

NEW JERSEY ADVOCACY NETWORK TO END HOMELESSNESS
Steering Committee Members 2009

Members

**Statewide
Organizations**

Joyce Campbell, Vice Chair
Catholic Charities of New Jersey

Alison Recca-Ryan
Corporation for Supportive Housing

Arnold Cohen
Housing & Community Development Network of NJ

Rev. Bruce H. Davidson
Lutheran Office of Governmental Ministries

Peg Bucci
Lutheran Social Ministries

Richard Brown, Chair
Monarch Housing Associates

Marlene Lao-Collins
New Jersey Catholic Conference

Ed Murphy
Supportive Housing Association of New Jersey

Daniel Altilio
United Ways of New Jersey

**Northern
Region**

Mary Rossettini
Advance Housing

Debra Underwood
Project Live

**Central
Region**

Andrea Krich, Treasurer
Making it Possible to End Homelessness

Herb Levine, Secretary
Mercer Alliance to End Homelessness

**Southern
Region**

Laura Rodgers
Jewish Family Service of Atlantic and Cape May Counties

Hillary Dugger Colbert
Community Planning and Advocacy Council

Consumer

Scott Fairman

Daniel Altilio

President

United Way of Hudson County

Daniel represents the United Ways of New Jersey. Building on the success of the statewide 211 Information and Referral phone system, homelessness/affordable housing is another of the organization's focus areas. Daniel is the president of the United Way of Hudson County (UWHC) and serves on many boards and committees. The UWHC has successfully run a "Housing First" project with a grant from HUD which serves 25% (2007 PIT) of Hudson's Chronic Homeless. They also have an award winning emergency shelter system.

Richard Brown

Executive Director

Monarch Housing Associates

Richard W. Brown, Executive Director, begins his seventeenth year with Monarch Housing Associates in 2007. He has thirty-six years experience in both housing development and the management of permanent, affordable and supportive housing. Before working for Monarch, Mr. Brown helped to develop and implement affordable housing and home ownership programs in New Jersey and New York

Peg Bucci

Vice President for Housing & Community Services

Lutheran Social Ministries of NJ

Peg Bucci is Vice President for Housing and Community Services for LSMNJ. Peg leads the diverse portfolio that LSM provides, such as: Adoption Options, Assisted Living, Community Partnering and Disaster Response, Immigration & Refugee Services, Lutheran Home for Children, Community Residence, and the Affordable Housing Departments, Housing Development. Peg was previously employed as the Executive Director of Housing for PresbyHomes & Services in Lafayette Hill, Pennsylvania where she managed and developed a portfolio of 19 affordable housing communities. Peg also had worked for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in Philadelphia as a Development Project Manager and the Interim Supervisory Chief of Development.

Peg is a Villanova graduate with a B.A. in Human Services Administration with a concentration in gerontology, and has completed graduate courses at Chestnut Hill College. Currently, Peg is an IREM CPM Candidate.

Joyce Campbell

Director, Community and Government Relations

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton

Joyce Campbell has over twenty five years of professional social work experience in community social services, mental health and healthcare environments. Ms. Campbell has worked for Catholic Charities since 1996, and served as the Director of Emergency and Community Services until November 2005, when she took responsibility for the direction of the agency's Community and Government Relations Department. She is involved in many community anti-poverty and housing advocacy efforts, as well as dedicated to telling the story of Catholic Charities, and those it serves, through public relations and marketing efforts. Ms. Campbell represents the five Catholic Charities agencies in New Jersey on the steering committee of NJANEH, NJ SHARES Board and the Cost of Providing Care Coalition.

Arnold Cohen**Policy Coordinator****Housing & Community Development Network of NJ**

Arnold Cohen has been employed as Policy Coordinator of the Housing & Community Development Network of NJ, for the past fourteen years. The Network is a membership organization of 130 New Jersey Community Development Corporations that create housing and economic opportunities for low-and moderate-income community residents. Mr. Cohen's ongoing responsibilities for the Network include tracking and testifying on legislation and helping to organize the Network's ongoing advocacy. During the past year the Network helped lead successful campaigns for a comprehensive housing bill and for a \$15 increase million state rental assistance program. Other recent legislative successes that Mr. Cohen worked on include the Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit, the "Abandoned Properties Rehabilitation Act" and the "NJ Multifamily Housing Preservation and Receivership Act". Mr. Cohen is a lifelong resident of Newark, NJ where is he actively involved. He is currently on the board of the Coalition for Affordable Housing and the Environment (CAHE), the Anti-Poverty Network and the Mercer Alliance for the Homeless. Before coming to the Network he helped lead the efforts of the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes and the Clean Sludge Coalition.

Reverend Bruce Davidson**Lutheran Office of Governmental Ministries**

Pastor Davidson is Director of the Lutheran Office of Governmental Ministry in New Jersey. The Lutheran Office serves to provide and promote advocacy in and through New Jersey's congregations and organizations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The Rev. Davidson also serves as one of the co-convenors of the Anti-Poverty Network of New Jersey, is Chair of Homes for New Jersey, and is Secretary of the Mercer Alliance to End Homelessness. He has served as co-chair of Governor Corzine's Transition Team on Housing, and also co-chaired the working committee on Homeless and Special Needs Housing for the Department of Community Affairs Housing Policy Task Group.

Hilary Dugger Colbert**Director of Planning and Research****CPAC: Community Planning and Advocacy Council**

Hilary Colbert has 15 years of experience in health and human services planning. Ms. Colbert worked at Health Visions, Inc. CPAC's independent health planning and research subsidiary from 1995 – 1998 where she was involved in a variety of local needs assessments and research and evaluation projects. Ms. Colbert provides supervision of health and human services staff and projects at CPAC where her responsibilities also include the Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) and its Homeless Network Planning Committee (HNPC). Ms. Colbert also serves as a Camden County representative on the State Human Services Council and Human Services Directors Council.

Scott Fairman**Consumer**

Scott currently serves as an Americorps Vista Volunteer with the Mercer Alliance to End Homelessness. As a person who has experienced homelessness and health issues he is able to provide good insight into the various issues and hardships encountered when one finds him/herself homeless. As a current consumer of Catholic Charities Supportive Employment, and a former consumer of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (NJ), he graduated in May 2008 from Mercer County Community College with a Certificate of Proficiency in Paralegal Studies. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees of Central Jersey Legal Services. Scott shares a common vision to end homelessness and provide affordable housing to all of our vulnerable citizens.

Andrea Krich**Executive Director****Making It Possible to end Homelessness (MIPH)**

Andrea has a 23 year history of leadership in both the social service and mental health fields. She came to MIPH 13 years ago and during that time has developed one transitional housing program for homeless individuals and families, and one permanent supportive housing program for young women who have aged out of the State's foster care system. In addition, Andrea has taken a leadership role on both the State and local levels, advocating for the needs of the homeless by being a founding Executive Committee member of the New Jersey Alliance for the Homeless, steering committee member of Homes for New Jersey, co-chair of the Middlesex-Somerset-Hunterdon Health Services Planning Council, and sitting on two county CEAS committees.

Marlene Lao-Collins**Director for Social Concerns****New Jersey Catholic Conference**

Marlene Lao-Collins is director for Social Concerns for the New Jersey Catholic Conference, which is the public policy organization for the Catholic Bishops of New Jersey. In her position, to which she was named in August, 1999, Lao-Collins makes recommendations to the bishops on policy issues, testifies at public and legislative hearings; and works collaboratively with numerous state agencies and statewide advocacy groups on affordable housing, public assistance, poverty, child care, child welfare, health care and immigration. Lao-Collins brings to her work 10 years experience in state government, where she was involved in developing policy, assisting in the management of state run programs such as Medicaid and welfare and overseeing reforms in health care access for the poor, public assistance, child care and other programs. Lao-Collins is a member of a number of boards and networks including: St. Francis Medical Center, Trenton, New Jersey Immigration Policy Network, the Anti-Poverty Network of New Jersey, New Jersey Advocacy Network to End Homelessness, Homes for New Jersey, New Jersey Anti-Hunger Coalition, Tremendously Trenton, and the New Jersey Regional Equity Coalition.

Herb Levine**Executive Director****Mercer Alliance to End Homelessness**

Herb came to his position as Executive Director through sixteen years of volunteering with and advocating on behalf of homeless families, most headed by young, single women. In his current role, Herb is overseeing a substantive revision of the Alliance's ten year plan to end homelessness, incorporating best practices from around the country, such as Housing First and Rapid Rehousing. Through his thirty years of experience as change agent and non-profit leader, Herb has been in roles that promote a shared vision of a more caring and just society.

Ed Murphy**Executive Director****The Supportive Housing Association of New Jersey (SHA)**

Ed Murphy is the Executive Director of The Supportive Housing Association of New Jersey (SHA), an organization with 80 members whose mission is to assist the establishment of a strong supportive housing industry in New Jersey serving persons with disabilities and special needs. He has also worked as a legislative advocate with the Mental Health Association, developing community residences, support groups for consumers of mental health services and their families, as well as programs for persons in domestic violence. His graduate training was at New York University, earning an MA in Human Relations and Community Affairs. SHA is currently working with community developers on expanding their capacity; developing SHATech, a technology collaborative providing community housing programs access to web-based technology, and the ability to gather information for fidelity outcomes measures; and publishing Good Tidings - an electronic newsletter on housing development and supportive housing issues.

Alison Recca-Ryan
New Jersey Director

Corporation for Supportive Housing

Alison has a 25 year history in the social service and mental health arena, and joined CSH in 1997 as a Program Manger. Currently, she is responsible for managing all of CSH New Jersey's staff and programmatic work. Prior to coming to CSH, Ms Recca-Ryan having held positions of Executive Director of the Mental Health Association in Somerset County and Assistant Vice President of Easter Seals-NJ. Ms. Recca-Ryan has developed affordable supportive housing programs for special needs populations throughout New Jersey. Additionally, she has overseen programs and services for substance abuse treatment, transitional housing for AFDC families, children's mental health and juvenile justice. She serves as a CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehab Facilities) surveyor and co-chaired the working committee on Homeless and Special Needs Housing for the Department of Community Affairs Housing Policy Task Group.

Laura Rodgers

Director of Mental Health Partnerships

Jewish Family Service of Atlantic & Cape May Counties

Laura is committed to working with vulnerable populations and advocating for the fulfillment of human rights to housing and health care. She is employed by Jewish Family Service of Atlantic & Cape May Counties for over 13 years in the agency's mental health services. Currently, she oversees PATH, Supportive Housing, and Justice Involved Services. She chairs the Atlantic County Point in Time and Project Homeless Connect committee and serves on the HSAC Board.

Mary Rossetini

President and CEO

Advance Housing

Mary Rossetini is President & CEO of Advance Housing, Inc. She has been in this position for almost 3 1/2 years and prior to that she served as the agency's Board Chair. Mary has a Bachelors Degree in Business Management from Fairleigh Dickinson University and a Masters degree in Social Work from Rutgers University. She has worked in the field for 19 years in various capacities ranging from out patient therapist, Residential Director to her current position at Advance Housing. Under Mary's leadership at Advance Housing, an additional 131 permanent supportive housing beds for people living with a psychiatric disability have been added and over 40 new employees have joined the agency. Mary has been a volunteer Board Member, fundraiser, and participant for events such as the Leukemia Lymphoma Society's Tour de Phoenix, Boston-New York AIDS Ride (7 time participant), and the New York Breast Cancer Walk.

Debra Underwood

PATH Coordinator

Project Live, Inc.

Debra has spearheaded the Supportive Housing Services at Project Live, Inc.. She followed the progress of those who formerly lived in the agency group homes and provided supports and advocacy when needed. As Supportive Housing Specialist, Debra developed partnerships with Newark Housing Authority and the Department of Community Affairs to access rental subsidies for Project Live consumers. In 2000, Supportive Housing expanded and Debra became Supportive Housing Coordinator. Through additional funding, more staff and resources were obtained to provide supports. These included Shelter Plus Care subsidies, Supportive Housing funding, vehicles for transportation, and other resources necessary to enhance the quality of services to Supportive Housing Consumers. In July 2005, she began the PATH program within Project Live, Inc. to service the homeless in the city of Newark. She is currently 1st Co-Chair on Newark's Mayor's Commission on the Homeless and is an active member in the Comprehensive Emergency Assistance Systems (CEAS) committee.