

Bio: Joseph Della Fave

Joseph Della Fave served as Executive Director of Ironbound Community Corporation (ICC) for 29 years, retiring at the end of 2019. Previous to this, Joe served as a City Councilman in Hoboken, where he championed landmark affordable housing and anti-displacement legislations, integrity and public participation in government, effective planning and zoning enforcement, and budget transparency and effectiveness; as Chairman of the History Department at St. Peter's Prep, where he also coached basketball; and as a community and union organizer, including as president of tenant and school organizations and as a coordinator of local UFW activities, including traveling with Caesar Chavez around the State.

Currently, Joe serves on the Newark Equitable Growth Advisory Commission where he chairs the Policy and Planning Sub-Committee, as a consultant to Clinton Hill Community Action in Newark, and as the President of the 501 (c) (4) Advocacy arm of the Housing and Community Development Network of NJ. He recently served as Co-Chair of Governor Murphy's Housing Transition Committee.

In his 29 year tenure at ICC, Mr. Della Fave worked to build upon ICC's unique history of direct services and strong organizing and advocacy. He oversaw extensive expansion of programs, services, and facilities as well as successful community initiatives. Of note are the development of a 35,000 square foot state-of-the-art, nationally accredited Birth-5 Early Learning Center; ICC's leadership role in the development of Newark's first Riverfront Park; summer time programs serving more than 1,000 youth; ICC's leadership in policy campaigns leading to Newark legislation, including Inclusionary Zoning, Right to Counsel, and Cumulative Impact/Environmental Justice Ordinances, and our alliance in the development of the City's Civilian Complaint Review Board; the production with our partners of 92 affordable housing units; a community master plan, riverfront plan, and various revitalization and resiliency initiatives; the preservation of Riverbank Park; the development of Down Bottom Farms; ICC's partnership with Table-to-Table and the distribution of fresh produce to 800 families weekly; a free tax program that returned \$25 million to community members; a partnership with RBH that brought Aerofarms to Ironbound; the declaration of ICC centers as community sanctuaries for immigrants; and so much more.

Joe has participated in numerous policy developments, including State preschool programming and budgeting, housing and environmental justice policies, and a New Urban Agenda. He has served on many Boards, including the Housing & Community Development Network of NJ, Healthy Ports Coalition, NJ Citizens Action, Newark Trust for Education, Newark Community Development Network, Newark Early Childhood Coalition, and RWJ Barnabas Greater Newark Community Advisory Board.

Joe's many recognitions include the Key to the City from Mayor Ras Baraka; Lifetime Servant Leadership Award 2020 from RWJBarnabas; 2020 Lester Z. Lieberman Legacy Award for Humanism in Healthcare from The Healthcare Foundation of NJ; LISC Neighborhood Achievement Award 2017; WE ACT (Harlem) for Environmental Justice 2016 Honoree; NJ Future Smart Growth Award 2014; US EPA Environmental Quality Award 2014; United Way William Ashby Community Service Award 2012; Wynona M. Lipman Community Service Award 2010; Paul Robeson Award, GANE 2009; City Council President Mildred Crump Man of Vision Award 2009; Congress of Portuguese American Educators Community Award 2007; LISC Neighborhood Impact Award 2004; and St. Benedict's Prep Celebrating Commitment for Community Leadership and Service 1998.