

Urgent Relief Needed for Charitable Non-Profits

August 27, 2020

21 Plus, Inc.



4CS of Passaic County



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INSTITUTE**

Education. Empowerment. Equality.

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ACFSO
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Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN
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Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN
PASSAIC COUNTY



Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN
SOMERSET, HUNTERDON &
WARREN COUNTIES

**Catholic
Charities,
Diocese of
Trenton**



**Catholic Youth
Organization of
Mercer County**



**Citizens for
Sustainable
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**Chosen
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**Color
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CARES Foundation
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www.CARESFoundation.org

**CONTACT
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**Cornerstone
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**Edison
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EJM Foundation, Inc.



**Faith
Christian
Counseling
Center, Inc.**



**Family Resource
Associates, Inc.**

**Family Support
Organization of
Bergen County**



**Family Support Organization
of Bergen County**



**Family
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Organization
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**Headstrong
Teens**

**The Healthcare
Foundation of
New Jersey**

**Helping
Arms, Inc.**



**Hudson River
Apiary Society**



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**Independent Care
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**Jewish Federations
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**Kean
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Foundation**



Urgent Relief Needed for Charitable Non-Profits

August 27, 2020

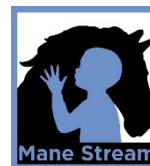
The Leavens
Foundation, Inc.

The LenGuire
Institute of
Fashions, Inc.



Magical
Healing

Main St.
Counseling
Center



Marie
Adelaide
Center, Inc.

Middle
Earth

Monmouth
Arts

The Montclair
Foundation

MoveOn.org
Hoboken
RESIST



Multicultural Community
Services, Inc. & The Family
Nurturing Center of New Jersey



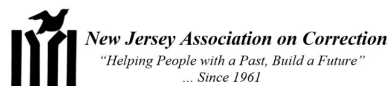
NJ Center for
Tourette
Syndrome and
Associated
Disorders



National
Educational
Network,



Nai-Ni Chen
dance company



New Jersey Community
Development Corporation

New Jersey
Future

New Jersey
Highlands
Coalition



New Jersey Youth
Development
Foundation



Newark, NJ
NAACP



Ocean's Harbor House



The Passaic
River
Coalition



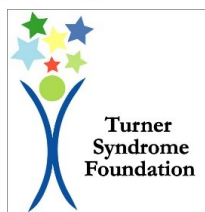
South
Jersey
AIDS
Alliance



Studio
Montclair



Thonet Associates, Inc.



Union Chapel
Community
Development



United
Children's
Music Project

United
Community
Corporation



Victoria
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Women of Hope
Resource
Center, Inc



USA to Africa
Trade Promotion
Organization
(UTATPO)



Whippany River
Watershed Action
Committee



URGENT RELIEF NEEDED FOR CHARITABLE NON-PROFITS

August 27, 2020

The Honorable Phil Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey
The Honorable Sheila Oliver, Lieutenant Governor of the State of New Jersey
The Honorable Members of the New Jersey State Senate and State Assembly

Dear Governor Murphy, Lieutenant Governor Oliver, Senators and Assemblypersons:

The [Center for Non-Profits](#) and the undersigned New Jersey organizations thank you for your ongoing thoughtful response to the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) within our state. As you continue to make the crucial policy decisions to guide our state through the pandemic, and as our state's residents turn increasingly to New Jersey's non-profit community for relief, we urge you to ensure that non-profits are able to meet the growing needs of our residents.

Throughout this emergency, as in countless other crises, New Jersey's non-profits have been a lifeline and a backbone, providing life-saving care, food, shelter, mental health counseling, job training, education, forums for artistic and spiritual comfort, healing and inspiration, environmental stewardship, and an outlet for collective action and social change. And as employers of 10% of the state's private workforce and consumers of goods and services, New Jersey's 34,000+ non-profits are vital to the economy.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a devastating impact on our state's non-profits at a time when New Jerseyans need them most. COVID-19 has dramatically widened the ever-present gap between skyrocketing demand for services while financial and human resources have dramatically decreased. The most recent [survey](#)¹ taken by the Center in partnership with the [Council of New Jersey Grantmakers](#) shows the crisis is having a significant and alarming impact on most non-profits. Among the 280 respondents – a small microcosm of the charitable community:

- Nearly all (94%) are experiencing significant or moderate disruptions to their programs, from rising need for services and escalating expenses to cancelled programming and events and reduced income from donations and other sources.
- More than 25% have reduced staff, representing over 13,200 positions in 80 organizations alone.
- Almost 60% have lost more than \$193 million as a result of the crisis.

Extrapolating these results to the entire charitable sector, the impact is staggering.

As you consider additional policy measures in response to our state's critical needs, we urge you to leverage state and federal resources, to act swiftly to address specific issues to ensure that charities can continue to provide vital programs and services, and to help our communities recover from the crisis. Our requests include, but are not limited to, the following:

Provide additional funding to help non-profits affected by the crisis. The grant and loan programs through the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, NJ Redevelopment Authority and others, along

¹ Center for Non-Profits, [Rapid Response Survey #3: The COVID-19 Crisis and New Jersey's Non-Profit Community](#), July 23, 2020

with the federal relief programs, have been critical lifelines for non-profits. But many of the state programs have been oversubscribed within hours of launch, a clear indication of the magnitude of the need. We urge you to provide additional grant funding, including streams dedicated to non-profits, for COVID-19 relief.

Incentivize charitable contributions. [S-2360](#), which passed the Senate unanimously on May 14, and [A-4183](#) would allow a state income tax deduction for charitable contributions to most New Jersey-based charitable organizations during the pandemic. The allowable contributions are both capped and time-limited, mitigating the revenue foregone to the state; and this investment would be multiplied many times over by the donations that this legislation would generate for New Jersey-serving organizations. Charitable contributions were already suffering as a result of the 2017 federal tax law, and the COVID-19 emergency has exacerbated that situation exponentially. A recent [Star-Ledger editorial](#) captures the urgency of passing this legislation.

Provide relief to non-profit employers. As indicated above, many non-profits have laid off or furloughed employees during the pandemic, with more job losses undoubtedly forthcoming. These unforeseen staff reductions could result in dramatic increases in unemployment expenses. [S-2504/A-4375](#) would directly and effectively address this concern by ensuring that the layoffs and separations precipitated by this crisis do not adversely affect the experience rating for non-profits who contribute to the state's unemployment fund. For those who "self-insure" and make direct payments to the state, federal law currently provides funding for 50% of these direct payments; these bills would cover the remainder, which would avoid crippling charges for these organizations.

Provide greater flexibility for third-party government contracts. [A-3996](#) / [S-2451](#), which have unanimously passed both houses of the Legislature, provide for modification of contract terms on public contracts between non-profit organizations and State agencies for when a non-profit is unable to fulfill the original terms due to COVID-19 pandemic. This flexibility is urgently needed, as many non-profits are having difficulty fulfilling their deliverables on state contracts due to significant changes needed to respond to the COVID crisis and the economic realities of reduced staff and financial resources.

Extend filing deadlines for non-profit corporate and charities registration reports. [S-2533](#) and [A-3997](#) would allow for a pandemic-related, no-cost 180-day time extension for charitable filings with both the State Treasurer and Attorney General. This is especially important now, as accountants and other professionals upon whom non-profits rely for report preparation are experiencing heavier workloads due to extensions previously granted to for-profits and individuals. Reflecting the dire financial straits currently experienced by many non-profits, the legislation would also raise the mandatory charities registration audit threshold, which has not been changed since 2011.

We urge you to move forward to provide urgently needed relief to ensure that the non-profit community can continue to provide services and solutions as we address this crisis together.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

Respectfully,

21 Plus, Inc.
4Cs of Passaic County
Alice Paul Institute
Alliance for Morris County Parks
Anti-Poverty Network of New Jersey
ArtPride New Jersey
Arts For Kids Inc.
Atlantic Cape Family Support
Atlantic City Arts Foundation
Atlantic Prevention Resources
Attitudes in Reverse
Bergen County CASA
Boys & Girls Club of Paterson and Passaic
Brookdale Community College Foundation
Burnham Park Association
Buy The Block Enterprises
CAMP Youth Development Program
Capacity Building and Policy Experts, LLC
Caring for Kids
CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) of
New Jersey, Inc.
CASA of Ocean County
CASA SHaW
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton
Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) of Mercer
County
Chosen Generation
Citizens for Sustainable Planning
Color A Smile
Community Access Institute
Community Access Unlimited
Congenital Adrenal hyperplasia Research,
Education & Support Foundation (CARES
Foundation, Inc.)
CONTACT of Ocean & Monmouth Counties
Cornerstone Family Programs
Council of New Jersey Grantmakers
CUMAC
Edison Greenways Group, Inc.
Edison Sheltered Workshop
EJM Foundation, Inc.
Emmanuel Cancer Foundation
Faith Christian Counseling Center, Inc.
Family and Children's Services, Inc. (Elizabeth)
Family Based Services Association of NJ
Family Resource Associates, Inc.

Family Support Org of Bergen County
Family Support Organization of Burlington County
Family Support Organization of Essex County
Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation
Greater Paterson OIC
Grow It Green Morristown
The Growing Stage - The Children's Theatre of
New Jersey
Habitat for Humanity of Bergen County
Hark-ALS, Inc.
Headstrong Teens
The Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey
Helping Arms, Inc.
Highlands Glacial Lake Initiative
Histiocytosis Association
HiTOPS
Holiday Express Inc.
HomeFront
HomeWorks Trenton
Hudson River Apiary Society
Hyacinth AIDS Foundation
Independent Care Realities Inc.
Jeffrey Sobel Consulting
Jewish Family Services of Middlesex County
Jewish Federations of New Jersey
Jewish Renaissance Foundation
Kean University Foundation
The Kintock Group
Lake Hopatcong Foundation
Latin American Legal Defense and Education Fund
The Leavens Foundation, Inc.
The LenGuire Institute of Fashions, Inc.
Literacy Volunteers of Somerset County
Magical Healing
Main St. Counseling Center
Mane Stream
Marie Adelaide Center, Inc.
Middle Earth
Monmouth Arts
The Montclair Foundation
MoveOn.org Hoboken RESIST
Multicultural Community Services, Inc. & The
Family Nurturing Center of New Jersey
My Life Movement
Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company, Inc.
National Educational Network, Inc.

Neighborhood Child & Infant Care Center, Inc.
New Eyes for the Needy, Inc.
New Jersey Association of Community
Providers, Inc.
New Jersey Association of Mental Health and
Addiction Agencies, Inc.
New Jersey Association on Correction
New Jersey Community Capital
New Jersey Community Development
Corporation
New Jersey Future
New Jersey Highlands Coalition
New Jersey Institute for Social Justice
New Jersey Public Health Association
New Jersey YMCA State Alliance
New Jersey Youth Development Foundation
New Life Worship Ministries
New York-New Jersey Trail Conference
Newark, NJ NAACP
NJ Center for Tourette Syndrome and
Associated Disorders
NonProfitConnect
Norwescap
NY/NJ Baykeeper
Ocean's Harbor House
Operation Grow, Inc.
Palestinian American Community Center
Palm Street Block Association Inc.
Partners for Health Foundation
Passaic County CASA for Children
The Passaic River Coalition
Paterson Alliance
Paterson Habitat for Humanity
Pillar College
Preferred Behavioral Health Group
Princeton-Blairstown Center
Pushcart Players, Inc.
Raritan River Music
RENEW Life Center
Rhythm and Blues Preservation Society
Ridge and Valley Conservancy
Roosevelt Community 4 U
Second Call Thoroughbred Adoption and
Placement, Inc.
Shark Research Institute
South Jersey AIDS Alliance

St Francis Feral Cat Sanctuary Org
St. Paul's Community Development Corporation
Stephy's Place Center for Grief and Loss
Studio Montclair
Thonet Associates, Inc.
Trenton Area Soup Kitchen
Turner Syndrome Foundation
Union Chapel Community Development
Corporation
Union City Music Project
United Childrens Music Project
United Community Corporation
United Way of Hunterdon County
USA to Africa Trade Promotion Organization
(UTATPO)
The Valerie Fund
Victoria Foundation
Volunteers of America Delaware Valley
Whippany River Watershed Action Committee
Women of Hope Resource Center, Inc.
WomenRising, Inc.
Women's Rights Information Center
YWCA Northern New Jersey