

JCHC NEWS RELEASE

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Lieutenant Governor Sheila Oliver Shares Commitment of State Administration to New Jersey's Seniors at JCHC Annual Dinner
Non-Profit's Event Focused on How the Organization is "Building Bridges to a Brighter Future" by Enhancing the Lives of Residents in its Senior Living Communities

WEST ORANGE, N.J., June 27, 2018 – The Jewish Community Housing Corporation of Metropolitan New Jersey (JCHC) recently held its Board of Trustees Annual Dinner, with Sheila Oliver, lieutenant governor of New Jersey, as the featured speaker. Approximately 130 people—staff, board members, sponsors and residents—attended the event at Crystal Plaza in Livingston on June 18.

The theme was "Building Bridges to a Brighter Future," and focused on how the non-profit organization is working to enhance the lives of its residents in its four senior living communities in Essex and Morris counties: South Orange B'nai B'rith Federation House, Village Apartments of the Jewish Federation (South Orange), Jewish Federation Plaza (West Orange) and the Lester Senior Housing Community (Whippany).

The program, which followed a lavish cocktail reception, included opening remarks by event co-chair Roberta Zweifler, who introduced Hanover Township Mayor Ronald Francioli and Deputy Mayor John Ferramosca.

“We are happy to be part of tonight’s event and blessed to have the Lester Senior Housing Community in our township,” said Francioli. “We are working closely with Harold Colton-Max, CEO of the JCHC, to find solutions to meet the needs of our growing senior population.”

Oliver was introduced by Pat Sebold, with whom she had served on the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders. In her speech, Oliver:

- Acknowledged the Jewish community’s commitment to social justice and talked about the important work being done by the JCHC on behalf of older adults.
- Addressed the issue of access to more affordable housing for seniors and other populations within New Jersey, and the commitment of Governor Phil Murphy and his administration to meeting the challenges of affordability in the state.
- Noted that the non-profit sector will play a vital role in filling the gaps in quality, affordable senior citizen housing, and the importance of the government playing an integral role by working with developers and others.
- Shared that in her capacity as lieutenant governor, she is also the Commissioner of the NJ Department of Community Affairs and Chair of the Board of the NJ Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency. The latter agency is working with the JCHC on two projects.

As always, the JCHC Choral Group, comprised of residents from Jewish Federation Plaza and Lester Senior Housing Community, performed a selection of songs that emphasized positivity, closing with a medley of sunshine-themed tunes. The lieutenant governor praised the choral group for its performance and invited the singers to perform at next year’s Essex County Jewish Heritage Month celebration.

Board President Brian Saltzman then shared the board’s vision to continue providing safe, enriching and affordable housing for JCHC residents.

“Every decision the board makes is through the lens of how those decisions will affect our residents,” said Saltzman. “We are committed to more development and expanding our capabilities so we can better respond to the changing needs of our residents as well as seniors in our area.”

Future plans include completely renovation of the apartments and properties at Jewish Federation Plaza and South Orange B’nai B’rith Federation House. Last year, 12 luxury units and a multi-purpose community room were added to Village Apartments of the Jewish Federation and common areas were upgraded.

Judith Schulman, chair of the Circle of Life legacy giving program, shared that the organization exceeded its initial pledge goal for after-life gifts, which will help provide services to future generations of residents.

CEO Colton-Max recapped the past year's highlights, shared fundraising updates, and thanked the board, sponsors and event co-chairs, Cookie Schneiderman and Roberta Zweifler for all their work.

"We continue our work to position the JCHC financially to meet the needs of our residents now and in the future, providing high-quality housing with services," said Colton-Max. "We are certainly building bridges to a brighter future for the seniors we serve."

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About the Jewish Community Housing Corporation of Metropolitan New Jersey Founded in 1983, the Jewish Community Housing Corporation of Metropolitan New Jersey (JCHC) owns and manages more than 470 apartments in four buildings for older adults in Morris and Essex counties in northern New Jersey. The non-profit organization offers seniors a range of options in terms of services, amenities, location, and cost, all within a traditional Jewish environment. The JCHC provides housing, programs, and services for the independent elderly as well as those who need assisted living. For more information, go to www.jchcorp.org.