurement of corporate grants with Jeff Vega of The Princeton Area Community Foundation. Many thanks to co-chairs Marion O'Neill, PSEG Foundation and Pat Hartpence, NJM Insurance Group, our newest affinity group co-chair.

Over 40 grantmakers gathered at the Hackensack Performing Arts Center on October 4 for an **Inaugural Meeting of Bergen County Funders** to explore efforts that could advance the well-being and quality of life for residents in the community. Attendees heard about an exciting community visioning process from Molly Cox, President and CEO of SA2020, learned about current trends and needs in the county from Lynne Algrant, CEO of the Volunteer Center of Bergen County, and discussed funder collaborations with Irene Cooper-Basch, Executive Officer of the Victoria Foundation. Thank you to Naomi Shank and the entire Russell Berrie Foundation team for helping to organize this event.

► SKILL BUILDING

A favorite for grantmakers, our annual workshop on **Due Diligence in Grantmaking** provided tools and resources to help foundation leaders interpret grantees financial data, including how to analyze 990s and other trends in audit reports, shared key indicators of long-term financial health, defined effective governance, and how this information can help assess the long-term sustainability of the grantee organization. CNJG thanks Vice President and CFO Rich Ribeiro, Turrell Fund and Chris Petermann, Partner at PFK O'Conner Davies for leading this workshop.

► PROGRAMS WITH PARTNERS

In collaboration with Koya Leadership Partners, CNJG hosted **Increase the Success in Succession Planning: Preparing for Future Leadership** in September. The special program began with a presentation from Koya Senior Vice President of Culture, Inclusion and Strategic Advising Miecha Ranea Forbes and Vice President of Executive Search Melissa Madzel on how to plan for succession.

2019 Affinity Group Chairs

CAMDEN FUNDERS AFFINITY GROUP

- Kate Barrett, *Campbell Soup Foundation*
- Sandy Capell, *Subaru of America Foundation*

CULTURE FUNDERS AFFINITY GROUP

- Tammy Herman, *New Jersey State Council on the Arts*
- Sharnita Johnson, *Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation*

EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE OF NEWARK FUNDERS AFFINITY GROUP

- Irene Cooper-Basch, *Victoria Foundation*
- Sarah Keh, *The Prudential Foundation*

EMERGING LEADERS IN PHILANTHROPY

- Naeema Campbell, *Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation*

ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTMAKERS AFFINITY GROUP

- Lucy Vandenberg, *The Fund for New Jersey*
- Stephanie Greenwood, *Victoria Foundation*
- Margaret Waldock, *Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation*

FINANCE AND INVESTMENT FUNDERS AFFINITY GROUP

- Bill Gibson, *The Leavens Foundation*

HEALTH AND AGING FUNDERS AFFINITY GROUP

- Renie Carniol, *The Grotta Fund for Senior Care*
- Diane Hagerman, *New Jersey Health Initiatives*

NEWARK FUNDERS AFFINITY GROUP

- Nicole Butler, *The Prudential Foundation*
- Craig Drinkard, *Victoria Foundation*

NEW JERSEY CORPORATE PHILANTHROPY NETWORK

- Frank Galloway, *NJM Insurance Group (January – April)*
- Pat Hartpence, *NJM Insurance Group (April – December)*
- Marion O'Neill, *PSEG Foundation*

NEW JERSEY FUNDERS FOR EDUCATION AFFINITY GROUP

- Lenora Green, *Educational Testing Service*
- Melissa Litwin, *The Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation*

PATERSON FUNDERS AFFINITY GROUP

- Barbara Lawrence, *The Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation*

STRONG & THRIVING FUNDERS AFFINITY GROUP

- Craig Drinkard, *Victoria Foundation*
- Lois Greco, *Community Foundation of South Jersey*

TRENTON AND MERCER COUNTY FUNDERS AFFINITY GROUP

- Rita Nini, *Educational Testing Services*
- Jeffrey Vega, *Princeton Area Community Foundation*

“CNJG’s cadre of funder’s programs bring members together in local settings for networking, discussion, and learning. Membership improves New Jersey’s nonprofit field as a whole by encouraging cross-sector collaborations and partnerships. These type of relationships allow us to strengthen our grantmaking strategies and maximize the impact of our investments in arts and culture.”

Following the presentation, Council members Michael Unger, The Atlantic Foundation, Andy Frazier and Kyle Ruffin, Community Foundation of South Jersey, and Cynthia Evans, Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation shared their own experiences with onboarding new leaders, and examined the importance of cultural fit.

The Council partnered with **United Philanthropy Forum** and a number of regional and national philanthropy-serving organizations throughout the year to provide special briefings and knowledge-building programs for CNJG members. We highlight a few: In partnership with the Forum and the **Funders’ Committee for Civic Participation**, and hosted by the Funders Census Initiative, the Council offered a special **Census 2020 webinar series** focused on get-out-the-count messaging for hard-to-count communities. The **Exponent Philanthropy** webinar, **The State of Small Staffed Philanthropy** reviewed trends in governance, grantmaking practices, and compensation for leanly staffed foundations. **Philanthropy Northwest’s** webinar **How CEOs and Trustees Build a Culture of Trust** explored core values and principles that drive a trust-based approach. CNJG is grateful to our Forum partners for sharing their expertise with us. Partnering with and across philanthropy-serving organizations has expanded our program docket tremendously and ensures members have unlimited access to a full range of expertise.

A long-time partner, the **National Center for Family Philanthropy** offers CNJG members family philanthropy webinars exclusively designed with the family foundation in mind. Topics ranged from January’s **Family Stories and Interviewing Elders** to **Pride of Place: Sustaining a Family’s Commitment to Community** in March, followed by **Relationship Between the Board Chair and CEO** in May, to July’s **Money, Values and Culture**, and **Exiting Responsibly: Making Wise Choices As You Wrap Up** in September. Family foundation members of CNJG are able to access NCFP’s

deep bench of programs and information, a service that comes complimentary with CNJG membership.

MEMBER SERVICES

To keep members informed, the Council provides a number of e-newsletters. Distributed at the beginning of each month, **CNJG News** is a members-only newsletter. Already in its 14th year of production, the e-news provides timely information on members’ grants, staffing and other news, member benefits, job announcements, and more. First launched in 2009, **Family Ties** is a monthly e-publication specifically for CNJG’s family foundation members offering helpful articles, news, and tips for managing the unique needs of family philanthropy. The monthly publication, **For the Field** highlights must-know news, policy information, research, and resources of interest to the broader philanthropic sector. A special census area was added to *For the Field* to help funders understand their role in advancing a full and accurate 2020 Census. The **Corporate Brief** offers articles, information, news, and resources to strengthen corporate social responsibilities and help optimize giving in a corporate environment. Year after year each of these e-newsletters continue to have a higher than industry average open rate among subscribers. Both the *Corporate Brief* and *Family Ties* are produced in collaboration with several other philanthropy-serving organizations across the country, enabling CNJG to leverage our membership with the United Philanthropy Forum to deliver these useful and timely newsletters.



CNJG members invest in the future.

As part of our ongoing work to help members learn about the importance of the 2020 Census, and how funders can help ensure a full and accurate census, the Council created a **listserve for members interested in the 2020 Census** this year. The listserve provides a vehicle to share information, ask questions, spark action, and continue the dialogue started at the 2019 conference. The Council hosts 21 listserves for the CNJG membership ranging from funding-focused listserves such as health and education, to geographically-focused listserves such as Camden and Trenton, to role-specific listserves such as CEOs and financial professionals.

2019 Board of Trustees



William V. Engel, *Chair*

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Jeremy Grunin, The Jay and Linda Grunin Foundation

Christine Healey, The Healey Education Foundation, Inc.

Kiki Jamieson, The Fund for New Jersey

Andrew Johnson, William Penn Foundation

Ari Kramer, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Jane Kurek, The Provident Bank Foundation

Barbara Lawrence, The Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation

Marion O'Neill, PSEG Foundation

Jonathan Pearson, Horizon BCBSNJ

Barbara Reisman, Maher Charitable Foundation

Deborah Smith, Wells Fargo Foundation

Paul Stierhoff, The Henry S. and Agnes M. Truzack Foundation

Our job board continues to be the most-trafficked page on our **website**, after the home page, as it provides a valuable service to the philanthropic community in New Jersey. The online member directory is also a well-visited section. It is an indispensable resource for members to find colleague contact information, and helps foster greater connections among the membership. It is noteworthy that our resources search page also ranks high on most visited pages, as it is a repository of hundreds of documents, reports, resource guides, articles, information, and more, available to philanthropy. Our family foundation members are also able to access the National Center for Family Philanthropy's online Knowledge Center from the page, offering hundreds of resources for family foundations.

The CNJG website and integrated database is part of a collaborative effort among 30+ United Philanthropy Forum members. By leveraging the collective purchasing power and expertise, the Forum has created a nationally-recognized shared platform that offers significant operational efficiencies, a group of peers to consult, and a robust website and database at a fraction of what a similar system of its caliber would cost individually.

LEADERSHIP AND POLICY

The Office of the **Newark Philanthropic Liaison** is an innovative collaboration between the city of Newark and the Council of New Jersey Grantmakers. A project of CNJG, the Office is tasked with harnessing interest, fostering greater effectiveness, and attracting resources to Newark that will ultimately improve the lives and futures of its residents. Kevin Callaghan has served as the Newark Philanthropic Liaison since 2016, and works closely with Mayor Ras Baraka's administration. We highlight some of this work.



2019 SYEP Kickoff

The Liaison worked with the city, Advocates for Children of New Jersey and the United Way of Essex West Hudson to create a Newark Counts conference in May. As part of this effort, a recommendation paper was authored by the Liaison and Advocates for Children of New Jersey, and is a blueprint for action. The Liaison facilitates the Newark Complete Count Committee, and is coordinating a diverse set of stakeholders on Census awareness, response, and communication.

Over the past three years, philanthropic support and partnerships in the Summer Youth Employment Program have grown to historic levels, with 20 funders contributing over \$1.7 million in 2019. As such, a record number of youth were employed in Newark in the summer of 2019. To further improve the initiative, the Liaison created an SYEP Advisory Board with banking, funding, and training partners to accentuate the unique public-private nature of the program. The Liaison also cultivated a new private donor interested in supporting a year-round, career-pathway approach in the program.

The Liaison was the main point of contact for corporations and foundations interested in supporting Newark during the 2019 water challenge. He worked with the United Way of Greater Newark and others to create a Water Fund. The Water Fund raised over \$500,000. The Liaison led the development of a plan for the resources that included the purchase of bottled water and water filters, and a community education and outreach effort. Building on this work, the Council created a special one-stop area on the CNJG website about the Newark water challenge to help funders stay informed and determine how to support impacted residents.

In 2019, major strides were made in re-establishing Newark in the national philanthropic conversation. In June, Newark was announced as one of ten cities selected for the What Works Cities Economic Mobility Initiative, funded by Bloomberg Philanthropies, the Ballmer Group, and the Gates Foundation. The initiative brings over \$1 million in grant funding and technical assistance to Newark by supporting its new Office of Tenant Legal Services and housing affordability measures. The Liaison also worked with Mayor Baraka to submit a successful application for his membership in the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative. Finally, the importance of the Liaison role was cited in a national op-ed by Mayor Baraka and Cities of Service Executive Director, Myung J. Lee entitled "When Less is More: Cities Unlock the Potential of Micro-Philanthropy."

The Liaison represents one of the nation's first formal partnerships between a city and the philanthropic community, and has become a national model for public-private alliances. The non-partisan Liaison position, based in Newark City Hall, serves as a bridge between Newark funders, the 130+ members of the Council and Newark's administration. The Liaison serves as the eyes and ears of the grantmaking community and the city in cross-cutting initiatives. The Newark Philanthropic Liaison's primary goals are to convene, connect, leverage, and raise resources through partnerships between New Jersey's philanthropic community and the Mayor's Office. The Office has leveraged over \$65+ million in public-private support for Newark since its inception in 2007.

Council members joined over 250 foundation colleagues from throughout the nation for the annual **Foundations on the Hill** visit from March 11 to March 13. Hosted by United Philanthropy Forum, the gathering brings foundation leaders to Washington DC for meetings with Congress about key issues of importance to foundations and philanthropy. The CNJG delegation included Bob



2019 Foundations on the Hill delegates meet with Congressman Smith

Atkins, New Jersey Health Initiatives; Etta Denk, Bank of America; William Engel, The Hyde and Watson Foundation; Jeremy Grunin, The Jay and Linda Grunin Foundation; Kiki Jamieson, The Fund for New Jersey; Marion O'Neill, PSEG Foundation; Michael Unger, The Atlantic Foundation; Atiya Weiss, The Burke Foundation; and Maria Vizcarrondo and Theresa Jacks, CNJG. Once again, we were pleased to have Linda Czipo, President and CEO of the Center for Non-Profits join NJ's delegation. Her voice helps to highlight and strengthen the nonprofit message during our meetings. The overall goal of this annual visit is to communicate to members of Congress the important role philanthropy plays in serving the public good, and to strengthen relationships the Council has developed with our elected officials and their staff over the years. The Council was able to meet all representatives' offices, including meeting directly with Senator Menendez, Congressman Gottheimer, Congressman Smith, and freshmen Congressmen Malinowski and Van Drew. Among the many issues discussed was the universal charitable deduction, 2020 Census, and our offer to serve as a resource on issues related to the philanthropic and nonprofit sectors.

As part of our **Conversations with the Cabinet** program, CNJG members met with Department of Children and Families Commissioner Christine Norbut Beyer on September 11. The Commissioner summarized the department's vision, values, core approaches, and strategic focus. A number of grantmakers shared their own projects related to DCF's work including fatherhood initiatives, interventions addressing adverse traumatic experiences, and existing partnerships to support Family Success Centers. Council members met with Commissioner Carol Johnson, Department of Human Services on November 12. Commissioner Johnson outlined a number of initiatives the department is working on, including SNAP expansion for seniors and college students, infant mortality and related equity issues, and community-based treatment for addiction. Grantmakers welcomed the opportunity to share issues and ideas they are focused on such as early childhood education and postnatal home care for new mothers. Throughout the meetings, Commissioners shared current and proposed programs that might benefit from philanthropic investment. These "conversations" offer an excellent opportunity for funders to learn about various departments' priority areas, and for philanthropy to share their own knowledge, insights, and best practices to inform the public sector's strategies for addressing key issues facing the state.



New CNJG President and CEO Maria Vizcarrondo

The Council joined our sister organization, the Center for Non-Profits in posting a **joint op-ed** in the September 27 edition of NJ Spotlight. An executive order signed by Gov. Phil Murphy in July put millions of dollars in nonprofit funds in reserve due to a dispute with the Legislature on budget projects. Linda Czipo, President and CEO of the Center for Non-Profits and Maria Vizcarrondo, President and CEO of the Council of New Jersey Grantmakers, penned an op-ed calling for the release of these funds and making clear that these funds are critical in allowing nonprofit organizations to provide much-needed programs to New Jersey residents. Being of one voice and sharing a united front on issues that impact both the philanthropic and nonprofit sectors builds upon and strengthens the partnership work between our organizations.

NEW LEADERSHIP

After a nearly yearlong search, the Council of New Jersey Grantmakers' Board of Trustees was pleased to welcome **new President and CEO Maria Vizcarrondo** in March. She brings more than 25 years of experience transforming service organizations, and has served her communities as both an appointed and elected official. Maria hit the ground running from her very first day on the job, joining Council members in Washington DC at Foundations on the Hill. The Council thanks Jon Shure and Connie Ludwin of Taft Communications for serving as Interim CEO and Interim COO respectively during the transition period.

CNJG CONTINUES TO ATTRACT NEW MEMBERS

In 2019, CNJG welcomed eight new members: Alesio Family Fund, ConnectOne Bank, New Jersey Children's Foundation, RWJBarnabas Health System, Summit Medical Group Foundation, Tata Consultancy Services, The Health Care Foundation of the Oranges, and the United Way of Central Jersey. Additionally, CNJG welcomed back six returning members: I Am Trenton Community Foundation; Sanofi; the Smith Family Foundation; Suez North America Foundation; TD Bank; and the United Way of Greater Newark. Together CNJG and our members work towards the shared goals of improved practice, expanded impact, and most importantly, strong and vibrant New Jersey communities.



COUNCIL OF NEW JERSEY GRANTMAKERS
Harnessing Philanthropy's Potential

CNJG was established
as an independent
501(c)(3) organization
in 1997. Member dues
and leadership grants

from CNJG members support the Council's operations. CNJG is a member of United Philanthropy Forum a national network of regional and national philanthropy-serving organizations consisting of more than 70 organizations across the United States that represent more than 7,000 foundations and other philanthropic groups, making it the largest network serving philanthropy in America. CNJG gratefully acknowledges generous in-kind support from Thomas Edison State University.

STAFF

Maria Vizcarrondo, President and CEO (March – December)

Jon Shure, Interim President/CEO (January – March)

Connie Ludwin, Interim COO (January – March)

Kevin Callaghan, Newark Philanthropic Liaison

Anna D'Elia, Program and Services Coordinator

Patricia Foo, Office Manager and Assistant to the President

Theresa Jacks, Deputy Director

Craig Weinrich, Director of Member Services

Kari Williams, Finance Manager

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