

SHA Membership Meeting
October 2, 2019
Mary Roebling Building, Trenton NJ

1. Meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Board of Trustee Member, Jackie Ross. Jackie thanked attendees for coming. Everyone introduced themselves around the room by name and affiliation. 65 people were in attendance representing housing developers, supportive services providers, advocates, government representatives, corporate vendors and families.
2. Minutes of the August 2019 meeting were approved. Motion: Barbara Coppens (DRNJ) motioned; Renee Koubiadis (APN) second. Minutes unanimously approved.
3. Diane introduced the first presentation by guests Matt Hersh from the Housing and Community Development Network of NJ (HCDNNJ) mhersh@hcdnnj.org and Tonia Ahern from the Mental Health Association of NJ (MHA) tahern@mhanj.org. Matt and Tonia discussed the importance of advocacy and forming geographically located advocacy teams to give local residents a voice in self-empowerment, policy planning and organizing efforts.
HCDNNJ has organized grass roots efforts based on local area concerns. For example, the Passaic Team is focused on lead in the drinking water while the Monmouth Team is focused on the preparing for possible opportunities around affordable housing trust fund. The Union County Team is working to make sure municipalities meet their fair share housing requirements. In the southern part of the state, three counties formed a Tri-county team to focus on homelessness. Attendees asked whether any teams were focused on 55+ communities (not at this time) or environmental concerns. Conservation is ongoing but there is not as yet a concerted effort by any team. But groups like Fair Share Housing are part of flood plain map discussions. Matt reminded everyone to attend the HCDNNJ Housing Conference on October 18th at the Hyatt in New Brunswick.
Tania Ahern (MHA) trains advocacy teams made up of people with lived experience with mental health and addiction issues specifically on how to tell their stories. Talking about solutions and wellness aids in their ongoing recovery and also helps

- provide a foundation for policy and legislative changes. As an example, teams work on including stories in impact statements for legislation. Legislative guidance is provided by National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD). The Overdose Prevention Act is a current focus. Teams meet quarterly. Parity is another focus. Mental Health and Addiction must be treated as every other illness.
4. Diane introduced the first guest: Patrick Boyle, Budget and Housing Director for the Division of Developmental Disabilities Patrick.Boyle@dhs.state.nj.us Patrick reported that the division is focused on increasing capacity for services offering more choice for consumers. Agencies are transitioning to the fee for service and away from contracts. Supportive Housing Connection (SHC) manages rental subsidies. Under contract agencies were paid for housing and services. Fee for service has split the two allowing more choice for consumers and increased capacity for services. As of June more than 9,900 individuals on the CCP converted to FFS and more than 9,500 individuals on the SP converted to FFS. Patrick took questions as follows: What is the total allocated budget for SHC? Does division data collection able to tell how many individuals live in HUD affordable housing projects? Patrick will follow up with answers. Are there people waiting for vouchers? There is currently no wait list.
 5. Diane introduced Harry Reyes, Assistant Division Director, Harry.reyes@dhs.nj.gov Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS). Harry reminded everyone assembled that DMHAS also works through the SHC. The division works with landlords to educate them on mental health needs and impress the positive side such as Fair Market Rates and regular payments. Small area zip codes have opened up some areas but more is needed. Report highlights: The Department of Human services hosted two conferences. The Suicide Prevention Conference on September 10th in Trenton. On September 28th the division held an Opioid conference with attendance of more than 500 people. Members were encouraged to attend next year. Several RFPs have been awarded, DDMI awarded to Easterseals in Burlington and Essex Counties and 20 MESH Service slots awarded. Tri-County CSS RFP coming out soon as is a Deaf and Hard of Hearing Service RFP.

There are currently three pilots for recovery housing Integrity House (North), Freedom Housing (Central) and John Brooks Recovery Center in Atlantic County.

200 opioid subsidies awarded to four providers for homeless covering six counties (Oaks Integrated Care, CPC, Legacy and CODI). The awards include housing, case management and services. There is a referral process. All agencies can send referrals and individuals can self-refer.

The CSS redesign project is coming to an end. In all 17 providers participated in the project and others (including SHA) to total 31 people. Recommendations will be presented to Valerie Mielke on October 8th.

6. Diane introduced Donna Spencer, Loan Manager of MultiFamily/ Supportive Housing at NJ Housing Mortgage Finance Agency (NJHMFA), dspencer@njhmfa.gov 10 projects have been closed since November 2018. Development dollars came from a variety of sources including Sandy funding. The team continues to speak with developers every week. The Special Needs Housing Trust Fund (SNHTF) is depleted. NJHMFA will open a new fund similar to the SNHTF. New guidelines will apply. Fund will be available when board approves. Municipal trust funds are limited. There are about five towns such as Jackson, Ridgely, and Roxbury that have \$500,000 or less. Unfortunately municipal match is still required for the Partnership Loan Program. SHA developed recommendations for easing this restriction with alternative municipal participation such as land matches. These recommendations have been reviewed by the team. Diane will follow up with Charles Richman to further the discussion.

7. Executive Director, Diane Riley
Highlights of SHA activities include:
 - Diane announced that the NJ Council on Developmental Disabilities has awarded SHA a grant. The purpose of the grant will be to create an 8 week Housing Navigator course. The course will provide essential knowledge and understanding of resources required to secure housing for people with I/DD and insight into how housing is funded, developed and sustained. The curriculum will be modeled after the Housing Navigation curriculum created by the NY Alliance for Inclusion and Innovation who will be a

partner in the grant. Currently there are 211 Housing Navigators throughout New York State. For more info visit the Housing Resource Center <https://nyhrc.org/index.php>

The HN course will provide relevant education and resources to assist a professional trained to support a PW/IDD in creating housing options. Students learn through the course how to base the housing process on the needs of the individuals, their social capital, their assets and incomes and their choices and options.

The curriculum will include:

Basic Concepts; Person Centeredness and Supported Decision Making; Public Benefits Review; HUD, Fair Market Rate, Small Area Fair Market Rate; State Specific Housing Vouchers; Budgeting and Support Needs; Protected Savings (Able); Special Needs Trust; Managing Personal Budgets; Housing Considerations; Specific Living Needs; Living Alone vs. Living with Others; Licensed vs. Unlicensed; Intentional Communities; Assistive Technology Connecting to Housing; Models of Home Ownership; Finding a Home; Transition and Planning for the Move; Risk and Crisis Management; Adapting the Plan

In addition to the curriculum, SHA will develop a process and build a simple searchable Housing Tool that will post rent opportunities, vacancies, and new development info.

The inaugural class will consist of 30 students and begin June-July. Applications will be available in early 2020.

SHA is grateful to the NJCDD for this new opportunity.

- Diane thanked the many sponsors for the SHA conference on December 6th including Gold sponsors Amerigroup and Valley National Bank, Silver Sponsor NJ HMFA and many Bronze sponsors. This year's conference will be held at the Palace at Somerset Park, a new venue. She reported that in keeping with this year's theme "Many Homes One Community, Innovative Options for Supportive Living" the keynote will be nationally recognized autism leader, Denise Resnick. Denise is Co-Founder of the Southwest Autism Research Center (SARRC). Denise served as editor and publisher of the research report, [Opening Doors: A Discussion of Residential Options for Adults Living with Autism and Related Disorders](#), a collaborative study by SARRC, the Urban Land Institute (ULI) Arizona, the Arizona State University (ASU) Stardust Center for Affordable Homes and the

Family, and the ASU Herberger Institute School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture. Denise is also founder of First Place AZ, a structured two-year living program in the supportive environment that helps build crucial independent living and career-readiness skills.

Members were encouraged to get involved in the SHA conference by sponsoring, signing up for an exhibit etc. There will be 10 workshops and registration is now open. Early bird ends October 18th.

8. Lorna Runkle actcessusa@comcast.net Act-Cess USA (a SHA member), is actively pursuing new topics for the next Department of Labor grant in Jan. 2020. Act-Cess will help with all aspects of application.
9. Break for Boxed Lunches.
10. Final Panel Discussion: Diane Riley introduced representatives from three SHA members who discussed the successful Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) Integrated Service Model. CCBHCs are especially designated to provide comprehensive mental health and substance use disorder services uniquely integrating behavioral health with physical health care. Five pilot programs began in 2017 and there are now currently 8 programs throughout NJ. Represent the organizations were:
Lisa Lawson, Director, CCBHC Expansion Project for Catholic Charities of Trenton llawson@cctrenton.org
Michael D'Amico, Vice President, Oaks Integrated Care Michael.Damico@oaksintcare.org
Mary-Catherine Bohan, Vice President of Outpatient Services, Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care mb1644@ubhc.rutgers.edu
Lisa began with an introduction of the 3 main goals of CCBHCs
 1. Improve overall health and wellness by expanding and improving community mental health care, housing, and care coordination.
 2. Implement a model that provides integration of behavioral health, physical health and addictions treatment; serving the whole person.
 3. Enhance services provided through implementation of evidenced based practices endorsed by the model.The keys to the success of the program can be broken down into

three categories... Access to services: 24/7 access to care; integrated health care; crisis response; care coordination
Quality Care: Making services Evidence Based and data driven
Outcomes: Improved wellness and client satisfaction.
Partnerships are key. Care coordination for ongoing treatment and aftercare services. Relationships are built with:

- Schools
- Justice and Legal System
- Hospital System; Psych and Medical
- DCPD
- Veterans Affairs
- FQHCs
- Residential Substance Abuse Treatment
- Methadone Treatment
- Other Community Providers

Michael D'Amico and Mary-Catherine Bohan continued presentation with review of the program success. CCBHCs are highly successful with metrics to underscore.

Intake Appts. within 24hrs

Served 18,000 individuals in Year 1

Provided case management to 5,312 consumers including case management of 40% of consumers with primary SMI

Provided peer recovery and family support services to 3,630 individuals

CCBHCs overlap with Supportive Housing

Advocacy is needed to fully fund and expand access to CCBHCs.

11. All presentations are available:
<http://www.shanj.org/members/meeting-presentations>
12. The meeting concluded at 1:00 PM. Next meeting of the SHA membership is scheduled for February 2020.
13. SHA Advocacy and Policy Committee met after the membership meeting.

Submitted by Diane Riley, Executive Director