Agenda for Eastern Shore Housing Committee Meeting

Tuesday February 28, 2023 from 3:30 to 5:00 pm via [Zoom](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84452740087?pwd=SGI5R2xJQ05FbEE5c2NmajEwODREZz09)

**Present:** Diane Dressler**,** Stephanie Jones**,** Judi Olinger, Tiffanee Scott, Rachel White, Tim Wiens, Sharonda Huffman, Andy Krauss,Tierra Medley, Lauren Silverstone

1. Introduction to the Committee
2. Purpose
* We are looking at the needs of the Eastern Shore.
1. Composition
* We are seeking self-advocates, developers, legislators, and providers.
1. Accomplishments of other committees
* MIH is part of an Inclusionary Housing Committee in Baltimore. We pulled in partners from MD Commission of Disabilities to provide assistance including letter writing. Howard County has a housing trust fund. We have written letters in support of legislation. We plan to meet with developers in Prince George’s County who are in the process of building housing. We want to collaborate to find out how to support them. When a new affordable housing development opens, there is a rush to fill units quickly. We want to help connect individuals with these options through Housing Support Services. We want to match individuals with IDD with resources and collaborate and coordinate with Housing Authorities in each region. We ensure individuals are added to housing waitlists.
1. Housing Committee Role in MIH Strategic Plan -
* We want to have housing committees throughout the state. MIH is seeking a chair for this committee. Our plan entails collaboration and education. We would like to speak with individuals seeking housing opportunities.
1. MIH Role in Housing Committee
* We work closely with DDA to ensure we are providing information to individuals and providers.
1. Introductions of Housing Committee Members
2. Each person will be invited to introduce themselves.
3. Talk about your connection to this Committee personally or professionally.
4. Talk about what you hope this Committee might accomplish.
5. Generate ideas for goals for the Committee that could be accomplished in the next one or two years.
* Expand reach across the state.
* Resources including transportation, tenant training.
* More opportunities for individuals.
* Collaborate with DDA Regional Office and Chesapeake Neighbors.
* Finding housing options near transportation and walkable space.
* Role for advocacy.
* Shared resources.
* Do advocacy regarding landlords not accepting vouchers.
* Educating landlords on vouchers.
* Connecting with housing providers to become informed of housing options.
* Find out the need: who has been enrolled in the Weinberg, Section 811 PRA, and DDA Rental Subsidy Program waitlists. (Cecil County, Salisbury, and Cambridge are areas of need.)
* Ask for committee support to add DDA Rental Subsidy funds back into budget if not included.
1. Talk about next steps.
2. Additional Committee members
	* Representative from Affordable Housing Commission in Easton.
	* Don Bipp, Executive Director of Easton, Salisbury, and St. Michael’s Housing Authorities. Diane
	* Representative from Homes for America. Judi
	* Representative from Department of Housing and Community Development, Cambridge Office. Sharonda
	* Representative from Disability Rights MD. Sharonda
	* Diane McComb. Tim
	* Sandy Grande. Tim
3. Next meeting
* April 25th at 3:30 pm. Via Zoom