

# A Year of Resilience and Perseverance



2017 ANNUAL REPORT



## our Mission

FPWA promotes the social and economic well-being of greater New York's most vulnerable by advocating for just public policies and strengthening human services organizations.

## our Vision

Our vision for economic equity requires an economic system that enables people to sustain themselves, their families and their communities, and eliminates the injustices and disparities that create and perpetuate poverty.



### A MESSAGE FROM Our CEO and Board Chair

#### Dear Friends,

2017 presented new challenges for those of us working to ensure opportunity, dignity and justice for all people. With the social contract under attack from shifting policy winds, and the mood in the public square growing tense, we asked ourselves, what does it mean to lead during uncertain times?

Our 2017 annual report reflects some of our answers. We redoubled our advocacy efforts to promote—and defend—policies that narrow the economic divide. We fortified our human service and faith-based partners to do their work on the frontlines with excellence and innovation. And we responded to the immediate needs of New Yorkers struggling with poverty.

You—our supporters, coalition partners, allies, and member agencies—have played a critical role. Thanks to your steadfast partnership, FPWA moved the needle on many fronts.

- We helped to secure a nearly \$300 million investment from the City to stabilize the human services sector;
- We secured more than \$5 million in funding from the New York City Council to support workforce development and to lower the barriers to accessing healthcare;
- We began work on a first of its kind interactive online tool to analyze the effect of changes in federal budget and tax policy on New York City's human services;
- And we initiated a new project on the poverty to prison pipeline, undertaking original analysis of the issue and convening a task force to examine how the pipeline can be interrupted in advance of the release of a major report in fall 2018.

Two FPWA initiatives in 2017 sought to strengthen the capacity of the human services sector to do its work. Courageous Conversations trained organizations in integrating a trauma-informed approach into their work. Our Civic Engagement Cohort Training helped organizations to build enhanced capacity to promote civic engagement within the communities they serve.

It is easy to become discouraged or divisive in stressful times. We are reminded of the words of Archbishop Desmond Tutu: don't raise your voice, improve your argument. This year, and every year forward, FPWA is committed to improving the argument for equity and opportunity for all through thoughtful and actionable leadership.

We thank you for your support and partnership.



**Jennifer Jones Austin** CEO and Executive Director



**James March** Board Chair

## **CREATING Groundbreaking Change**

FPWA develops and advocates for policies that dismantle systemic barriers, and drive large-scale policy change to promote economic opportunity and upward mobility for low-income communities.



### **FPWA BY THE NUMBERS**

Strengthened human service organizations by helping to secure \$300 million

in City funding for increased wages and more stable funding. Ensured critical services to millions of older adults by securing **\$23 million** in funding for the

Department of Aging.

Improved employment opportunities for lowincome and immigrant communities through \$4.5 million

in funding from the New York City Council. Connected more underserved New Yorkers to healthcare with **\$1 million** from the City Council.

#### SUCCESSFUL AGING

Nearly 32% of New Yorkers age 65 and over live below or just above the poverty line and rely on critical services just to get by. Yet these services have been chronically underfunded for years. To create a stronger safety net for older adults, FPWA spearheaded the New York City **Campaign for Successful Aging** and secured nearly \$23 million in additional funding so seniors can have maximum independence and live with dignity.

## EXPANDING JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES

FPWA's **Day Laborer Workforce** and **Worker Cooperative Business Development Initiatives** are creating jobs, supporting thousands of entrepreneurs, and providing safe spaces for low-income workers and immigrants. Over 300 jobs have been created through worker cooperatives, nearly 2,000 jobs have been dispatched through day labor centers, and over 3,000 workers have been trained on their legal rights, worker safety, and occupational skills.

#### **ELIMINATING BARRIERS TO HEALTH CARE**

Health care is critical to upward mobility, yet millions of New Yorkers still lack access to quality care or find themselves un- or underinsured. FPWA's **Access Health NYC Initiative** enables community-based organizations to provide culturally and linguistically competent outreach, so all New Yorkers can connect to health care.

#### STRENGTHENING HUMAN SERVICES NONPROFITS

People working on the frontline in human services provide critical—often lifesaving —support for our neighbors every day. As economic disparities in our city have increased, so has their work. Funding, however, has not kept pace.

In response, FPWA co-led **Strong Nonprofits for a Better New York**, a campaign of more than 360 human services organizations from across New York to advocate for critical investments in the sector to strengthen the workforce and ensure adequate funding is provided by New York State to support families and communities in need.

### FEATURE STORY: ABBOTT HOUSE NY



#### VISION

Our purpose at Abbott House is to build promising futures for human beings with complex needs. We've been engaged in this work in the Hudson Valley and New York Metropolitan Area for more than 50 years.

CAMPAIGN SUPPORTED Strong Nonprofits for a Better New York

Krystal started working with troubled youth nearly 20 years ago and became part of Abbott House in July 2013 as overnight staff at one of the homes for young girls. She worked her way up to become the assistant manager and, now, manager. *"These youth are in placement for many different reasons and I am here to help and guide them through the obstacles they face. My job as their House Manager is to support and teach them the tools they need to succeed in life."* Krystal, like many nonprofit workers, is committed to the clients she serves and hopes to continue this work for many years but recognizes the challenges the sector faces. *"It's important that campaigns like Strong Nonprofits for a Better New York advocate for funding and workers in the sector. We are on the frontlines everyday supporting these children, watching them prosper and reach their goals, and stepping in to nurture and guide them through obstacles they face. And just like the youth I advocate for, we also need advocates in our corner."* 

> — Krystal Smith Residence Manager Abbott House NY

## SUPPORTING Nonprofits from the Ground Up

Strong human service organizations and faith-based institutions make for a strong New York. FPWA offers professional development opportunities and grants to these organizations to fortify their core work, enhance leadership, and expand programming. By problem-solving together, we can better meet emerging needs in communities and push for lasting change.



### **FPWA BY THE NUMBERS**

**328** nonprofit and faith-based leaders and staff took advantage of professional development opportunities through FPWA's Center for Leadership Development.

### \$80k in FPWA

Innovation Grants were awarded to organizations for work with underserved constituents, including immigrants, domestic violence survivors, and the formerly incarcerated. **11** organizations participated in FPWA's inaugural civic engagement cohort focused on voter education and registration, and community mobilization. **39** youth trained to identify and advocate for issues that concern their communities through the Youth Empowerment Movement.

#### **CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (CLD)**

FPWA's CLD provides training and technical assistance to strengthen community and faith-based organizations to more effectively drive social change in their communities. In 2017, FPWA realigned its programming to better respond to the needs of our nonprofit membership and to reach new demographics.

#### Courageous Conversations:

Difficulty overcoming trauma is one of the most common barriers for people seeking change in their lives. Yet many staff working with clients have not been trained to integrate a traumainformed approach into their work. FPWA developed the **Courageous Conversations Conference** to address this need and also to teach human services staffers how to work through trauma themselves.

 Civic Engagement: In 2017, voter turnout throughout the five boroughs was just shy of 24%. Unsurprisingly, voter participation is lower in neighborhoods with higher rates of poverty and larger populations of immigrants and people of color. To increase voter turnout in these neighborhoods, FPWA developed the Civic Engagement Cohort. Through this effort, community-based organizations were trained on how to mobilize civic engagement, and underrepresented communities were educated on the census, polling, the importance of voting, and voter registration.

Faith-based Trainings: FPWA is helping faith leaders continue the ground work of combatting poverty and fighting for justice by training ordained individuals on the nuts and bolts of advocacy, with a faith-based lens, through the Faith & Justice Fellowship. Our 2017 cohort consisted of 11 ordained Fellows who developed programs to address urgent issues, including homelessness and housing, disconnected youth, mental health care and access to job training.

#### **INNOVATION GRANTS**

FPWA awards a select number of competitive grants to member organizations each year for projects that will significantly enhance critical aspects of their work or meet urgent community needs. Our most recent round of grants supported work with the most underserved, including domestic violence survivors, formerly incarcerated persons, and immigrant women seeking access to job training. Our grants also supported much needed legal services for vulnerable immigrant populations.

### FEATURE STORY: JACOB RIIS NEIGHBORHOOD SETTLEMENT



#### VISION

The mission of Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement is to build and strengthen underserved communities in Western Queens and to act as a catalyst for change.

PROGRAM SUPPORTED Immigrant Legal Services

"Over the years, the FPWA program grants have allowed Jacob Riis to enhance direct services while expanding our civic engagement and advocacy capacity as well as legal services to immigrant communities. In the past year, pervasive negative rhetoric toward immigrants and growing xenophobia has prompted a high number of immigrants to seek out supportive services, and the demand continues to grow rapidly." Jacob Riis applied for an FPWA program grant to increase the capacity of Riis' Immigrant Legal Services program, which provides services and education to immigrant communities. Currently, Jacob Riis provides four key services: (1) beginner- to advanced-level English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes; (2) case management and support; (3) civic engagement and advocacy activities; and (4) immigration legal services. "These funds allowed Jacob Riis to increase the hours of our attorney and paralegal to conduct project activities, including legal clinics, "Know Your Rights" presentations, legal consultations, and support applications for immigration benefits. From the RFP process through the continued technical support and liaisons, I can't think of a better model, and we simply couldn't do the work at this level without the support and partnership of FPWA."

> — Christopher Hanway Executive Director Jacob Riis Neighborhood Settlement

## **STRENTHENING** Individuals and Families at the Ground Level

Each year, FPWA provides crucial assistance to low-income New Yorkers who are facing catastrophic situations or who are unable to meet their basic needs. Through our membership, which includes child care centers, senior services programs, community health centers, food pantries, after-school programs, and more, we provide direct financial assistance to New Yorkers across all five boroughs. This direct financial assistance to our most vulnerable residents is a core element of FPWA's three-tiered strategy for fighting poverty from the ground up.



### **FPWA BY THE NUMBERS**

Aided 243 families in crises with support for rentals arears, clothing for work, and other critical needs. Brought Christmas joy to **25,000** children through the FPWA annual toy drive. Provided **176** low-income youth with enriching summer camp activities.

Helped to feed thousands

of families across New York City through the Emergency Food and Shelter Program.

#### **COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS**

FPWA helped 14 low-income youth remain enrolled in college and continue the path towards completing their education through the distribution of \$24,000 in college scholarships. Students used the awards for everything from books and to tuition, to food and transportation for the fall and spring semesters.

#### **EMERGENCY GRANTS**

With wages falling behind the increasing cost of living in New York, more families are finding themselves unable to meet basic needs, let alone absorb a crisis or urgent financial matter. FPWA helps families in financial crisis through the distribution of one-time emergency grants. In 2017, FPWA distributed more than \$220,000 in emergency grants to address urgent needs like rental and moving assistance and vocational training.

#### **EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER PROGRAM**

An estimated 1.3 million people in New York City are food insecure, meaning they are unable to regularly access enough food for an active, healthy life. And an estimated 1.4 million New Yorkers rely on food pantries and soup kitchens each year to provide food assistance. FPWA assists families and communities experiencing food insecurity by coordinating and supplying a network of faith-based food pantries and soup kitchens across New York City. This past year, FPWA supplied 38 churches and faith-based institutions with more than \$296,000 in funding to help feed thousands of individuals and families.

#### **SENIOR STIPENDS**

Older adults contribute to our communities in immeasurable ways and serve as a bridge between the past and our future. They also have unique needs and face a variety of challenges, including living on a fixed income and increased medical expenses. To ensure that as people age, they have the resources to do so with dignity in their homes, FPWA provided more than \$90,000 in rental assistance to low-income older adults.

### FEATURE STORY: SCO FAMILY OF SERVICES



#### VISION

SCO Family of Services helps vulnerable New Yorkers build a strong foundation for the future. We get young children off to a good start, launch youth into adulthood, stabilize and strengthen families and unlock potential for children and adults with special needs. SCO has provided vital human services throughout New York City and Long Island for more than 100 years.

### PROGRAM SUPPORTED FPWA College Scholarship

Sarah Slater has been in foster care with SCO Family of Services for the last five years. Despite the challenges of entering foster care at 13 years old, being placed in multiple foster homes, the instability of permanent housing, unreliable foster parents, and academic struggles, Sarah was able to persevere and graduate from high school early, with a top 10 ranking. As a double major in business administration and public relations, Sarah maintains two jobs, one as a residential assistant at her college, SUNY Oswego, and takes 5 courses each semester to stay on track academically. *"I am proof that no matter the situation, a person can excel and make a difference. The FPWA college scholarship provided me the opportunity to be financially fit; covering essential expenses like household items, books, and a summer class so that I can graduate on time. I have my hands full as a double major and having the scholarship gave me the financial freedom to pace myself and invest more time into my studies instead of work." Sarah embodies the FPWA mission and spirit. After graduation she plans to pursue a master's degree in either finance or marketing.* 

— Sarah Slater 2017 FPWA College Scholarship Recipient

### 2017 FINANCIALS Statement of Activities

#### **OPERATING REVENUES AND OTHER SUPPORT**



### 2017 FINANCIALS Statement of Financial Position



## FPWA 2017 Supporters

#### \$500,000+

The New York Times

#### \$100,000-\$499,999

Clark Foundation Ford Foundation

#### \$50,000-\$99,999

Altman Foundation Hagedorn Fund The deKay Foundation

#### \$25,000-\$49,999

American Express Philanthropy G.A. Ackermann Memorial Fund Mary J. Hutchins Foundation, Inc. Samowitz Foundation

#### \$10,000-\$24,999

Charter Communications ConEdison Richard and Barbara Debs JP Morgan Chase & Co. Office of Nonprofit Engagement Lamb Financial Group Mary E. McGarry Charitable Gift Fund Petro Home Services Rose M. Badgeley Residuary Charitable Trust TD Bank The Harbor Lights Foundation The Shubert Organization, Inc.

#### \$5,000-\$9,999

Alexander and Suzanne Rhea Foundation Jacob DeVries May and Samuel Rudin Family Foundation, Inc. Morgan Stanley Foundation Norris Household Jennifer Peterson Shilling (A.) Household Smart Choice Communications

#### \$2,500-\$4,999

Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New York Donald Felix Linklaters LLP MacKay Family Fund of the Community Foundation of New Jersey Craig C. MacKay Marks Paneth & Shron, LLP Stephen Storen Donna Vance

#### \$1,000-\$2,499

Peter Dehaas Robert Giurintano Bernard Gorman Robert Gutheil Henry C. & Karin J. Barkhorn Foundation Bruce E. Hood Emma Jordan-Simpson James March Mercury Public Affairs LLC New York Design Center, Inc. OFS Solutions Protestant Dutch Reformed Church of Flatlands Robert Half International Inc. Samuel Sessions Signature Bank Strauss Paper Company Wendy Van Amson

#### \$500-\$999

Susan Benedict **Robert Bridges** L. Eugene Crowley Henry Darlington Claudia J. Godina Alexandros Hatzakis Richard G. Marcis Elizabeth Peyton Michael H. Reinhardt Eugene Rose Donald C. Ross Patricia J.S. Simpson Sandra Sinclair Phoebe Rentschler Stanton Mitchell G. Taylor Charles W. Wilder



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\* In Memoriam



## FPWA 2017 Member Agencies

Abbott House ACRIA Afro-American Parents Day Care Center Allen Women's Resource Center American Baptist Churches of Metropolitan New York ARC XVI - Fort Washington Argus Community, Inc. Asian Americans for Equality, Inc Avenues for Justice (Andrew Glover Youth Program) **Bailev House** Banana Kelly Community Improvement Association, Inc. Barrier Free Living Bethany Day Nursery Big Brothers/Big Sisters Inc. of NYC Black Veterans for Social Justice BOOM! Health Bronx Bethany Community Corporation Bronxdale Tenants League Day Care Center Brooklyn Kindergarten Society Calvary Fellowship AME Church Caribbean Women's Health Association Carter Burden Network Center Against Domestic Violence Chapin Home for the Aging Children of Promise **Chinese American Planning Council** Chinese Methodist Center Corporation Church of the Holy Trinity - Manhattan Claremont Neighborhood Centers Clergy United for Community Empowerment Clifford Glover Day Care Center, Inc. Colony-South Brooklyn Houses Community Centers Inc. of Greenwich Community Healthcare Network Community Life Center CONNECT NYC Co-op City Baptist Church Council of Peoples Organization Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation Day Care Council of New York, Inc. DeWitt Reformed Church East Harlem Block Nursery, Inc. East Harlem Tutorial Program East Side House, Inc. Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families Escuela Hispana Montessori **Exodus Transitional Community** Forestdale, Inc. Fort Greene Council, Inc. Fort Washington Collegiate Church Friendly Hands Ministry, Inc. Friends of Crown Heights Education Centers Getting Out and Staying Out Goddard Riverside/Lincoln Square Neighborhood Center Goddard Riverside Community Center Grace Congregational Church of Harlem

Grace Episcopal Church, West Farms Graham-Windham Greater Allen Cathedral of New York Green Chimneys Children's Services Greenhope Services for Women, Inc. Greenwich House, Inc. Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church Hamilton-Madison House Harlem Congregations for Community Improvement, Inc. (HCCI) Harlem Dowling-Westside Center For Children & Family Services Harlem RBI Harlem United: Community AIDS Center Hartley House Heights and Hills, Inc. Henry Street Settlement Highbridge Advisory Council Homecrest Community Services Housing Plus Hudson Guild Incarnation Center, Inc. Isabella Geriatric Center Isaiah's Temple of Mt. Hope Spiritual Baptist, Inc Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement Jamaica Service Program For Older Adults lewish Child Care Association (ICCA) Korean American Family Service Center Korean Community Services of Metropolitan New York Lexington Children's Center Lower East Side Family Union Lutheran Social Services of New York Mary McLeod Bethune Day Care Center Mekong NYC Memorial Baptist Church Metropolitan AME Church Mott Haven Reformed Church Mount Hope Housing Company Mount Zion A.M.E Church Mt. Tremper Outdoor Ministries Muslim Women's Institute for Research and Development National Federation of Community Development Credit Unions National Urban Technology Center, Inc New Alternatives for Children New York City Mission Society New York Memory Center New York Therapeutic Communities-Stay'n Out North Bronx National Council of Negro Women Northeast Bronx Day Care Centers Northside Center for Child Development NYC Employment and Training Coalition (NYCETC) Older Adults Technology Services/ OATS One Stop Senior Services Open Door Child Care Center Park Avenue Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care & Rehabilitation

Partnership with Children Penington Friends House Phipps Neighborhoods Prince Hall Service Fund Project FIND PSS **Reality House** Rena Day Care Center Resurrection & Life Pentecostal Church of America, Inc. **Rising Ground Riverstone Senior Life Services** Salvation Army SCAN New York SCO Family of Services Search and Care Service Program for Older People, Inc. Sheltering Arms NY Southeast Bronx Neighborhood Center St. Christopher's St. Luke's Lutheran Church St. Matthew's Community A.M.E. Church of Hollis Stanley M. Isaacs Neighborhood Center Stein Senior Center Steve's Camp At Horizon Farms STRIVE International Sunnyside Community Services Swiss Benevolent Society of NY The Alliance for Positive Change The Bowery Mission The Brotherhood-Sister Sol The Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine The Children's Village The Family Center The HOPE Program The Oliver Scholars Program Trail Blazer Camps Tremont-Monterey Day Care Center, Inc. Trinity Wall Street Union Settlement Association Union United Methodist Church United Community Centers United Methodist City Society and Subsidiaries University Settlement Society of New York Urban Upbound Utopia Children's Center Village Care NY/NAPWA Visiting Neighbors Wakefield Grace United Methodist Church Wartburg Adult Care Community Westchester Tremont Day Care Center Weston United Community Renewal William Hodson Community Center Womankind Women's City Club of New York Women's Prison Association and Home YMCA of Greater New York You Gotta Believe! YWCA of the City of New York YWCA of Yonkers



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