GROTTA
FUND FOR SENIOR CARE
OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OF GREATER METROWEST NJ

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

November 14, 2018
Aidekman Campus, Whippany, NJ

Director's Message
2018 Goals and Achievements
2019 Goals Discussion

Director’s Message

Special Thanks to Outgoing Council Members

- Gary Botwinick
- Emy Hyans
- Fern Kumar
- Nancy Scher

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Welcome New and Returning Council Members

- Jordan Glatt
- Shelley Levine
- Kala Paul
- Barbara Raynor

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Thank You, Cathy Kuttner, outgoing President

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Welcome Roberta Schoenberg, our new President

Thank you to each and every member for all of your efforts on behalf of older adults

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2018 Achievements

- Leadership Succession and New Council Members
- Creation of New Council Member Orientation Booklet
- Creation of First Impact and Sustainability Award
- Ongoing A-F Community Development Initiative-measuring community change, ongoing collaborative funding with HMTF, sharing and learning with grantees and chronicling progress with interviews: Rutgers; more engaged partner, AARP
- New small grants: helping address extreme social isolation using evidence-based programs and common measurements of impact
- Convened grantees to learn and share together, fewer site visits
- Promoted grantee learning at state and national meetings and presenting internationally

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AARP Livable Communities Designation

Elizabeth, South Orange, and Maplewood celebrations

https://tapinto-production.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/articles/im/best_crop_9e13a388865f8dd71115_IMG_9634.jpg?v=c3afb15c67689ad462ae

https://www.tapinto.net/towns/soma/articles/maplewood-and-south-orange-now-part-of-the-aarp-network-of-age-friendly-communities

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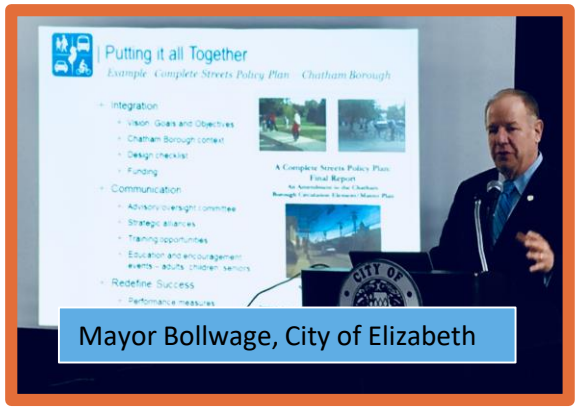
Age-Friendly Community Development Grantees' Achievements



LLE
- Safety vests
- Mapping of transportation options and distribution of 5,000 booklets

Tri-Town 55+
- Continued ride subsidies and advancements with A-F businesses
- Nov 13th, recognition by NJ League of Municipalities

SOMA
- Building on assets, focusing on ALL AGES, making A-F "the way of doing business"
- Newsletters, Community-wide Volunteer fair, NJ's first Repair Café, Transportation and Housing Summits
- A-F Guidelines for Community Events
- New recreation programs for all ages

Plainfield
- Expanded access to food and resources.
- Not continuing with Age-Friendly efforts due to capacity constraints (still engaged in Healthy Plainfield, NJ Health Initiatives funding to improve Plainfield)

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Age-Friendly Comment

"This program has initiated a culture change: it resonates with the general public and is taken seriously because the Mayor and Village President have made it a priority and hired staff to see it through.

Our greatest impact has been letting older residents know they have a voice, they are being heard and they are valued."

-Cathy Rowe, Coordinator SOMA
Two Towns for All Ages

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Age-friendly grantees are working and sharing together without the oversight of the Grotta Fund and HMTF funders (funders are peering in)

Director’s Message

- Spring Cycle 2017-2018- Social isolation and food insecurity
  - Shared learning and desire to continue to learn collectively
  - Continued concern about reliable access to healthy food
- Spring Cycle 2018-2019- Extreme social isolation
  - Engaged council members in evaluating needs and funding themes: housing, extreme social isolation, and elder abuse
  - Full council selection
  - Grantee shared learning session- discussion on common measures and evaluation methods

Groundwork Elizabeth and JFS Central

St James Social Service program

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Grants Completed in 2018

Grotta Fund	Organization/ Agency	Program	$ Funding
Spring 2017-2018	Grant Priorities: Addressing Extreme Social Isolation		
	Greater Newark Conservancy, Newark, NJ	Social Nutrition Program for Seniors in Public Housing – monthly nutritional and social health program for Newark seniors at three Newark senion centers	22,500
	JCC of Central NJ, Scotch Plains, NJ	Social Work for Seniors and Healthy Ideas for Good Mental Health	25,000
	Arts Unbound, Orange, NJ	Arts Ambassador Program	12,000
	JFS SHW, Somerset, NJ	Good Deeds Corporation- Volunteer Program for Older Adults	10,000
	St. James Social Service Corp, Newark NJ	Senior Food Insecurity and Social Isolation Program- pending satisfactory site visit.	22,500
	Groundworks Elizabeth, Elizabeth	Continuing to Grow Together	20,000
	TOTAL		**$ 99,500**
Fall 2017	AFCI Year 2		
	JFS Central, Elizabeth	Lifelong Elizabeth	75,000
	Tri-Town 55 Plus	Tri-Town 55 Plus	75,000
	Township of South Orange So Orange/Maplewood,	SOMA Two Towns for All Ages- pending	75,000
	TOTAL		**$ 225,500**

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Grants Awarded During FY 2018

Grotta Fund	Organization/ Agency	Program	$ Funding
Spring 2018 -2019	**Grant Priorities: Addressing Extreme Social Isolation**		
	NORWESCAP, INC.	Senior Reach Evidence-Based Program Implementation- National Model	35,000
	Connections at Home, Verona	Using Technology to Reduce Social Isolation & Loneliness in Seniors	16,500
	Jewish Family Service of MetroWest NJ, Florham Park, NJ	Healthy IDEAS- Depression Screening and Engagement of Extremely Socially Isolated Older Adults	30,000
	Jewish Community Federation- Joint Chaplaincy Department, Whippany, NJ	Caring Connections- Building Jewish Connections with Older Adults Living in Assisted Living Facilities in the Outer Communities of Greater MetroWest NJ	35,000
	Family Connections Inc. East Orange	"Brighten Your Day" - Relieving Extreme Social Isolation	33,979
	TOTAL		**$ 150,539**
Fall 2018	**AFCI Year 3**		
	JFS Central, Elizabeth	Lifelong Elizabeth	75,000
	Township of South Orange and Maplewood	SOMA Two Towns for All Ages- pending	75,000
	TOTAL		**$ 150,000**

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Special Projects

IMPACT AND SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

To honor excellence, impact and sustainability

- Winner $15,000

Expansion of a model for Communications group and replication into 10 groups in nine NJ counties. Policy work at state level.

Project Description and Impact: Video – https://vimeo.com/290280585
Additional Comments and Information: Video –https://vimeo.com/290279007

- $5,000

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3dU4nUoq1YM&feature=youtu.be

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NEW COUNCIL MEMBER RESOURCE BOOK

Description of the history of the Grotta Fund for Senior Care an Advisory Council of JCF-GMW, role of council members and grantmaking resource guide

https://www.dropbox.com/s/q35h87pmcahe5sw/JFKB52%20Grotta%20Resource%20Guide.pdf?dl=0

GROTTA 100 YEARS Booklet and updated website information

In process…. To be completed in early 2019

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Looking Ahead to 2019

- Orientation of new officers and members
- Guidelines and mission statement review- new ad hoc committee (new Pres. to form)
- Update website and new brochure; streamline internal processes
- Grants Committee:
  - A-F efforts year 4 funding and/or new AF cohort
  - Learning Session in late fall 2019- with Taub and AARP
  - Promote Age-Friendly efforts in the area and throughout NJ
- Oversight Committee:
  - Encourage new/improved reporting methods
  - Schedule and participate in site visits
  - Encourage networking among past grantees and other organizations addressing food insecurity
- Expand education
  - Explore current aging issues and local needs with other agencies
  - Form ad hoc education committee for council member learning
  - Encourage circulation of articles, books, etc.
- Forge new and strengthen existing relationships to promote funding to benefit older adults and increase awareness of ageism:
  - local funders and agencies, CNJG, AARP, Grantmakers in Aging, Rutgers, national funders, other universities and other societies

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A Special Thank You

2018 has been a productive year.

With dedication, courage and vision, we have learned and worked together.

With funds and guidance, we are aiming to aid those most isolated.

And, with our Age-Friendly Initiative we are changing the perception and inclusion of older adults in communities, with intention, respect and dignity.

Thank you all for your time, compassion, willingness to take risks, and most of all for your sincere dedication to the mission of Grotta.

"The longer I live the more beautiful life becomes."

- Frank Lloyd Wright

Current Council Members

Carol Billet-Fessler
Candy Blau
Jeffrey Braemer
Linda Ershow-Levenberg
Jordan Glatt
Joshua Greenfield
Susan Kogan
Cathy Kuttner
Shelley Levine
Kala Paul
Barbara Raynor
Roberta Schoenberg
Judy Siegel
Judith M. Sills, Pharm.D.

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Fun Quotes

- "Your 40s are good. Your 50s are great. Your 60s are fab. And 70 is f*@king awesome!" ~Helen Mirren
- "Of all the self-fulfilling prophecies in our culture the assumption that aging means decline and poor health is probably the deadliest." ~ Marilyn Ferguson
- "Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter." ~Mark Twain
- "Getting old is like climbing a mountain; you get a little out of breath, but the view is much better!" ~Ingrid Bergman
- "In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years." ~Abraham Lincoln
- The way to make the most out of your life is to live every second as fully as possible. Regardless of your situation, you have the opportunity to utilize every moment for growth.

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