

Diane Riley  
Supportive Housing Association of NJ  
diane.riley@shanj.org

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### **Housing Leaders Gather for Breaking New Ground Conference**

*Supportive Housing Association of New Jersey (SHANJ) Returns to In-Person Conference Growing Opportunities for Networking with the Supportive Housing Community, Celebrating Award Winners, and Learning from Experts*

**Somerset, NJ:** Over 300 attendees are set to attend NJ's premiere supportive housing conference, **Breaking New Ground, Growing New Opportunities** on November 4, 2022. The conference brings together supportive housing advocates, organizations, individuals with lived experience with disabilities and other barriers, community development professionals, local elected officials, financial sector representatives, and award honorees.

SHA-NJ welcomes state leaders including Lisa Asare, BA, MPH, Deputy Commissioner of Health Services, NJ Department of Human Services who kicks off the day of exciting and informative workshop sessions and networking. SHA-NJ also welcomes Peri L. Nearon, MPA, Executive Director, Division of Disability Services (DDS) and Melanie R. Walter, Executive Director, New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency (NJHMFA) to this year's conference. Dr. Daniel Tomasulo will deliver this year's keynote address on the topic of Learned Hopefulness. The conference, the SHA-NJ's first in-person since the start of the pandemic, will also feature a robust day of workshop sessions.

SHA honors this year's Supportive Housing Award Recipients including:

- Norman "Norm" Smith, Project Freedom, Inc.
- Leslie Stivale, Triple C Housing, Inc.
- Edison Township
- Bergenvue Apartments, The Community Builders
- Village at Harmony Garden, Pennrose

The conference will be held on Friday, November 4, 2022 from 8:00AM – 4:00PM at The Palace at Somerset Park in Somerset, New Jersey. Full conference agenda available at <https://www.shanj.org/2022-keynote-workshops/>.

**About The Supportive Housing Association of New Jersey:** [The Supportive Housing Association of New Jersey](https://www.shanj.org/) unites its diverse coalition of members engaging development, resources, and information to sustain supportive housing systems within New Jersey. Since 1998, our statewide mission seeks to enhance lives and accessibility to enable independent living within our communities. More information available at [https://www.shanj.org](https://www.shanj.org/).

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