



# AGA Northern New Jersey Chapter

## *A Report to Our Citizens 2016-2017*

### Our National Organization

Founded in 1950, the Association of Government Accountants (AGA), formerly known as the Federal Government Accountants Association (FGAA) supports the careers and professional development of government finance professionals working in federal, state, and local governments as well as the private sector and academia. Through education, research, publications, certification and conferences, AGA reaches thousands of professionals and provides more than 100,000 continuing professional education (CPE) hours annually. AGA is located in Alexandria, Virginia.

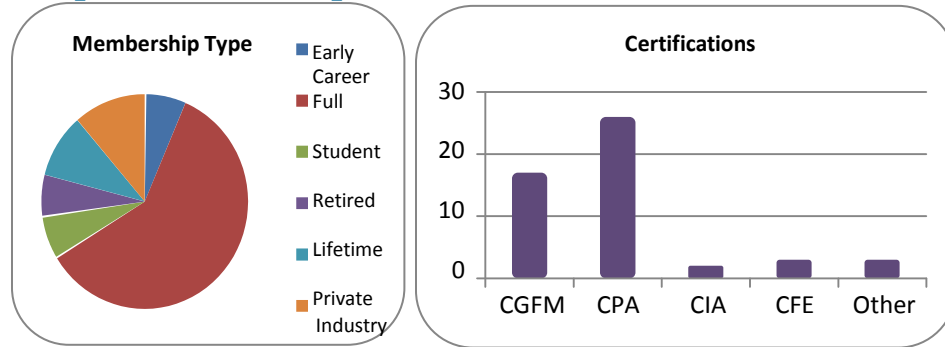
### Our Local Chapter

Seeing a need for a local chapter that would benefit accountants and auditors in the Northern New Jersey area, a few dozen members of the New York Chapter signed a petition requesting that the Northern New Jersey Chapter be established. Our Chapter was the 65th Chapter chartered by The Association under the old FGAA. The purpose of the Northern New Jersey AGA Chapter is to be a professional organization dedicated to the advancement of government financial management in the Northern New Jersey area. The Association serves its members by providing or sponsoring



appropriate educational programs, encouraging professional development, and serving as an advocate for the profession. About 35% of the Northern New Jersey Chapter members are Federal employees.

### Chapter Membership Information



### Chapter Awards

Since 2006, our chapter has been recognized as *Achieving our Chapter Recognition Goals*. We have previously been recognized as a *Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum Chapter*. We are a strong chapter nationally. During the 2017 Professional Development Training Conference in Boston (PDT), our President received a *Gold Chapter Recognition Award!* The second highest award given by the National Association! Our Chapter has also been recognized for the Group D including Chapter Education, Chapter CGFM and Chapter Accountability and Transparency Awards. Way to Go!!!



### Table of Contents

<i>General Information</i>	1
<i>Our Focus</i>	2
<i>Our Finances</i>	3
<i>What's Next?</i>	4

### Chapter Vision Statement

*The Northern New Jersey Chapter strives to be the voice of Advancing Government Accountability in **government** by providing through chapter **executive** committee participation, education at reasonable prices to maintain and achieve certification, outreach to students and early career government financial managers, and giving back to the local community.*

### AGA Mission Statement

*AGA serves government accountability professionals by providing quality education, fostering professional development and certification, and supporting standards and research to advance government accountability.*

# Our Focus

We value...

- Integrity..... Foster the highest professional standards of ethical conduct and behavior.
- Excellence..... Strive for the highest level of professional performance and continuous improvement.
- Accountability... Maintain and advance sound fiscal and operational practices.
- Leadership..... Be proactive and innovative in directing our activities.
- Respect..... Treat everyone fairly and with dignity.
- Service..... Attend to the needs of our members, the government financial sector and community.

- ✓ **We strive to carry out the national strategic goals.**
- ✓ **We bring together professionals to exchange information at educational meetings.**
- ✓ **We provide quality education by hosting a yearly Professional Development Training (PDT).**
- ✓ **We foster professional development and certification by offering scholarships and leadership opportunities.**
- ✓ **We give back to the community by participating in raising money for worthy causes.**
- ✓ **We also know how to have fun by hosting a few social events throughout the year.**

Our chapter has a great 50-year history, and we want to encourage early career individuals to get involved with AGA to keep our chapter strong for the future. We are planning to recruit early-career members for our Chapter Executive Committee next year.

In addition to preparing this member-centric report for our chapter, we want to encourage other entities in our area to prepare citizen-centric reports. We plan to work with other entities to help them prepare a report to their constituents.



# Our Finances

## Revenues and Expenses

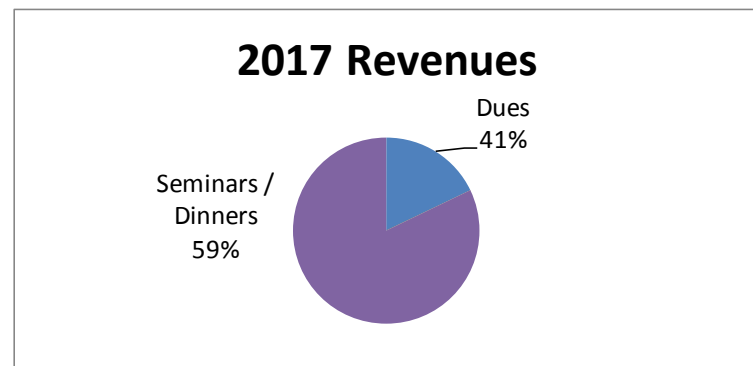


*What are the costs for servicing the chapter's members and how are those costs paid?*

### Revenue by Source (unaudited)

Of the \$607 in total revenue in FY 2017, 59 percent is made up of meeting and seminar fees, and the remaining 41 percent is made up of chapter dues. In an effort to increase attendance at dinners or events, we subsidized fees.

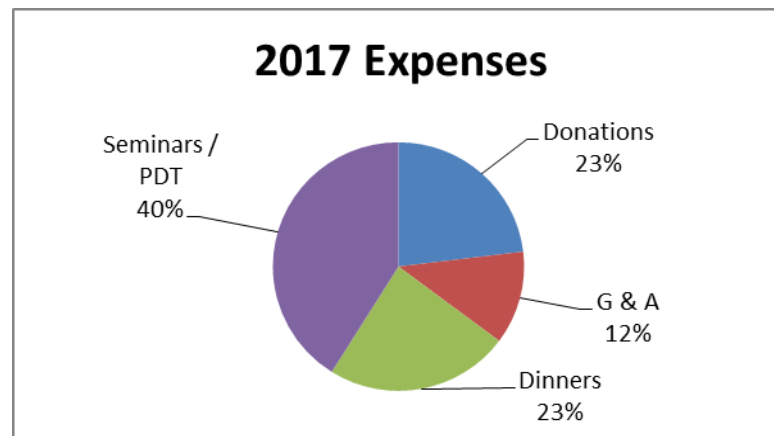
	2016	2017
Chapter Dues	\$ 264	\$ 247
Meetings / Seminar Fees	1,215	200
Dinners (Events)	0	160
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 1,479</b>	<b>\$ 607</b>



### Expenses by Area (unaudited)

Of the \$1,763 in expenses in FY 2017, 63 percent is made up of meeting and seminar fees, and another 23 percent is made up of donations.

	2016	2017
Donations	\$ 200	\$ 400
General & Administrative	185	210
Meetings / Seminars / PDT	1,981	712
Dinners (Events)	350	441
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 2,716</b>	<b>\$ 1,763</b>



# What's Next

## *Challenges Moving Forward*

The Northern New Jersey Chapter is continuously looking to be creative by introducing college students and early career members to the AGA. We are looking for involvement by early career members as well as students on our Board or on various committees. As a relatively small chapter we will continue to provide quality education to the community and provide donations and volunteer effort to various charities within the Northern New Jersey and surrounding area. During these tough economic times, we plan on providing seminars and meetings at a very reasonable cost to the professionals, students and retirees within the accounting field. Our Challenges in detail are shown below.

### Membership Retention

Over the past few years we have seen our membership numbers decrease. It is our challenge to develop programs that will convince former members to rejoin and attract young professionals.

### Education

Identifying and scheduling quality speakers for the various educational events can pose a challenge. As budgets get tighter, it is important to show that our educational activities are timely, relevant, and economical training opportunities.

### Leadership Position Opening

While we have been successful in recruiting many young professionals to leadership positions, our Chapter President serves a two year term instead of a one year term. We would like to go back to a one year Presidential term in the future.

### Location, Location, Location

Since our Chapter encompasses the Northern New Jersey area, and a portion of our membership works in New York, there is no true downtown area to have meetings. We tend to have more meetings during the evening hours rather than around lunch time. Our Chapter holds seminars in Newark, and meetings in Fair Lawn, Garwood or Lyndhurst, NJ.

### 2016 – 2017 Chapter Officers

Joseph Connolly, CICA, President; David Gotlib, President Elect; Israel Maya, Immediate Past President; Hussein Issa, Director of Accountability; Gwen Jackson, CPA, Treasurer; Eric Elefante, CPA, CGFMFE, MBA, Director of Membership; Albert Giacchetti, CGFM, Director of Education; Irfan A. Bora, CGFM, Director of Professional Certification; Michael Nicholson, Director of Marketing under Communication, Michael Rinaldi, Secretary; Melissa Gotlib, Director of Community Service; Dwight Fu, Director of Early Careers; Sid Slifer, CPA, Director of Special Events; Michael Rinaldi, Director of By-Laws and Procedures; Ed Haag, Director of Industry Liaison.

### We Would Like to Hear From You

Do you like this report? Would you like to see other information? Please let us know by contacting David Gotlib, Director of Accountability at 973-724-4118 or visit our website at: [6www.agacgfm.org/northernnewjersey](http://www.agacgfm.org/northernnewjersey)

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[www.agacgfm.org/northernnewjersey](http://www.agacgfm.org/northernnewjersey)