

Editor's Introduction

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This new issue of *Journal of Public and Nonprofit Affairs* offers six research articles and one new voices article covering a variety of relevant and timely topics. Those articles are introduced below, starting with Lee's (2024) new voices article.

Cross-sector collaboration has gained prominence as governments, private corporations, and nonprofit organizations work to address complex challenges. Lee (2024) discusses the gap in the public administration literature regarding cross-sector collaboration in addressing social and financial issues and the need for enhancing public budgeting practices through cross-sector collaboration in equity, transparency and accountability, and ethics. He concludes by discussing how each sector can use collaborative governance theory to increase public trust and place a greater emphasis on inclusivity in the budgeting process.

Gaps between community service demands and available resources for nonprofits widen during economic recessions, often compelling financially vulnerable nonprofits to reduce their services or activities. Kim et al. (2024) uses a longitudinal analysis to assess the relationship between environmental factors, nonprofits' financial health, and the role of the Great Recession of 2008 on their relationship. Their findings indicate that nonprofits' financial health and resilience are influenced by county-level environmental factors such as service demand and available resources, with the impact of economic recessions being particularly severe in vulnerable communities.

In addition to individual predisposition and lifestyle choices, a person's health is shaped by several modifiable factors known as the social determinants of health (SDH). Community Health Centers (CHCs) attempt to influence these social determinants at community and population levels. Fursova and Kranias (2024) analyze the reporting requirements and evaluation practices in two urban CHCs to analyze their relationships between accountability, reporting, evaluation, and governance. Their results indicate imbalances between funder-oriented functional accountability and goals of obtaining social justice and health equity. They conclude by presenting a holistic accountability framework to foster equitable power dynamics, enhance participatory evaluation, and align CHC governance and knowledge production with health promotion objectives.

Transnational NGOs (TNGOs) assert that they represent and advocate for diverse communities, yet the composition and practices of their governing boards may not reflect their commitments to inclusive governance. Mitchell et al. (2024) investigate the gap between rhetoric and practice through evaluating the composition of the boards of leading TNGOs in the United States, identifying inclusive and traditional board types. Their findings show associations between inclusive board types and commitments to diversity, equity, and inclusion, and no association between these commitments and traditional board types. They

conclude by presenting recommendations for additional research to support reforms of TNGO governance.

Homeownership is a cornerstone of financial stability, offering families a sense of security and long-term investment potential. Jayswal et al. (2024) investigate how financially assisted homeownership influences life satisfaction among Iowa Heartland Habitat for Humanity home recipients. They develop and evaluate a holistic model using homeownership as the independent variable, assessing direct impacts on life satisfaction and incorporating its impact through mediating variables such as financial well-being, current health, and psychological well-being. Their findings reveal a relationship between life satisfaction and homeownership through Iowa Heartland Habitat for Humanity, amplified by the mediating variables.

Communities often turn to nonprofits for assistance during a crisis due to their vital role in the provision of services; however, these organizations often face funding challenges during periods of uncertainty. Hoang et al. (2024) analyze nonprofit response tactics during the COVID-19 pandemic using a sample of medium- and small-sized nonprofits in the Midwest. Their results indicate that nonprofits' response tactics are often influenced by their financial position, with nonprofits possessing greater financial capacity more likely to adopt strategic response tactics. They conclude by emphasizing the importance of understanding the link between nonprofit financial health and their response strategies.

As citizen-based collaboration gains traction in addressing environmental issues, limited attention has been given to the underlying motivations driving citizen participation. Weber et al. (2024) examine case studies of citizen-based environmental collaborations to explore what motivates citizens to participate in these partnerships. Their findings reveal that a strong sense of place plays a fundamental role in driving participation. They introduce the concept of "BIMBY" (Because it's My Backyard) to highlight the place-based motivations behind citizens' involvement in ecosystem restoration within their communities. They conclude by discussing the importance of incorporating value-based motivations into stakeholder analyses to enhance collaboration outcomes.

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