



Board Annual Meeting 6.17.25

Present: Eric Andrews, Jim Whitely, Beth Hudson Keller, Conrad Person, Lisa Ogletree, Tyler Hoff, Nikki Mosgrove, Joan Malin, Emily Sandusky, Susan Hoskins (ED)

Guests: Doreen Boerner-Gage, Patti Nesbitt (board candidates), Laura Rogers-JFS Atlantic, David Chiles-Lutheran Settlement House, and Leslie Koppel and Julia Badulescu- Rise (grantee partners).

1. GRANTEE PARTNERS

The first part of the meeting was hearing from 3 grantee partners about their experience in the current climate: Laura Rogers-JFS Atlantic, David Chiles- Lutheran Settlement House, and Leslie Koppel and Julia Badulescu- Rise. Each one gave a brief description of their organization, mission emphasizing their focus on serving diverse communities including older adults, immigrants and individuals facing housing and health challenges. Then they described the expected impact of Federal budget cuts. While there is a great deal of anxiety and uncertainty, none of these grantee partners felt that their organization would be terminally impacted. The greatest shared concern was about HUD, SNAP and Medicaid cuts. Costs will be passed to the states; Leslie noted that NJ already has the highest SNAP benefit at \$95/mo. Impact will be felt by families, farmers, stores, and rural communities. David added concern that a shrinking number of pantries are serving a growing need; their pantry has already quadrupled in demand. The older adult programs are the most at risk (through PCA) of the cuts, while the demand will increase. SEPTA cuts will also impact access to health care, and the entire nonprofit ecosystem is already showing signs of being affected, which puts more stress on partnerships and remaining organizations. Work requirements may disqualify people from benefits and age discrimination will play a part. Laura emphasized the additional administrative (and participant) burden of meeting work reporting and complex re-application paperwork. She added that they have experienced cuts in staff in government agencies and volunteer programs that fuel their services. She explained that they are trying to collect all government dollars already allocated before they are taken back, that the whole system of care is in crisis. Cuts to Medicaid would be catastrophic. Responding to a question about immigrants, they said they are trusted resources in their communities, often the first place people turn. Leslie noted that they have had less intervention in a small rural community; only the Rise ELL class has seen a decrease in participation; doing more to inform and protect people. Already in a housing crisis; NJ starting housing support program with Medicaid funds; housing first.

Local foundations and individual donors are responding with additional support. Leslie observed that DEI language has been removed from government grants, no sign of private funders pulling back. David noted that other grantors have checked in, been more flexible, offered emergency funding. Laura noted the importance of doing advocacy-as individuals and an organization. Innovative, creative programs are not funded by government (flat for many years, more restricted, basic services). Appreciation was

expressed for FFA's conversations, streamlined application and report process, responsiveness and flexibility, connections, unrestricted funding. Photos, videos, and site visits are alternative ways to tell the story (as long as not more burdensome). The cuts are designed to wreak havoc. Small organizations address basic needs from a base of community, faith and hopefulness. We can let our neighbors know we are here for them. David, Leslie and Laura were thanked for their time and insights.

2. Annual Meeting

- Patti and Doreen were temporarily excused. The meeting was called to order. Lisa presented the slate of proposed members: Ed Elder, Doreen Boerner-Gage, Patti Nesbitt. All were approved and Patti and Doreen rejoined the meeting and were welcomed. Conrad will mentor the new members. Governance will work on a guideline for board orientation.
- Lisa read a minute of appreciation for Jim, which is attached.
- Lisa introduced the board composition chart, stating that it will be kept up and noting how informative it was to learn about other board members.
- Board contact list- will be posted when Doreen's information is added.
- Dates of 2025-6 meetings - approved
 - October 16, 4-7 pm
 - February 19, 4-7 pm
 - April 16, 4-7 pm
 - June 20, 10-1 pm in person in Newtown
 - Lunch for Jim Sept 27 noon at the Lambertville Station
- Board self-evaluation- please send to Susan
- Trustee disclosure- send to Susan
- Board officers – approved
 - President- Beth Hudson Keller
 - Vice President – Lisa Ogletree
 - Treasurer – Eric Andrews
 - Assistant Treasurer – Tyler Hoff
 - Secretary – Conrad Person
- Board committees – approved. Classes- Susan to add dates and new members.
 - Finance Chair – Eric Andrews
 - Governance Co-Chairs – Lisa Ogletree + Joan Malin
- Bylaws- Lisa reviewed proposed changes. Governance will make further changes and present for approval in October.
 - Discuss board composition (% Quaker).
 - Governance will reword language to be clear about quorum, “sense of the meeting” and time needed for advance notice (3.1, 5.4, 5.6, 5.7). A copy of the revised bylaws will be submitted to NYYM.
- Financial status. Eric
 - JPMorgan holds 3 funds: General fund total \$7,858,345, \$318, 125 withdrawn for grants and operations, 9.46% 1 year return, 3.66 YTD. Sustainable equity: \$913,692, 9.6% 1 year, 4.17 YTD. Sustainable fixed: \$635,175, 4.9% 1 year, 2.1% YTD.
 - Friends Fiduciary G&I fund: \$4,337,683, 9.55 1 year, 3.12 YTD.

- Budget for grant making \$500,000 per year. Obligated to spend 5% per year based on prior year. \$230,000 granted in April.
- Actual expenses are in alignment with the budget

Jim closed the annual meeting.

3. Business meeting

- A. Minutes of April meeting were approved
- B. Executive Director Report – Susan highlighted her participation as a panelist in the Ralston “Meet the Grant Makers” event last week. There is a new ED at QVS. Check the new photos and donate button on the website.
 - a. Grants- two were left out in April, seeking input on others.
 - i. Twilight Wish –Wish may not align with our values. Not approved.
 - ii. FCS Monmouth Co –Seems like friendly visitor program, not clear how much extra work being put on home health aides, training, details on visits. Not approved.
 - iii. QVS-ARTZ – a collaborative effort between former grantees, introduced by Susan. May address FFA objective of engaging young adults in aging services. Fellow already identified. Transition of ED not a time to abandon them, although questions about business model remain. Will request that they submit a proposal in September, identifying lead organization and activities of Fellow.
 - iv. JFCS-Abramson collaboration for caregivers. More burden on family caregivers with reduced benefits, will need support. Good to see collaboration, but just learned that the organizations are merging. Concerns about size of endowment remain, as well as size of organization. Not approved based on decision to focus on small organizations without other resources.
 - v. Yoga4Seniors- yoga is helpful for health and social interaction. Many questions about staffing, confusing information on 990, Guidestar, website. Susan to schedule call and get more information, then invite if appropriate.
 - vi. Helpful comments for discernment: “Is this a thing we want to support? Is this the right person to do it?” Survive vs thrive focus.
- C. Strategic Directions—Susan noted that the Strategic Plan was dated 2020-2024. She included reflections on the plan, past year and some objectives for the coming year, but there was not time to discuss them. It was decided to focus on strategic thinking at the February meeting when board members will have time to thoughtfully prepare. This is a board transition year and the national landscape is so uncertain that it is hard to plan. There was agreement on:
 - a. Orientation of new board members
 - b. Listen to grantee partners
 - c. Be flexible and responsive
 - d. Understand the larger social policy landscape

Susan W. Hoskins Executive Director