

Integrated Community Project

SHA Membership Meeting

February 3, 2021

Integrated Community Project

Poll Question:

In what ways do you personally feel engaged in the community where you live?

Integrated Community Project

Goal:

Increase the capacity of people with disabilities to become fully engaged in their communities



Supportive Housing Association
of New Jersey

Integrated Community Project

How will we begin to reach our goal?



- Over 18-month timeline
- Through capacity Building grant funding through NJ Dept. of Human Services Division of Disability Services
- With municipalities in Bergen, Camden and Ocean Counties

Integrated Community Project

How will we begin to reach our goal? (cont.)

- With experience of people with a variety of disabilities including physical, intellectual and developmental, mental health and substance abuse disorders and who experience homelessness or are elderly
- Through focus groups in partnership with two main partners New Jersey Coalition to End Homelessness & New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities



Integrated Community Project

How will we begin to reach our goal? (cont.)

- With help of leadership teams made up of people with disabilities and staff of organizations that serve them
- Survey and assess current successes and opportunities

Integrated Community Project

Poll Question:

People with a Variety of Disabilities feel that they are engaged and integrated in the day to day life of my community

Integrated Community Project

NJ's Communities & People with Disabilities

- Striven to be truly inclusive and integrated for 30 years
- Room to further shift definition of inclusion & grow integration
- Expanded leadership opportunities for people with a variety of disabilities in the municipalities where they live



Integrated Community Project

What will be critical role of individuals with disabilities?

- Fully define community integration and engagement as they see it
- With people who support them, lead work towards equity and reducing stereotypes and decreasing prejudice
- Assist in developing system to celebrate, assess, measure, and evaluate progress towards and opportunities for community integration in their municipalities



Integrated Community Project

Poll Question:

My community's views on the importance of access to aspects of life in our community for all people with or without disabilities ...

Integrated Community Project

Supporting municipalities towards fuller integration?

- Ultimately, provided tools and resources to fully engage all in community life
- Shift paradigm from compliance with laws and regulations towards value of all individuals
- Encouragement of further decisions by communities to move toward full inclusivity of and understanding of people with all abilities

Integrated Community Project

Expected Impact Beyond Project's Timeline

- Potentially, impact 300,000 individuals living in municipalities in three initial counties who live with a variety of disabilities
- Eventually, more and more communities will use the developed tools to further assess and integrate their communities



Integrated Community Project

How can you and your organization get involved?

Contact Kate Kelly at kate.Kelly@shanj.org if you:

- Live with a disability of any type in a municipality in Bergen, Camden or Ocean County
- Are part of:
 - A Regional or statewide organization or agency serving people with disabilities OR
 - An organization or agency that works in a municipality Bergen, Camden or Ocean Counties to assist people with disabilities