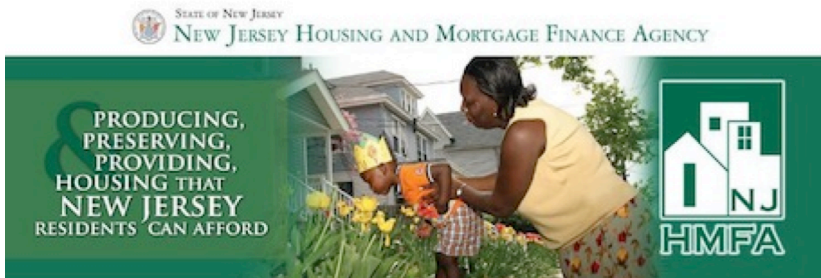


## Special Thanks

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End Homelessness One County at a time!



## Changing the System to End Family Homelessness

Friday, May 17, 2013

8:00 a.m. to 3:30p.m.

Bristol Myers Squibb, Plainsboro

Presented by  
**Mercer Alliance to End Homelessness &  
Monarch Housing Associates**

Financial Sponsors

**NJ HMFA**

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## **Conference Objective:**

Family homelessness can be ended in New Jersey and this conference will explain how. The full-day program will give participants insight into what changes in our current system of homeless services are needed and how to organize in each county to make those changes.

Panels are focused on these questions: How does system change work? How can it meet the goals of HEARTH for shorter stays and permanent housing solutions? How does Rapid Rehousing work? How can data promote system change? Using Mercer County's work on system change over the last four years as the primary case study, participants will also be exposed to other models from around the country.

## **Resources:**

### **NAEH "Promising Strategies"**

Papers of Rapid Re-Housing

Mercer County, New Jersey

Idaho

Utah

Papers on Promising Rapid Rehousing Strategies from National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH)

At [www.endhomelessness.org](http://www.endhomelessness.org) search for Promising Strategies: Mercer County, Idaho, Utah;

Search for Rapid Rehousing Toolkit for 5-part video series.

## Resources:

### Welfare Peer Technical Assistance

**Webinar: Leveraging Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Funds and Strategic Partnerships to Improve Housing Stability and Economic Outcomes for Low-Income Families**, March 2013

The Office of Family Assistance hosted a Webinar, "Leveraging TANF Funds and Strategic Partnerships to Improve Housing Stability and Economic Outcomes for Low-Income Families." The Webinar provided an overview of Federal regulations relating to the use of TANF and Maintenance of Effort funds, highlighted promising State and local program models for individuals at-risk, provided examples of allowable uses of TANF funds for homeless stability and employment services, and discussed strategies for choosing and implementing various program models and partnerships.

For a website where you can download a transcript, recording or answers to FAQs, please see the following link:

<https://peerta.acf.hhs.gov/index.cfm?event=viewTopic&sectionTopicId=60&topicId=20&tabtopic=20&sectionId=2&nav=20#posting2695>

# Changing the System to End Family Homelessness

## Conference Schedule

**8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Registration & Continental Breakfast**

### **9:00 - 9:15 a.m. Welcomes**

Annemarie Uebbing, HUD

Jennifer Velez, Esq., Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Human Services

Tony Marchetta, NJ HMFA

### **9:15 – 10:30 a.m. - Panel 1: System Change**

#### **How Can System Change Work to End Family Homelessness?**

How can system change not only lead to using existing resources in the most effective way, but also how to build a comprehensive system that addresses your community's unique needs, while moving closer to the goals of the HEARTH act.

#### **Presenters**

Herb Levine, Moderator, MAEH

Frank Cirillo, Mercer County Board of Social Services

Richard Brown, Monarch Housing

Sharon McDonald, NAEH

## **Break**

### **10:45 a.m. – Noon - Panel 2: Rapid RRH Session**

**How Does Rapid Re-housing Work?** Why is rapid re-housing the “Housing First” model for employable families and individuals? What are the guiding principles of RRH? What is it and what is it not? Frequently asked questions and common concerns will be addressed, as panelists share experiences of different models – one through a system wide change agent, one with a contracted agency, and one with a Board of Social Services.

#### **Presenters**

Marygrace Billek, Mercer County, Moderator

Tom Albanese, Abt Associates

Christina Harcar, Mercer County Board of Social Services

Jackie Edwards, Catholic Charities

### **12 – 12:30 p.m. - Lunch Break**

### **12:30 – 1:45 p.m. Panel 3: Data Presentation:**

#### **How Can Data Promote System Change?**

Looking at data and understanding its implications can help CoCs plan to use scarce dollars efficiently.

For example, how many people who enter the shelter system have been homeless for 30 days or less and may just need assistance with back rent or Security deposit to go back home? How many are going to require case management, as in Rapid Rehousing? Who is looking at data in your county?

#### **Presenters**

Taiisa Kelly – Monarch Housing, Moderator

Tom Albanese - Abt Associates

Paul Rossi, Foothold Technology

Erin Lue-Hing, NJHMFA

Vernett Sherrill, City of Trenton, Trenton-Mercer COC

#### **Stretch**

### **1:50 – 3:30 p.m. – Panel 4 - Next Steps - Take Aways**

Facilitated conversations on moving forward with Rapid Rehousing and System Change in participants’ counties.

#### **Facilitator**

Kathleen Cassidy, Consultant to Mercer Alliance