



New Frontiers in Ending Homelessness

Panelists

Francis Losey **New Jersey Department of Community Affairs**

Francis Losey has worked for 32 years with the Department of Community Affairs. He started as a Field Representative in Ocean County, and then supervised the Ocean County Field Office for eight years. He also worked as Regional Supervisor for seven counties in South Jersey for eight years. He has been in current position almost four years, overseeing all operations in 14 field offices and the Central Office. He previously worked part-time for Barnabas Behavioral Health for seven years, presenting parenting courses, and for Ocean Mental Health providing social services to apartment project residents. He is currently a member of the Zoning/Planning Board in Seaside Park, N.J. Francis graduated from The College of New Jersey.

Taiisa Telesford Kelly **Monarch Housing Associates**

Taiisa Telesford Kelly joined Monarch Housing Associates in March of 2006. She has experience in housing development working with federal, state and local funding sources to secure financing for special needs housing projects. In October of 2007 Taiisa joined the Ending Homelessness Team where she works with local governments, non-profits and community stakeholders to develop coordinated strategies to end homelessness. Mrs. Kelly has extensive experience in working with community stakeholders on homeless planning activities. As a member of the Ending Homelessness Team Mrs. Kelly guides communities through the process of developing 10 year plans to end homelessness and has completed 3 community plans in the past 2 years. Working collaboratively with counties and service providers, Mrs. Kelly helps to bring best practices and program models such as housing first, rapid re-housing, and single point of entry systems to communities as they work to restructure systems and bring an end to homelessness. Mrs. Kelly received her B.A. in psychology and anthropology from Rutgers University.

Connie Mercer **HomeFront**

Connie Mercer is the Founder and Executive Director of HomeFront, a non-profit social service agency that helps homeless families secure permanent housing and become - and remain - independent, while ameliorating the immediate pain and stress of homelessness for parents and children. She has also founded The Mercer Group, a firm for social service consulting and executive recruiting; established large out-patient treatment center for abused children at Mt. Sinai Medical Center; developed and evaluated training programs for child welfare staff in three states; and worked with NJ DYFS to devise new rate-setting structure for residential care program.

Moderator

Leslie Stivale **Triple C Housing, Inc.**

Leslie Stivale is the Executive Director of Triple C Housing Inc. Ms. Stivale possesses twenty three years of experience in behavioral health, human services and the supportive housing industry, having worked within the private and non-profit sectors in senior and executive management. In 2010, Ms. Stivale was appointed by the governor to the Interagency Council to Prevent and End Homelessness.