



Don't Miss 2017 Seniorama Conference “Senior & Retiree Housing – Realities in Montclair: Challenges & Opportunities.”

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Keynote speaker, Alan Mallach, recognized writer, scholar, urban planner and Senior Fellow at the Center for Community Progress, will introduce creative ideas for rethinking housing.

On Thursday, November 9, the Montclair Senior Citizen Advisory Committee (SCAC) is holding its 2017 Seniorama Conference “Senior & Retiree Housing – Realities in Montclair: Challenges & Opportunities.”

This year they are presenting a full-day conference on senior/retiree housing, a critical subject for our community. Keynote speaker, Alan Mallach, recognized writer, scholar, urban planner and Senior Fellow at the Center for Community Progress, will introduce creative ideas for rethinking housing.

He will then moderate a panel of real estate developers who will share key factors which shape housing development decisions, programs and services. Panelists are: Cindy Jacques, United Methodist Communities; Edward Martaglio, RPM Development Group; Steven Plofker, Willow Street Partners LLC; and Richard Polton, Value Research Group.

Afternoon workshop sessions will follow and focus on:

*Relieving Housing Pressures for Owners and Renters: Practical Pathways Using Township, County, State and Private Resources.

Katie York, Township Director of Senior Services/Lifelong Montclair will facilitate this conversation with Janice Talley, Township Planner; Edie Grauer, HomeSharing, Inc.; Karen & Gregg Frank, Back Home Safely; and Alan Ash, former Chair of the Montclair Landlord/Tenant Committee.

*Creative Housing Opportunities, Leveraging Existing Federal, State & Private Programs for Development of New Housing Stock.

Melissa Chalker, Deputy Director New Jersey Foundation for Aging will facilitate this conversation with Arnold Cohen, Housing Community Development Network of NJ; Lisa Blum, HomeSharing, Inc.; and Marie Mascherin and Leah Apgar, both of NJ Community Capital

Ann Lippel, SCAC Chair, says: "We start from the premise that housing for seniors and retirees is a public good which can only benefit our Township. This is the place where our retirees volunteer, spend money and share their wisdom. It is our hope and expectation that conference participants, Township professionals, and developers will find common cause in moving the local housing issues from discussion to action.

Conference participants will have an opportunity to interact with and question the speakers during a healthy box lunch. Non-profits will be providing take-a-way flyers and brochures describing their services. Among the participating organizations are supporting hosts: Partners for Health; Department of Health & Human Services and its Division of Senior Services/Lifelong Montclair; and Aging In Montclair (AIM), as well as: AARP West Essex 131, EZ-Ride, Montclair Public Library, Montclair State U, Chrill Care, Job Haines Home, Toni's Kitchen, YMCA of Montclair, Montclair Film Festival, R.S.V.P., Montclair Fire and Police Departments; and the Salvation Army.

Conference will be held at the Salvation Army Building, 13 Trinity Place, Montclair, a fully accessible facility. There is no charge for admission. All are welcome. Free public parking, graciously provided by the Montclair Board of Education, is available at the nearby parking lot at Hillside School, just west of where Church Street intersects with Orange Road. The Senior Bus will give priority for any riders who make reservations for a trip to the Seniorama venue. Call E-Z Ride, 201-939-4242, ext. 1 to secure a ride. A shuttle bus parked at Hillside School can be used to take people from parking lot to the venue. This 2017 Seniorama Conference is made possible through the generosity of the Partners for Health Foundation, the Township Division of Senior Services, and Honorable Thomas Giblin. The proceedings will be videotaped by TV 34. If you have questions about the event, program, or transportation options, please call the Montclair Division of Senior Services contact line: 973-744-3278, weekdays from 9 am to 3 pm.