Your Impact Dollars at Work
A Conversation with Carniesha Kwashie
Director, Job Opportunity Investment Network (JOIN)

JOIN is a public–private partnership among philanthropy, government, community organizations and employers. JOIN invests in, evaluates and advocates for best practices that simultaneously connect the region’s job-seekers to quality jobs earning family-sustaining wages, and businesses to the talent they need to compete in a 21st century global economy.

WHAT MAKES JOIN UNIQUE IN THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SPACE?
We know that the workplace is rapidly evolving. Increasingly, employers are struggling to find talent, even as people are struggling to find work. To us, this mismatch is a clear signal that our workforce system needs to operate differently, and that’s where JOIN comes in. As a convener, JOIN brings a collaborative of funders, employers and community organizations together to leverage the expertise of more than 30 communities across the country to develop and test innovative programs and practices that serve employers, job-seekers and whole communities alike. JOIN then critically evaluates each program and advocates for best practices that maximize its impact.

HOW DOES THIS WORK SUPPORT UWGPSNJ’S GOAL OF ENDING INTERGENERATIONAL POVERTY?
Since its inception in 2008, JOIN and its partners, through investments in United Way’s Impact Fund, have created pathways to job opportunities for more than 4,300 jobseekers and helped meet the needs of more than 100 employers who have hired or trained workers with program support from JOIN.

(CONVERSATION CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE)

TOCQUEVILLE MEMBERS SUPPORT FAMILY STABILITY AND YOUTH SUCCESS
Because of the generosity of our Tocqueville Society members, we raised $31,250 this past spring to expand our Siemer Institute for Family Stability Program into Philadelphia. Additionally, these contributions will be fully matched by the Siemer Family Foundation, resulting in more families achieving stable housing and more children receiving the support they need to succeed in school. Thank you to those who answered the call! As this two-generation program takes root in the city and grows in reach and scope, you will see periodic updates about its impact on local families. If you are interested in partnering with us to break the cycle of poverty in Philadelphia and across our region or want to learn more about this initiative, contact Dana Wiley at 215-665-2672 or dwiley@uwgpsnj.org.

SAVE THE DATE
We hope to see you at our upcoming events!

Share Food Program Holiday Family-Friendly Impact Tour & Volunteer Event
Friday, December 15, 2017
3:00 PM–5:00 PM

LEADERS LEAD SERIES
Camden: Investing in the Future
Monday, February 26, 2018
7:30 AM–9:00 AM

PHS Flower Show Reception
Wednesday, March 7, 2018
5:30 PM–7:30 PM Reception
Flower Show Viewing through 9:30 PM

2018 Women United Gala
Honoring Mindy Holman
Wednesday, March 21, 2018
5:00 PM Networking Reception
6:30 PM Dinner

Women United Breakfast & Panel Discussion
Wednesday, April 11, 2018
7:30 AM–9:00 AM

LEADERS LEAD SERIES
The Economy: A Conversation
Friday, May 18, 2018
7:30 AM–9:00 AM

Event details as of date of publication.

FOR EVENT UPDATES, VISIT: unitedforimpact.org

TO REGISTER AND FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT US AT tocquevillesociety@uwgpsnj.org or 215-665-2448.
TOCQUEVILLE SOCIETY MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Orlando Esposito
Executive Vice President and Head of Asset Management,
PNC Bank

ABOUT ORLANDO ESPOSITO
- Loyal Contributor for more than 35 years
- Leadership Volunteer for nearly 30 years
- 2017–18 Chair, Campaign Cabinet
- Member, Regional Board of Directors, Resource Development Committee, Finance Committee, Tocqueville Council

AS A LEADER IN OUR COMMUNITY AND MEMBER OF UNITED WAY’S TOCQUEVILLE COUNCIL, WHAT EXCITES YOU ABOUT CHAIRING THIS YEAR’S CAMPAIGN?
I know firsthand the power that leadership giving has to ensure critical services are available when residents need them most and to support innovative programs that uplift local communities. I am 100% supportive of United Way’s holistic approach to ending intergenerational poverty—ensuring children succeed in their early years, connecting youth to school and work opportunities and helping individuals and families get the resources they need to become self-sufficient. Chairing this year’s Campaign Cabinet and inspiring local businesses and employees to support this worthy cause is an honor.

WHAT ARE YOUR INTERESTS AND Passions Related to Your Support of UNITED WAY’S Impact Fund and Ending Poverty in Our Region?
Access to quality education for all is very important to me, and research has shown its strong correlation to success in life. Because of the Impact Fund, United Way’s diverse nonprofit partners can receive much-needed resources, build their capacity through opportunities like trauma-informed care training and enable results-based accountability. Because of this support, education providers can deliver stronger services to children across our region, giving more children the opportunity to succeed.

“I want other corporate and business leaders to know that United Way is not just a funder. It convenes critical cross-sector and top statewide community, government and philanthropic leaders…”
— ORLANDO ESPOSITO

WHAT’S YOUR VISION FOR UWGPSNJ’S TOCQUEVILLE SOCIETY?
Through my years with United Way, I have personally observed the organization’s unique “value-add,” which separates it from other nonprofits in our community. I want other corporate and business leaders to know that United Way is not just a funder. It convenes critical cross-sector and top statewide community, government and philanthropic leaders, such as the Pre-K for PA initiative working group, which has achieved many gains in advocating for quality early childhood education for all.
Leadership… Service… Community

Philadelphia African American Leadership Forum

On June 15, UWGPSNJ celebrated the accomplishments of the first cohort of graduates from the inaugural five-month professional development series of the Philadelphia African American Leadership Forum (PAALF). The PAALF is a network of African American leaders committed to improving the quality of life and life chances for the Philadelphia area’s African American community. This program was supported by the Impact Fund and held in partnership with the Philadelphia Foundation, the Urban League of Philadelphia and the Nonprofit Executive Leadership Institute of Bryn Mawr College.

Top: Pictured left to right: Nikia Owens, Katrina Pratt-Roebuck, Ceciley Bradford-Jones and Markita Morris-Louis
Bottom: Pictured left to right: Kavita Goyal, Greg El, Margie DuBrow and Shira Badanes

2017 Young Leaders Board Orientation Program

The 2017 Young Leaders Board Orientation Program (YLP) concluded in May, boasting more than 50 graduates. YLP is an annual leadership development program for young professionals under 40 to gain knowledge and skills for effective nonprofit board service. This program is generously supported by Stradley, Ronon, Stevens & Young, LLP.

Above: Attendees enjoy the YLP Agency Fair

United2Feed

Each year, more than 750,000 families in our region struggle with food insecurity. On June 1, through UNITED2FEED, more than 600 employee volunteers and 26 sponsors, including CSL Behring, took action against our region’s hunger crisis. Eight thousand emergency food boxes were packed, which fed 32,000 individuals in our region.

Above Left: Tocqueville Society Member Dave Smeltzer, Aqua America, Inc. (right)
Above Right: Tocqueville Society Member John Walsh, UGI Corporation/AmeriGas
Leadership...Service...Community
(Continued from inside)

Ready, Set, Mentor

On May 23, more than 20 executive and C-suite women met with Women’s Leadership Initiative Next Generation (WING) members to impart their advice on career advancement and success.

Top: Tocqueville Society Member Charisse Lillie, CRL Consulting, LLC
Bottom: Tocqueville Society Member Sandy Pfeffer, Deloitte LLP

Golf Outing

On June 19, Tocqueville Society members and others hit the links and raised more than $170,000 for the Impact Fund.

Above: Pictured left to right: Tocqueville Society Member Nick DeBenedictis, Aqua America, Inc. (retired); Charlie Pizzi; Tocqueville Society Member Jim Cawley, Temple University; and Tocqueville Society Member Tom Traia, FS Investments

(CONVERSATION CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE)

And JOIN’s work continues. In order to expand opportunity across our region, JOIN is changing the rules and removing the obstacles that prevent people and businesses from realizing their full potential. In the next decade, JOIN has ambitious goals. One key focus is integrating social equity and diversity initiatives into all JOIN programs. To end intergenerational poverty, JOIN will work to ensure there is equal opportunity for all, and by supporting an inclusive workforce, will drive the regional and national economy forward.

HOW CAN THE TOCQUEVILLE SOCIETY PLAY A MEANINGFUL ROLE IN ADVANCING JOIN’S WORK IN THE COMMUNITY?

As JOIN’s director, I think about how my early volunteer experience in Washington, D.C. confirmed that I wanted to dedicate my career to helping people who live in poverty. As the late James Baldwin stated, “Anyone who has ever struggled with poverty knows how extremely expensive it is to be poor.” I know what it’s like to live in poverty, and having access to career exposure opportunities was life-changing for me. I want to make it possible for more young people to have similar transformational experiences. If you have a connection to a career exposure opportunity you would like to share, please contact the Major Gifts team at tocquevillesociety@uwgpsnj.org or 215-665-2448.

CAN YOU SHARE YOUR FAVORITE SUCCESS STORY?

Joyce Bacon, a single mother of four, was laid off and unsure of her options. Through JOIN and its partner, University City District’s West Philadelphia Skills Initiative, Joyce enrolled in a program that led to a job at CHOP. She was the first graduate to secure employment there and was quickly promoted. Today, Joyce works full-time at the West Philadelphia Skills Initiative, sharing her experiences and providing inspiration to others.