

Community Newsletter



Partners
for Health
FOUNDATION

Summer 2024

Welcome!

On behalf of the Partners for Health Board of Trustees and team members, welcome to the premier edition of this *Newsletter*, which provides updates on the Foundation's grants and initiatives to advance health equity in the communities we serve.

Partners for Health is focused on the root causes of health disparities, and the promise of justice through policy change, advocacy, and capacity building of nonprofit organizations. We are committed to [these Core Values](#) that guide our journey and hold us accountable to building a more equitable community. Our work is informed by what we learn from our partners and the community, and we invite you to [share comments and suggestions!](#)

- Pam Scott, Executive Director

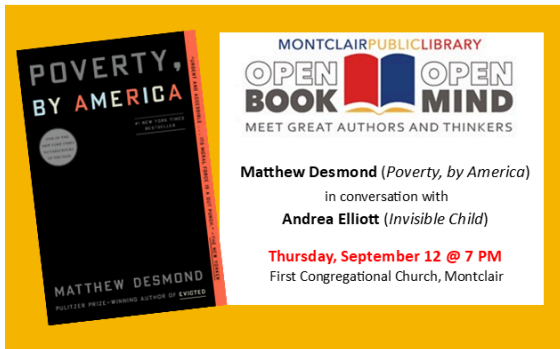
Grants Awarded

In June 2024, the Partners for Health Board awarded grants totaling \$578,090 to address food access, statewide advocacy, mental and behavioral health, and support for accessing health benefits to the following organizations:



- [**Hunger Free New Jersey**](#) - to educate the public and lawmakers about effective ways to fight hunger, and to mobilize grassroots efforts to enact policies and practices to ensure everyone has access to healthy food (3-year general operating grant totaling \$180,000).
- [**New Jersey Citizen Action Education Fund**](#) - for advocacy efforts to increase healthcare access, home ownership, and asset building for low and moderate-income households (2-year general operating grant totaling \$60,000).
- [**Toni's Kitchen**](#) and [**Bethany Center for Champions**](#) – partnering to introduce a community meal service at the Bethany Center in West Orange (1-year project grant of \$28,090).
- [**Meeting Essential Needs with Dignity**](#) - to support MEND's role as the backbone organization of the Food & Health Equity Coalition of Essex County, which is working to address major barriers to food and health equity in the County (1-year general operating grant of \$30,000).
- [**City Green**](#) - for its Veggie Mobile market and farm stand incentives in the Partners for Health service area (3-year project grant totaling \$115,000).
- [**Nutley Family Service Bureau**](#) – to increase the capacity of this mental health and social services agency (2-year general operating grant totaling \$100,000).
- [**YMCA of Montclair**](#) – to fill a funding gap for the Prevent T2 Diabetes Prevention program for individuals who are prediabetic, or those who are at risk for Type 2 diabetes (1-year project grant of \$35,000).
- [**Power of One**](#) - to help build the organization's capacity to serve low-income residents of Clifton, particularly seniors (2-year general operating grant totaling \$30,000).

How to apply for a PFH Grant



Join the Conversation!

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Matthew Desmond will discuss *Poverty, by America*, his #1 New York Times bestseller, with Andrea Elliott, a New York Times journalist and the Pulitzer-winning author of *Invisible Child: Poverty, Survival & Hope in an American City*, on **Thursday, September 12**.

In *Poverty, by America*, Desmond draws on history, research, and original reporting to show how affluent Americans knowingly and unknowingly keep poor people poor. He challenges us individually and as a community to think about what we are willing to give up so that others may thrive. He provides us with new ways to think about poverty, and solutions we can all actively engage in.

This Open Book/Open Mind program will begin at 7:00 PM, and will be held at the First Congregational Church, 40 South Fullerton Avenue, Montclair. Registration is required for this free event.

Co-sponsored by the Montclair Public Library and Partners for Health.

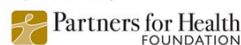
[Register Here!](#)

Power to Heal

Partners for Health sponsored a screening of *Power to Heal*, a documentary that explores the historic struggle for equal and adequate access to healthcare for all Americans, on May 30. The film highlights the pivotal role Medicare played in desegregating thousands of hospitals across the country.



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A panel discussion featured insights from **Barbara Berney, PhD, MPH**, the film's Project Creator-Producer; **Gloria Essoka, PhD, RN**, Distinguished Visiting Professor and Department Chair at Seton Hall University (retired); **Katherine Hempstead, PhD**, Senior Policy Adviser at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; and **Denise V. Rodgers, MD**, Vice Chancellor for Interprofessional Programs at Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences.

The panel was moderated by **Tom Hall**, Co-Head/ Artistic Director of Montclair Film.

[View the Panel Discussion](#)

About Partners for Health

Partners for Health is a community-based organization that works toward a vision of thriving communities ensuring health for all. The Foundation invests in programs, policies and organizations that lead to healthy communities and increased opportunities to thrive. It knows that everyone prospers when the needs of those who experience health inequities are recognized and supported. Through partnering with community organizations, Partners for Health strives to advance health equity through learning, grantmaking and advocacy.

The Foundation awards grants to eligible organizations that provide direct service in Montclair, New Jersey and surrounding communities, including 13 municipalities in Essex County, plus Clifton and Little Falls in Passaic County. It also funds statewide organizations that support local coalitions or advocate for statewide policy change to advance health equity and social justice.

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Partners for Health Foundation | 54 Plymouth Street | Montclair, NJ 07042 US

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