

Executive Director's Report Summer 2022

Board candidates: Lisa, Beth and I met with two excellent candidates. Other nominees are welcome. They will be discussed in Governance later this summer, and then a recommendation brought forward to the board in October.

Summer musings:

1. A top PEAK grantmaking conversation is about how to address inflation's impact on grantee partners; whether and how to increase the size of grants to help. Some are increasing the amount given over the past 5 years + 5-10% for regular grantee partners. I recommend considering this at least for ARCH which has not increased its request since 2018 (but is paying more regional coordination staff).
2. As part of FFAs commitment to supporting best practices of grantee partners, I would like to add this statement to the grant agreement:

Grantee partner affirms that it has a non-discrimination policy which applies to both employees and program participants and that it makes ongoing efforts to live into this policy. Grantee further affirms that any subcontractors or vendors enabled by this grant will have substantially similar policies and commitments in place.

3. There has been discussion over many years about the need for supportive (assisted living) services in subsidized senior housing. A recent study in NJ done by CSH (coalition for supportive housing), funded by Taub Fdn. estimated a need for 17,000 supportive housing units for older adults. We are starting to see attention in this area and requests to engage in this work. I spoke with Renie (Grotta Fdn) and Julia (Taub Fdn) about their involvement in this critical issue, thinking that we can amplify our impact by collaborating. NJ is unique in creating the NJ Assisted Living Program (ALP) model called PALS, and other states are watching. In addition to the JCHC proposal that FFA and Grotta deferred until they get state licensed, we have a proposal from Bright Side Manor, another stellar NJ ALP, which was funded by Taub for 5 years. Taub is now funding CIP (Capital Impact Partners, Candice Robinson) which is working with all the ALPs in NJ—advocacy, evaluation, primer. I am attaching resources under Bright Side Manor. Just last week CIP was successful in getting the Medicaid reimbursement rate raised to \$80 from \$67/day. We can enter this space with the two proposals before us.
4. A central issue affecting all of the Quaker (and non-) residential communities is maintaining staff. Heather Cox Richardson reports *that nursing and residential care have lost 379,000 jobs since February 2020*. One way that FFA can address this is to support efforts to attract and retain staff. It is notable that some communities are moving away from providing skilled nursing care, which likely will mean more people remaining at home with family support, thus needing in-home and caregiver services, which FFA can support.
5. It seems that a lot has changed since we created the 2020 strategic plan. I recommend that we review and update it in February. We will have 2 new board members and reviewing the plan is a good orientation.

- I have been focusing on increasing our presence in NJ over the past 2-3 years.
- We are trusting grantee partners to know what they most need rather than trying to fit into something we have identified (a trust based philanthropy practice).
- FFA seems to be increasingly well known so we are receiving more proposals, including several repeats.

I think we can achieve the objectives behind our focus on innovation RFPs and large grants by embracing proposals that come to us which address a key issue in the field, and we can select what that is. During the pandemic these were technology, isolation, and food insecurity, and now we can support ALPs, hopefully in collaboration with other foundations.

Letters of Intent

I declined the LOI for a [film](#) about the dying of the filmmaker's friend.

[Bright Side Manor](#)-*posted* Exec Director recognized at NJAAW conference for her work, a leader in PALS (assisted living in senior housing) model. Funding will support social worker. They envision self-sustainability and expansion of the model to other housing communities. I recommend this one-meets critical need, ability to replicate, good leadership.

[NJAAW](#)- Wants to develop a resource center for family caregivers, recognizing that the staffing shortages and growing population mean more care will fall on families who need training and support. This has potential, meets a need. How will people find it?

[JFS Atlantic](#)- Wants to create a position of care coordinator for aging adults facing homelessness. Meets critical need—I recommend.

[Nazarene](#)-*posted* Support for JOY program in Baptist Church serving Camden, basic senior center services. I do not find anything compelling in this one.

Additionally, I have had conversations with [Jewish Community Housing](#). They hope to have the state Assisted Living Program license in place by October, so have hired an RN/program director and social worker. They would like to hire an LPN to provide medication management and other personal care, so are now requesting that funding (rather than the original furnishings). They hope to expand their services to other nearby HUD housing, and expect that Medicaid reimbursement will enable sustainability going forward. They have support from the Healthcare Foundation and will have other foundations once licensing is in place.

[Center in the Park](#) will submit a short reapplication, shifting from the now-sustainable Pride Project to requesting support for a care coordinator in a slimmed-down In Home Support program. The State reapportioned funding away from Philadelphia to other counties, so PCA shut down all In Home Support programs. CiP would like to continue a reduced program with care coordination, modest home modifications and an emergency assistance fund. This seems like the best answer to our concern about who would fill in after Ralston closed My Way. I recommend support.

[Friends Home in Kennett](#) is requesting support for a health and wellness program. I was surprised that this isn't already baked in, especially as a Montessori Lifestyle community. Christine's vision is to have enhanced activities that address multiple dimensions of wellness, not just exercise. Staff training is needed. Christine will rework the LOI with more detail.

I expect to get a proposal from [PYM](#) for the QAR website. I need to be convinced that it will be known and used, what exactly will go on it, how it will be supported by PYM. Can the attendees at Quaker Convening amplify the impact?

I will post LOIs, reports and proposals as they come in.

Mid-year conversations

I need to schedule conversations in August-September with these organizations. Please let me which ones you would be interested in participating in, and give me some available dates. [Rise, Ujima, Witness to Innocence, The Hickman, Mercer Meals on Wheels, New England YM, Vonzella's Crown, Camden Coalition.](#)

Odds n Ends

- Connected 3 Montessori lifestyle communities with each other.
- Connected Meals on Wheels with Rise and Kindersmiles
- Virtual attendance at Friendsview Manor graduation of first ESL student
- Virtual attendance at "Meet Sheila Sorkin" at PYM. No one on the call knew about the QAR website. Sheila reported later that the main interest she's seen is for consultation around a specific individual. She wants to revive the website and promote the aging grants more.
- Virtual attendance at CNJG Colloquium- Igniting Systems Change Together
- Virtual attendance at QVS annual report to supporters. They are down to 18 participants for the coming year. The most interesting part of the presentation was noting that they are now serving a new generation (GenZ or "Zoomer") which has different needs and ideas about what they want to do, as well as feeling the impact of the pandemic, movement for fair wages and competition from near-full employment nationwide.
- Attended Trust Base Philanthropy program on organizational change.
- I heard gratitude for the Quaker Convening, and some further conversations among participants, especially about applying an End Of Life Care model to dying meetings. I will convene again in early Fall.
- John Whitman announced Chandler Hall will no longer be a Kendal affiliate as of September 30, 2022. It is unclear what underlies this decision, possibly more flexibility for change, possibly more attractive to buyers or something else? It appears they have cut most middle-management and development staff. With the transition of Friends Village at Woodstown to Fellowship Senior Living, we see the loss of another lower-cost Quaker community.
- Lutheran Social Ministries in Pennsauken NJ will have a garden blessing on August 24 at 3. [Let me know if you want to attend so I can RSVP.](#)
- Can we now list board members on the website? I have added new photos in the scroll (taking out Ralston).
- I have been trying to get most of the records at Iron Mountain destroyed. Lots of bureaucracy. Just received an estimate of \$1387, which is about the same as 3 months of storage. Presumably this will reduce the monthly bill.
- I will attend a program hosted by the Smith Foundation on August 25, *Bridging the Gap: Blacks in Philanthropy*, featuring Nikki Mosgrove, Jeff Vega, Valerie Arthur and Paula Taylor.

Susan W Hoskins, Executive Director 7.27.22