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Together in Health

Newsletter of The Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey

Issue 3 - December 2022

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2021 Annual Report



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Welcoming the Spirit of Hope and Renewal

Dear Community Partner,

The end of the calendar year brings the “season of lights” – a time of inspiration, hope, and reflection on what positive changes the year ahead might bring.

Throughout 2022, our board and staff have been busy thinking about our work and moving forward on many strategic initiatives. Indeed, the board recently approved a pilot project focusing on multi-year funding, created task forces on behavioral health and health equity, and examined how we can sharpen the Foundation’s longstanding focus on humanism in medicine.

We are pleased to announce one additional change on the horizon for The Healthcare

allow time for us to strategically refocus our grantmaking process. We believe this short-term pause will reap long-term benefits for grantees and for our community – helping us improve the clarity and alignment in our application forms, reduce redundancies, and consider how we can better deploy our assets to strengthen the health of our community. Read our [Q&A below](#) for the specific details.

In 2023, we will be reaching out to you, our valued partners in the community, to share with us what you are experiencing on the ground as we all face the aftermath of the pandemic. We hope in the coming year to convene several listening groups to bring together grantees to discuss focused topics of common interest.

As we enter the holiday season, we are reminded of the story of Channukah and the miracle of the limited oil burning bright for eight days, shining a path forward at a time Jews were facing oppression, destruction and much loss. Channukah is a holiday of hope and of renewal. No matter what your religious practice—or none at all—we hope that 2023 will be a year for all of us to face the challenges ahead in a spirit of collaboration, hope, and joy for the future.

In good health!

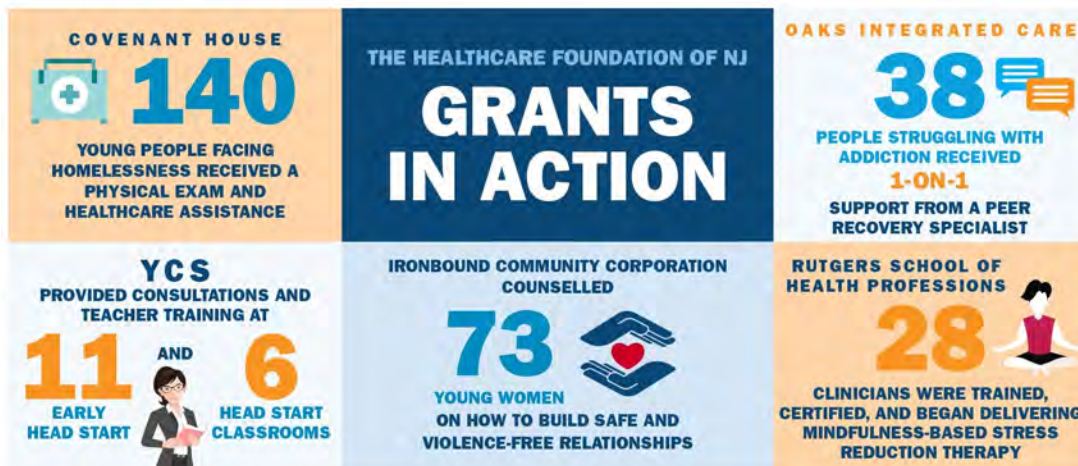


Michael Schmidt,
HFNJ Executive Director and CEO

Amy Schechner,
HFNJ Board Chair

Facts and Figures: Grantees in Action

Thank you to our community partners who are making such a positive impact. As a result of their work over the past year:



We are pleased to announce that The Healthcare Foundation of NJ has awarded \$3,230,217 to seventeen New Jersey non-profit organizations in the fourth quarter of 2022. The Foundation experienced a record quarter of requests for funding. Many of the largest grant awards this cycle support projects that will enhance the health and well-being of older adults in Essex County and provide opportunities for independent living. Several other grants address the critical health needs of children.

The largest grant of the cycle is a \$1,001,767 award to Clara Maass Medical Center to purchase a 128-slice CT scanner, which will be used on an estimated 13,500 patients per year.

[Learn about all our recent grantees](#)

Watch CEO Michael Schmidt on *Lessons in Leadership*



View HFNJ's Executive Director/CEO Michael Schmidt on Steve Aduabato's *Lessons in Leadership*. Michael, Steve, and North Ward Center CEO Michele Aduabato discuss the emerging staffing crisis in nonprofits; building lasting relationships with employees; and challenges facing today's non-profit employers. [Watch here](#).

Grantee Spotlight: Bridges Outreach and Homelessness in Newark

Bridges Outreach works across Essex County to end homelessness through volunteer-driven outreach and individual case management focusing on health, housing, and independence. We asked Bridges' President Richard Uniacke about their work, and the current state of homelessness in our community.



Q: Tell us more about the model that Bridges Outreach uses in its work. How do you make a difference in the lives of those experiencing homelessness?

We're fortunate to have some tremendously experienced staff members on our Outreach Team, 90% of whom have lived experience with homelessness. Through our outreach and

engagement program, we have Outreach Specialists and Case Managers on the

on Halsey Street.

Beginning with the first encounter, so many of which take place on the street, we are assessing needs and trying to meet them. It often begins with a brown bag lunch. Sometimes it can take one hundred or more engagements on the street before we move forward, but we persist. Our aim is always to connect people with permanent housing.

2) We understand that Essex County recently released a Point in Time Count on homeless individuals. What was the count – and in your view is it an accurate assessment of the number of people facing homelessness in our communities?

Essex County counted 1,914 people experiencing homelessness as of January 25, 2022, with Newark accounting for 90.6% of Essex County's total. Of those, 134 people were counted as living unsheltered. It is difficult for a count such as this one to accurately document the total number for several reasons. By contrast, our Outreach and Engagement Team has so far this year interacted with 994 individuals who experienced unsheltered homelessness in Newark – that's more than seven times the Point in Time number. We can't assume that our organic number is exhaustive either.

[Read the full interview on our website](#)

Q&A On Applications Pause for Early 2023

- **What are the different types of grants HFNJ awards, and which are affected by its pause in accepting applications in early 2023?**

HFNJ awards four types of grants: new requests; renewal requests; presidential requests; and responses to requests for proposals (RFP). You can read about the different types of grants we award [here](#).

The temporary pause only affects **new requests**, which will not be considered in the second quarter. **Renewal requests** for projects that have already received HFNJ funding will continue to be considered on any regularly-scheduled existing time frame. **Presidential grant requests** (requests for \$25,000 or less for one-time or emergency needs) will also be considered. Presidential grant requests are accepted on a rolling basis, with no deadline. There will be no RFPs issued during this time.

- **What is the timeframe for this pause?**

For the February 16, 2023, application deadline, only existing grant renewal requests will be accepted. Applications for new requests will not be accepted and reviewed until May 25, 2023. Projects awarded grants in that cycle can expect to receive their first payments in September.

process for already-approved HFNJ grant projects.

- **Where can I go for more information?**

Contact our Grants Administrator, Kevin McManemin, at kmcmanemin@hfnj.org or (973) 921-1210 extension 1101 with any questions.

What We Are Reading

- **School-based mental health funding extended following backlash**

In November, NJ's Department of Children and Families announced an extension that will allow funding for school-based mental health services in 90 New Jersey school districts as the controversial new "hub and spoke" model is developed.

- **Preventable Harms: Injection Drug Use-Related Infections in New Jersey**

From the NJ Harm Reduction Coalition, this report looks at preventable injection drug-use related infections in the state, and which public health approaches are best at preventing them.

- **Newark Planning Board's Newark360 Master Plan**

Newark has released the blueprint that will shape the equitable physical development of Newark for the next 10 years.

- **Leapfrog survey: N.J. hospitals make dramatic improvements in safety**

In Leapfrog's annual rankings of hospital safety, 53 of the state's hospitals (76%) received 'A' or 'B' grades for safety, an increase of 9% since spring.



A grant from HFNJ helped the South Orange Rescue Squad purchase a LUCAS Chest Compression System - a device that will allow EMTs to deliver continuous compressions and save lives that otherwise may have been lost. The Rescue Squad reports that the device was used on a patient soon after going into service.

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