

SHA Membership Meeting
April 3, 2019
Mary Roebling Building, Trenton NJ

1. Meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Board of Trustee Member, Melody Federico. Melody thanked attendees for coming. Everyone introduced themselves around the room by name and affiliation. 80 people were in attendance representing housing developers, supportive services providers, advocates, government representatives, corporate vendors and families.
2. Minutes of the February 2019 meeting were approved. Motion: Krystal Odell (Pennreach) motioned; Tom Beyer (CORT) second. Minutes were unanimously approved.
3. Melody thanked CORT furniture for sponsoring the breakfast and networking hour. Dominic Sardilli Dominic.Sardilli@cort.com from CORT furniture gave an overview of the services CORT provides. The organization's strengths are short delivery, quick set up and partnership with clients. CORT has been a stable business presence for 40 years with a strong ethical ethos, an ideal partner for non-profits. CORT is actively interested in the mission of its customers.
4. Maria Mai-Messano, Director of NJ State Office for the US Dept. of Housing Urban Development (HUD) gave a brief overview that reflected on April as Fair Housing Month. April is the 51st anniversary of the Fair Housing Act. Maria shared stories and reasons for the Fair Housing Act which was to ensure housing regardless of disabilities, religion, gender, race, etc. Maria focused on the progress made and progress needed as the importance of all gathered in reaching out to help those in marginalized and needy communities to get access to housing, especially supportive housing.
5. Jeff Mahalik, jeff.mahalik@schooleymitchell.com gave an overview on Schooley Mitchell, SHA's newest member. The brief presentation introduced the membership to opportunities to increase profits, add security, reduce costs and provide efficiency gains for any business. Cost reduction areas include telecom, shipping, inventory etc. A risk-free review is available that could identify practical saving solutions at no cost. Visit [Schooley Mitchell](#) for more info.

6. Renee Burawski, Chief of Staff, and Harry Reyes, Assistant Division Director, the Dept. of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) renee.burawski@dhs.nj.gov and Harry.Reyes@doh.state.nj.us gave an update. In mid-February Commissioner Carole Johnson announced that the Community Support Services (CSS) program would stay in contract until June 2020. This is after a time study and focus groups revealed that major changes to the program as envisioned would have to occur in order to ensure services to clients and economic viability to agencies. The department has retained the services of consultants through the Center for Health Care Strategies (CHCS). A working group will be formed to include consultants, division staff and agencies. The goal will be to redesign the program to include a viable payment mode and streamline the program. CHCS has had extensive experience working with other states. The timeline will include implementation of the program by July 2020. Harry reported that to date, all 40 providers have been visited. Given the recent announcements, a number of RFP's will be pulled back and re-released with a 12 month funding timeline. At the end of March, an RFP was posted for three pilot programs (North, Central, and South Jersey) that will provide Recovery Housing Services to Adults with Opioid Use Disorders who are at risk of homelessness. A second RFP to provide Supportive Housing with case management services to adults with Opioid Use Disorders who are at risk of homelessness was also released. <https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmhas/provider/funding/#1> Harry to continue holding CSS calls for the foreseeable future but consideration will be given to adjust away from biweekly calls.
7. Diane Riley, Executive Director gave a brief update highlighting the new videos and resources posted to the Housing Hub on the SHA website. Planning is also underway for the annual SHA Conference on December 6, 2019. Members were encouraged to get involved.
8. Steve Schoch former board of trustee member will helm a SHA strategic planning process along with current board member Melody Federico. Steve presented a Venn diagram exercise that would help the board determine the current membership's primary areas of focus. The diagram included overlapping circles with areas of Housing Development, Advocacy, Family

Networking, Service etc. Members were encourage to pick a major and several minor areas of interest. The Board of Trustees will use the data in this and other exercises to help develop SHA goals and initiatives over the coming years.

9. The morning presentation titled “Getting to Know DCA’s Community Asset Mapping Tool” featured Tom Stanuikynas, and Keith Henderson from Local Planning Services within the Department of Community Affairs. Keith kicked off the presentation with a review of the scope of Local Planning Services (LPS), an office within DCA, established to work with communities to achieve local land use and planning goals. As Part of DCA’s commitment to provide technical assistance to municipalities, the professional planning staff offers comprehensive planning services at no cost to local governments. LPS has been involved with more than a dozen municipal master/redevelopment plans over the last few years (see presentation). In response for the need for data to encourage and facilitate Opportunity Zone investment, LPS has developed an interactive mapping tool that can help users gain a better understanding of the characteristics within NJ communities and the resources already deployed in those areas. Valuable economic, local planning, environmental, workforce statistics, and land uses can be displayed along with other state special designations and incentives, some of which can be seen at the parcel level. Tom gave an interactive demo that illustrated the ease of use and robust nature of the tool. Far from the original intent, the tool provides a great resource for any community in public or private service and development planning.
10. Deborah Cornavaca Deborah.cornavaca@nj.gov Deputy Chief of Staff for Outreach, Office of the Governor gave a brief overview of the Governor’s priorities in the 2020 budget. She began with a reminder of the economic reality in the state of NJ. Under the previous administration NJ received 11 credit downgrades. The state gave away more incentives and yet NJ still lags in recovery from 2008. There is a need to right the ship and get away from one shot budget gimmicks to balance the budget and invest in infrastructure. The investment includes focusing on improvements for middle class families, incrementally building a rainy day surplus and fulfilling public sector payments. Of particular

importance to SHA members is the intention for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund (about \$60 million) to be directed back to development (as originally intended). Ms. Cornavaca also stressed the importance of increased revenue through a millionaire's tax.

11. Break for Boxed Lunches.
12. Diane Riley introduced Greg Woods, Chief Innovation Officer, Office of Medicaid Innovation, NJ Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS). As Chief Innovation Officer, Greg is tasked with improving the quality, delivery and cost of care within the Medicaid program. Greg began by sharing his background and a few words about his expectations for the coming year as he begins this new role within the Division. Much of the formal presentation was instructing breakout groups as Mr. Woods elaborated on the following clarifying questions:
 - a. What outcomes do you believe are most important for consumers of supportive housing?
 - b. How can these outcomes be effectively measured or assessed?
 - c. What are the key barriers preventing the achievement of these outcomes?

A vigorous and thoughtful discussion followed which revealed many important needs and areas to address among them: better and more comprehensive information sharing, asset allocation, and effective coverage of larger, long-standing concerns. Some of the ideas include telehealth and technology helping to address current needs. As the 6 groups went around and shared their insights, their cards were gathered and will be documented and given to Mr. Woods.

12. All presentations are available:
<http://www.shanj.org/members/meeting-presentations>
13. The meeting concluded at 1:30 PM. Next meeting of the SHA membership is scheduled for Wed, June 5, 2019
14. SHA Advocacy and Policy Committee met after the membership meeting. Next committee meeting is Mon, July 1st at 2:30 by phone call.

Submitted by Diane Riley, Executive Director