



## The Supportive Housing Association of New Jersey

### Board of Trustees - 2021

**Adriana Chizan**, LPC is the Director of Support Services at Collaborative Support Programs of New Jersey (CSPNJ). She previously was the Clinical Manager at Douglas Gardens Community Mental Health Center in Miami Beach for over ten years. She has twenty years working in the behavioral health field, including fifteen years related to supportive housing. Her experience has primarily been serving people with severe and chronic mental health issues and co-occurring (mental health/substance abuse) as well as homeless and domestic violence. Adriana serves on the Executive Opioid Fatality Review Board as well as is an advocate for suicide prevention and reducing stigma. She received her BA in Psychology and Sociology from Albright College and her Masters in Mental Health Counseling from the University of Miami.

**Timothy J. Doherty (Board Emeritus)** is Executive Director of Project Freedom, a non-profit organization in Washington Township whose mission is to build housing and provide related services for people with disabilities. Since joining Project Freedom in the fall of 1997, he has spearheaded the creation of over 286 additional affordable rental apartments in Hamilton, Trenton, Lawrence, Woodstown, and Hopewell Townships, NJ. Future initiatives include Westampton, West Windsor and Toms River. He has a broad business background, having been General Manager and CEO of his own Fuel Oil and Gasoline Distributorship for 25 years. Tim is a graduate of Rider University, majoring in Business Administration, and obtained his Masters of Human Services Administration in 2003. He is also a certified tax credit manager with a C3P designation and was appointed by Governor Corzine as a board member of the Council on Affordable Housing.

**Noah Freiberg** is a Senior Developer at Pennrose, LLC and is responsible for successful completion of multi-faceted real estate development projects from inception through construction completion and lease-up. He manages a multi-million-dollar pipeline of real estate projects in various stages of development. He provides leadership and direction to an in-house team of Developers, Associate Developers and assistants. He also assembles and manages an external team of financiers, architects, designers, engineers and contractors. Noah specializes in financing projects with multiple sources of funding, including federal, state and local programs. Prior to joining Pennrose, Noah was a Tax Credit Administrator with the New Jersey Housing & Mortgage Finance Agency. He received his BS in Business Administration & Finance from Towson University and his MBA from Rider University.

**Gia Gore** currently serves as the Director of Real Estate for Eden Autism Services, a not-for-profit organization with a mission to improve the lives of children and adults with autism. Gia is responsible for a diverse range of real estate and facilities projects for the organization which includes group homes, supervised apartments, adult employment and day centers and the Eden School. In this role she is responsible for site selection, market research, financial analysis, government relations, grant financing, lease negotiation and establishing and maintaining companywide real estate standards and policies. Gia has extensive experience in developing special needs projects for individuals with developmental disabilities. Prior to Eden, Gia spent 13 years at Our House Inc. and was their Director of Real Estate. Gia holds a BS in Business Administration from Ramapo College of NJ and is a NJ Licensed Real Estate Salesperson. She is the parent of a young adult with autism and as a parent has advocated for individuals with special needs in front of the NJ Legislature and US Congress.

**Samantha Hoyte** CPA, MBA, CFE is a manager at the accounting and advisory firm WithumSmith+Brown, PC (Withum) and has over 15 years of public accounting experience. She has 13 years of specialization in real estate and 3 years focusing on Low Income Housing Tax Credit and HUD projects. Other experience areas include taxation (individual, partnership, corporate and non-profit), compilations, reviews, commercial real estate, residential real estate, not-for-profit (public and private), 401(k) audits, manufacturing and retail. Samantha is a licensed certified public accountant in the state of New Jersey and holds a Masters in Business Administration from Stockton University. She is on the Board of Trustees of New Hope Baptist Church.

**Maria Maio-Messano** For over four decades Maria Maio-Messano has made fair and affordable housing her life's mission. Maria's journey into developing affordable housing began with the Downtown Urban Housing Corporation in Jersey City helping residents achieve housing through sweat equity. This development mindset would be a strong asset as Maio-Messano eventually rose to lead the Jersey City Housing Authority and built meaningful connections with residents as well as managing over 2,300 apartments and over 4000 housing vouchers for affordable housing. Bringing all her experience to her most recent role as Director of the New Jersey State Office of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Maria's vision was critical to her stewardship of New Jersey's \$1.7 billion dollar HUD allocation which affected the lives of people living in 100,000 households. Retired in 2019, Maria currently serves on the Belmar Housing Authority Board. Maria Maio-Messano was recognized by SHA with the 2019 Cornerstone Award.

**James R. Marhold** [D.BA](#) is the President/CEO of Declarations, Inc., an organization that provides supportive housing and services to individuals with mental illness. He has 30 years of experience in providing community based programs for individuals with developmental disabilities and mental illness. During this time, he provided community based services to over 500 individuals and their families and has trained over 1000 human services workers throughout New Jersey. He has been a keynote speaker in the area of disability services at numerous statewide conferences. In 2002, he received an award from the Supportive Housing Association of New Jersey and the Corporation for Supportive Housing for his work in creating new strategies to promote and develop supportive living programs. Dr. Marhold achieved a Master's Degree in Non-Profit/Governmental Administration, an MBA, and currently holds a Doctorate in Business Administration.

**Randi Moore**, Randi Moore has dedicated the last 15 years of her career to working in the affordable housing and homeless field in New Jersey. In November 2020, she joined the Affordable Housing Alliance, a Community Housing Development Organization in Monmouth County, as Chief Operating Officer. Prior to that she led the Division of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for the County of Hudson. In this role she is responsible for administering federal grants from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for community development, affordable housing and homeless programs. In her time with the County, Randi has spearheaded new initiatives and implemented innovative programs to improve the way housing and services are provided to homeless individuals and families. Prior to joining the County of Hudson she worked in the nonprofit sector at organizations focused on affordable housing and homeless issues. Randi holds a Bachelor of Arts from Drew University.

**Asish Patel** is the Chief Operating Officer at Monarch Housing Associates, a non-profit corporation dedicated to the "right to housing" for all persons with disabilities and to the development of permanent, affordable and supportive housing. During the past 27 years at Monarch, he has worked on numerous projects including condos, single/multi family homes, apartments, and commercial spaces. His work has led to the development of over 3,000 units of housing for special needs persons, and persons in need of affordable housing. His management and operations responsibilities include budgeting, billing, strategic planning, client relationships, project selection, contract negotiations and staff management. He graduated from the New Jersey Institute of Technology with a Bachelor's Degree in Architecture, and a Masters' Degree in Management. He completed the Pratt Institute's Community and Economic Development Internship Program, and the Enterprise's Leadership Institute.

**Jacqueline Ross** has completed twenty years of fundraising for Newark area non-profit organizations. For the first twelve of those years, she was the Development Director of four community-based organizations affiliated with the Episcopal Diocese of Newark. These non-profits focused on affordable and supportive housing, foreclosure and homebuyer counseling, community development, and a variety of supportive services for the very poor. For the last 10 years, Ms. Ross has worked in education, most recently joining Immaculate Conception High School in Montclair and prior to that the Cristo Rey Newark High School. The Cristo Rey Network is the largest network of high schools serving low-income youth in the U.S., using an innovative corporate work study model. Ms. Ross has raised over \$40 million during her career from government, corporate, foundation, and individual sources. Her volunteer work includes serving on the Newark Celebration 350 Fundraising Committee, which raised over \$3 million in 2016 under the direction of Irene Cooper-Basch of the Victoria Foundation. Prior to that, she was a founding Board member of the Newark Asset Building Corporation, the goal of which was to

increase the tax credits of low-income families. She holds a B.A. in Music Education from Bridgewater College, Bridgewater, Virginia.

**Nancy Schneeloch** is currently the Senior Program Director for Supportive Housing, Homeless Outreach, and Justice Involved Services at Bridgeway Rehabilitation Services. In her 30 year career, Nancy has dedicated her work and passion to providing and supporting stable, dignified housing for our most vulnerable neighbors. Nancy's career began with a BSW from Monmouth University, followed by a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Rutgers University. She arrived at Bridgeway in 1989 with a desire to improve the lives of people who were met with the extraordinary challenges that mental illness brings. Nancy has been the lead person for housing authority (HA) partnerships including the first Mainstream Housing partnership in New Jersey paired with mental health services. Today, Nancy oversees 200 HA vouchers through the HUD continuum of care and over 300 vouchers through NJ Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services. She has been the long-time chair of the CEAS planning sub-committee and is active in the Union County Continuum of Care. She also initiated and still supervises the Union County jail diversion project which eventually became part of the state pilot project now called Justice Involved Services. Nancy was honored in 2014 by NJ Association of Mental Health and Addiction with the Courage and Compassion Award and in 2018 by SHA's with our Civic Leadership Award.

**Stephen Schoch** is Managing Principal of Kitchen & Associates (K&A), an 80+ person Architecture, Engineering, Planning and Interior Design firm based in Collingswood, NJ. Steve's dedication and influence on the K&A staff has resulted in establishing the firm's leadership in the field of affordable and supportive housing for more than 35 years. Since joining the firm in 1984 Steve has made significant contributions to both the creative and the business accomplishments of the firm. Steve oversees K&A's architectural endeavors, serving a wide variety of public, private and non-profit clients as team leader and designer. Steve earned a Bachelor of Architecture at Carnegie Mellon University, is NCARB certified, a LEED Accredited Professional, and is a Registered Architect in twenty states. Steve has served on the board of SHA from 2013-2018, and is also the parent of an adult daughter with significant ID/DD challenges who continues to live at home.

**Melissa Scofield** is Executive Vice President and Chief Risk Officer (CRO) of Valley National Bank (Valley), headquartered in Wayne, NJ. As CRO, Melissa is an active member of the Executive Management team where she works collaboratively with the leadership team in developing and driving the strategic direction of the bank and ensuring the bank operates within the Board of Director's approved risk appetite. To support these initiatives, Melissa oversees a number of independent control functions, including enterprise-wide Risk Management, Financial Crimes Compliance (Anti-money Laundering, Corporate Security and Anti-Fraud Compliance), Cyber Risk Management, Loan Review and Regulatory Compliance. Melissa ensures appropriate risk governance and reporting to both the Executive Risk Committee, which she Chairs, and the Board Risk Committee. She provides executive support on risk, regulatory and governance matters to the Chairs of the Board Risk Committee and the Board Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Melissa is an active member of the Midsize Bank Coalition of America. Melissa is a graduate of Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey with an MS in Economics.

**Monica Vir, Esq.** is a Shareholder in the law firm of Lindabury, McCormick, Estabrook & Cooper, P.C. where she concentrates her practice in corporate transactions. She counsels closely held and family businesses, national and international corporations, and nonprofit and charitable organizations in all aspects of mergers and acquisitions, due diligence investigations, reorganizations and restructurings, debt and equity financings, and real estate matters. Monica represents Lindabury as the sole US representative law firm in The Parlex Group, an organization comprised of several dozen mid-sized law firms throughout Europe and Asia. She serves on the Board of Directors for Hometowne Television in Summit, New Jersey and is a founding member of Lindabury's Women's Business Initiative. Monica has been recognized by the New Jersey Law Journal as a New Leader of the Bar as well as by NJBIZ as one of its top "40 Under 40" which recognizes men and women across New Jersey's business community for outstanding achievement. Monica is a graduate of Rutgers Law School-Newark and is licensed to practice in New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania.

***In accordance with our by-laws the SHA trustees are elected each year by the membership at the Annual Meeting. The trustees elect the SHA officers at the trustees meeting following the Annual Meeting.***

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