## BUSINESS

## People & Business: Friday, September 7

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## **Embracing Our Differences** Welcomes New Board Member



Larry Lev, a leader in the national YMCA movement, brings his skills in community service, fundraising, and implementing creative strategies in awareness-building to the EOD board.

Dennis McGillicuddy, co-founder and board chair of Embracing Our Differences, recently announced that the organization

has welcomed Larry Lev to its board.

Before retiring in 2015, Larry Lev served as senior vice president and COO of Metropolitan YMCA of the Oranges (2009-2015), New Jersey's largest YMCA association, boasting six branches, and a workforce of more than 1,000. During Lev's tenure, the association grew from a budget of \$23 million to \$32 million. In his gamechanging term as president and CEO of the YMCA of the Palms in Naples (2006-2009), the annual campaign increased from \$360,000 in 2005 to \$829,000 in 2008. He also raised \$2.5 million for a project that transformed a museum facility into new child development center. In all, Lev spent 47 years with the YMCA in locations around the country and the world.

The Embracing Our Differences board of directors includes Dennis McGillicuddy, chair; Graci McGillicuddy, vice-chair; Richard Bergman, secretary/treasurer; and Larry Lev, John Weber, and Chief Judge Charles E. Williams. The board wishes to acknowledge the passing of one of its founding members Carol Poteat-Buchanan (1929-2018), a celebrated philanthropist, education advocate, and beloved champion of human rights.