

New Jersey Age-Friendly Advisory Council: September 6, 2022

Topic: Housing

[View Official Recording Here](#)

Janet Sharma's Notes

Presentations:

Cassandra Warney: Senior Program Manager at the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH)

- **Key Point:** NJ needs 17,474 additional supportive housing units for older adults, according to CSH needs assessment: <https://www.csh.org/resources/assessing-new-jerseys-need-for-supportive-housing-for-an-aging-population/>.
- **Key Point:** Recent Federal legislation earmarks funds for various types of affordable housing, but developing such housing takes a long time.

Workgroups Brainstormed around HOUSING/SUPPORTIVE HOUSING.

- Expand Medicaid to cover more people who currently don't qualify. This would increase eligibility for Home & Community Based Services (HCBS) which would keep people healthier and safer, reduce out-of-pocket expenses and free up funds for housing. The Medicaid 1115 waiver gives states additional flexibility to design and improve their programs; this can include tenancy supports.
- Develop an Age-Friendly NJ Master Plan (not just encourage AF municipalities).
- Include an Aging-in-Place Advocate at the highest level of NJ government.
- Foster collaboration between government agencies and private developers to build more affordable housing more expeditiously.
- Expand support for PACE (Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) and CAPABLE (Community Aging-in-Place-Advancing Better Living for Elders – a Johns Hopkins Program).
- Expand supportive housing.
- Funding for tax credits, tax relief, services and needed equipment.
- Re-purpose abandoned malls into affordable housing.
- Educate consumers (older adults) about available services and resources.

Resources:

- CSH's Healthy Aging Toolkit: <https://www.csh.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/CSH-Healthy-Aging-Toolkit-WEB.pdf>
- Healthy Aging in Supportive Housing-NJ Advocacy Agenda: <https://www.csh.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/NJ-Healthy-Aging-in-Supportive-Housing-.pdf>