

FY 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

MARYLAND INCLUSIVE HOUSING

Everyone deserves a place to call home.



From Executive Director Tim Wiens



The Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) was a year of continued growth and organizational maturity for Maryland Inclusive Housing (MIH). This year, we focused on strengthening our leadership; expanding our outreach and services; and collaborating with key partners to further our mission of promoting inclusion, accessibility and housing solutions for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. Through strategic investments in our staff, programs and advocacy efforts, MIH was able to achieve significant milestones that will have lasting impacts on the communities we serve.

MIH welcomed three highly qualified individuals to our Board of Directors in FY24. We also hired Valerie Crosby, who is fluent in Spanish, as our third Community Living Coordinator. Our Housing Support Services (HSS) program reached 145 individuals in FY24, providing them with the support they need to live independently and thrive in their communities.

In collaboration with the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA), we launched an innovative Assistive Technology (AT) Navigator on our website, **mih-inc.org.** MIH also partnered with the DDA to launch the new Rental Subsidy Program.

As we look to the future, MIH is committed to continuing the momentum built in FY24. In FY25, we will focus on:

- Expanding our outreach efforts, particularly within underrepresented communities, to ensure that all individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities have access to the resources they need.
- Enhancing our advocacy work to ensure that the voices of people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities are heard and considered in policy decisions at the local and state levels.
- Building strategic partnerships with other organizations and stakeholders to expand our programmatic offerings and increase our impact.

We extend our deepest gratitude to our volunteers, board members and community partners. Your support makes everything we do possible, and together, we are creating a more inclusive and accessible future. Thank you for your continued trust and support. We look forward to another year of progress and impact.

Sincerely,

Tim Wiens
Executive Director

Tim (Negus)

Maryland Inclusive Housing Board of Directors



The Place LaShawn Always Wanted

LaShawn who is in her 30s and living with a disability, works at Taylor's BBQ in Salisbury. Having lived in a group home for a number of years, she has always wanted to find her own place.

Renae, Coordinator of Community Supports at the Wicomico County Health Department, and Teresa, Residential Case Manager at Dove Pointe in Salisbury, reached out to MIH in an effort to find new affordable housing for LaShawn. They were connected with Tierra Medley, a Community Living Coordinator at MIH.

Tierra worked with Renae and Teresa to help LaShawn complete the paperwork and application needed to obtain her apartment. She placed LaShawn on eligible housing subsidy waitlists in the area, specifically for HUD 811 Project Rental Assistance, and from there, LaShawn was able to find her apartment at Homes on Johnson's Pond in Salisbury.

happier person now...

Miss Tierra is like a
hero to me!

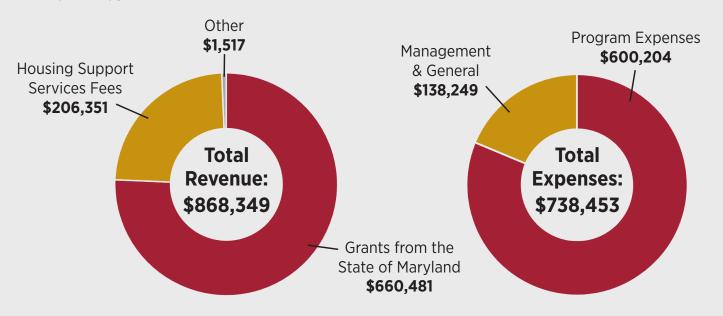
"Without MIH, we wouldn't have been able to find LaShawn the place that she has now," said Teresa. "It is secure and it is something she's comfortable with. This allows her to have independence, which is something she's wanted."

"I'm a much happier person now," said LaShawn. "Miss Tierra is like a hero to me!"

Watch the full story on MIH's YouTube channel! www.youtube.com/@marylandinclusivehousing7095

Financials

A complete copy of the FY24 MIH audited financial statements are available on the MIH website: www.mih-inc.org.



Increase in Net Assets: \$129,896

MIH Board of Directors

Allan Sheahen, *President* Abilities Network

Joyce Sims, *Interim Board Treasurer* Retired, Resource Connections, Inc.

Rachel London, Secretary Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council

Martha Egan

Division of Community Systems Transformation, CMS

Michael Ferron. J.D.U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Chris KnoerleinThe Arc Baltimore

Ande Kolp The Arc Maryland

Clarissa Mitchell Empowering People with Intellectual Challenges (EPIC)

Daphni Steffin icareManager, LLC

Stephanie TerryRealinvestors Real Estate
Services, LLC

Tracy WrightPeople on the Go

MIH Staff

Tim Wiens *Executive Director*

Terri Bradford *Operations Manager*

Valerie Crosby *Community Living Coordinator*

Sarah Hochbaum *Community Living Coordinator*

Ahmna Khan *Director of Housing*

Andy Krauss *Director of Communications*

Tierra Medley *Community Living Coordinator*

Lauren Silverstone Director of Housing Support Services

Inclusive Housing Advocacy

MIH advocates to increase funding for additional affordable and accessible housing for adults with intellectual or other developmental disabilities. We educate elected officials about legislation and policies concerning the communities we serve.





In January of 2024, Baltimore Mayor Brandon Scott signed two inclusionary housing bills which were both passed by the City Council in the previous December. The legislation aims to increase affordable housing opportunities for residents of the city and is supported by the Inclusionary Housing Coalition (IHC) of Baltimore, a nonpartisan group of 17 local organizations that have worked together to improve pre-existing city law and promote fair, affordable housing for all. At the time, the coalition was led by Char McCready, who also served as the MIH Director of Housing. Community Living Coordinator Valerie Crosby and Director of Communications Andy Krauss both continue to work on the committee.

In February of 2024, MIH submitted testimony in Annapolis concerning the FY25 Budget of the Maryland Department of Health Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA). Jason Leonard, who lives with a Traumatic Brain Injury in Montgomery County, testified to the Maryland House Health and Social Services Subcommittee. MIH and their Director of Housing Support Services Lauren Silverstone helped Jason attain the inclusive housing of his choice where he lives with optimum independence.

The highlight of the 2024 session was the state approving an additional \$1 million to the FY25 budget for the DDA Rental Subsidy Program. This will provide affordable housing for an additional 100 Marylanders with intellectual and other developmental disabilities.

Our Mission



To help people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) successfully access and maintain inclusive, affordable, and accessible housing of their choice by creating opportunities, identifying resources, connecting people and providing services.