

Public Interest: Philanthropy, Education and Accountability

Tony Carrizales
Editor-in-Chief

Andrew I. E. Ewoh
Managing Editor

The *Journal of Public Management and Social Policy* begins its eighteenth volume by examining various issues that are underscored by the public interest. There is a variety of topics covered in this opening issue of the eighteenth volume, these topics come to reflect critical areas of research for public management and social policy with a critical awareness for a role in the interest of the public. We look for this particular issue of *JPMSP* to further the ongoing discussion on these topics. These topics range from philanthropy to performance management and accountability. Some underscoring themes found in this issue's articles include housing and human services. Overall, the issue brings together three general articles and a case review article.

The opening article, "Philanthropic Social Ventures: A Framework and Profile of the Emerging Field," authored by Holona LeAnne Ochs, outlines a framework for understanding venture philanthropy in the United States. Ochs provides a profile of the characteristics of philanthropic social ventures that have their base of operations in the United States and describes the legal environment in which they operate.

Kathryn Kloby examines education reform law in the State of New Jersey in the article, "Lost in Translation: Exploring Stakeholder Perceptions of Accountability." Kloby compares the reform requirements from the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) to the realities of implementation, state and local administrators and teachers asking to consider what is critical for accountability in public education.

In the third article, "Uncovering the Role of Public Sector Employee Associations in Addressing Issues of Diversity and Representation," Jared J. Llorens presents an overview of the role of public sector employee associations. As Llorens points out, these associations function as "shadow" advocates of representation and diversity in public sector employment.

In the final article, Mary Eleanor Wickersham examines the relationship between performance measurement and organizational missions in “At What Price Progress? When Performance Improvement is All That Matters.” As Wickersham notes in this case review, “Improperly translated and communicated, performance goals can become the mission, derailing the original purpose of the quality improvement activities.” This can lead to a higher risk for declines in employee morale, unethical behaviors to meet unrealistic goals, a decline in creativity, and, in some instances, organizational failures.

As always, we would like to offer sincere thanks to our committed editorial board, reviewers, and staff for their continued work. Lastly, we would like to thank our contributors for considering *JPMSP* as an outlet for their research.