



Special Needs Housing Solutions Summit

November 3, 2018



www.snachousingsummit.org

Educational Session Overview

Saturday, November 3, 2018

Time	Conference Rooms 1&2	Auditorium	Living Room	Conference Room 3
9:00 - 10:15		Welcome Address & Plenary Session Sharon Alexander, Unicorn Foundation & Desiree Kameka, Community Engagement and Housing Network		
10:30 - 11:15	Life Planning Mark Shalloway, Shalloway & Shalloway, P.A. Developing a Support Network Milory Senat, Agency for Persons with Disabilities Blanca Deason, Support Coordinator	Family Perspectives Panel Anne Bennett-Bready, Valerie Herskowitz, Bonnie Schmidt, Andrea Cohan, Doug Vogel	One-on-one consultations (sign up at registration) Desiree Kameka	Adult Self-Advocacy Workshop The Arc of PB County
11:30 - 12:15	Overview of Group Homes & Behavior Group Homes David Lin, PB Habilitation Clint Bower, MACTown Financial Planning Doug Vogel	Searching for an Appropriate Housing Solution Andrea Cohan, Levine Jewish Residential & Family Service	One-on-one consultations (sign up at registration) Desiree Kameka	Adult Self-Advocacy Workshop The Arc of PB County
12:15 - 1:15	LUNCH			
1:15 - 2:30		Panel Session: Housing Exhibitors and Solutions Clint Bower (MACTown), David Lin (Palm Beach Rehabilitation Center), Debbie Johnson (ARC Jacksonville), John Poston (Daymark Living), Linda Angress (Sunrise Community), Margaret McNutt (Noah's Ark)	One-on-one consultations (sign up at registration) Desiree Kameka	Adult Self-Advocacy Workshop The Arc of PB County
2:45 - 3:30	Preparing for the Inevitable Future Valerie Herskowitz, Parent Managing and Operating Property Rose Alcala, Royal American Management	Program and Financing Solutions for Independent and Supported Living Gladys Cook, Florida Housing Coalition	One-on-one consultations (sign up at registration) Desiree Kameka	Adult Self-Advocacy Workshop The Arc of PB County
3:45 - 4:30		Solutions and Next Steps Desiree Kameka		

The Summit
HOSTED AT THE ELS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
Saturday, November 3, 2018
8:00 AM – 11:00 AM

HOUSING EXHIBITORS - PAVILION

ARC Jacksonville

www.arcjacksonville.org

Property Description: The Arc Jacksonville Village located in Jacksonville, Florida. There are 97 apartments with a capacity of 121 residents.

Services offered: Supported living coaching services are offered for those who purchase Level I and Level II services.

Activities: More than 75 activities each month are offered to residents.

Amenities: Dining room, great room, lounge, game room, movie room, fitness room, internet room, pool, hot tub, activity rooms, and transportation services.

Description of residents: Residents have intellectual and developmental differences.

Security: There is a gate that closes at night, an onsite staff member, and a courtesy officer from 10 p.m. until 6 a.m.

Center for Independent Living Options

<https://www.cilo.org/>

Description: CILO does not offer housing but offers referrals to affordable and accessible housing options. CILO also helps with making homes handicapped accessible.

Services offered: We offer support groups, victim services, help obtaining public assistance, and counseling for individuals living in the Palm Beaches and on the Treasure Coast. We also offer Palm-Tran vouchers. In addition, CILO offers instruction for learning to budget, writing a resume, looking for a job, how to interview, how to cook, doing the laundry, and feeling safe using public transit.



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HOUSING EXHIBITORS - PAVILION

Daymark Living

<http://www.daymarkliving.com/>

Property Description: A planned community in Waxahachie, Texas with 28 cottages, 80 units, and 202 private bedrooms.

Services offered: Educational, recreational, social and vocational programs. Full dining

Activities: Everything

Amenities: Transportation. Resort style amenities: pool, dining facility, fitness center, theater, sport court, soccer field

Description of residents: IDD Adults only. Minimum age is 18 years old. Must be independent with daily living activities. No behavioral issues.

Security: Gated community with security. Staffed 24/7/365. Alarms. Cameras. Wearables that track location and have panic button.

Levine Jewish Residential & Family Service

<http://ljrfs.com>

Property Description: Garden Apartment Complex housing over 400 residents. Our program has approximately 25 residents living throughout the complex. It's located in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida.

Services offered: Medication management, life skills training, employment guidance and support, transportation, and various social activities, both within the program and the general community.

Activities: Physical fitness, outings throughout Palm Beach and Broward county, book clubs, arts and crafts, computer skills, swimming, cooking.

Amenities: Activity center within walking distance for Program residents only. On site, two pools, large fitness center. Transportation provided as part of the Program.

Description of residents: Ages 21+ able to live safely in their own apartment, make their own meals. Disabilities may include mental illness under control with medication or learning disabilities needed a security net.

Security: 24/7 staff on sight, including overnight staff. Staff will perform bed checks as needed. Residents may install alarms in their individual apartments.



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HOUSING EXHIBITORS - PAVILION

MACTown

<http://www.mactown.org/>

Property Description: In 1973, MACTown opened the doors of its Intermediate Care Facility (ICF). This residential facility houses 56 developmentally disabled adults, where they are taught daily living and social skills necessary for succeeding in society. All of our residents work in the community or attend Adult Day Training Programs. Group Homes offer residential services to individuals in a small family-like atmosphere. This environment is conducive to learning, building healthy and long-lasting relationships, and working and living together in harmony. Our Group Homes are located in Miami-Dade and Palm Beach counties with 29 residents in Miami-Dade, 28 in Palm Beach County and 20 on the Treasure Coast. We also have about 20 community based clients living at home.

Services offered: The Supported Independent Living program provides services to individuals that live and work independently in the community. Individuals are assisted with their daily living skills such as money management, housekeeping, and transportation needs. To support individuals who reside in their own homes or apartments in the completion of their activities of daily living.

Palm Beach Habilitation Center

<http://www.pbhab.com/>

Property Description: 3 group homes, transitional apartments, and supported living houses throughout Palm Beach County. There are 58 individuals in our residential programs.

Services offered: Supports Services as assessed.

Activities: Individual preferences are honored.

Amenities: Transportation, dining areas, private areas.

Description of residents: Various levels of support from 24 hour care to independent.

Security: Awake staff at the group homes and transitional apartment.



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HOUSING EXHIBITORS - PAVILION

Sunrise Community

<https://sunrisegroup.org/>

Property Description: We have over 55 single family group homes in Southeast FL under Med Waiver and ICF/IID. Also Supported Living in Dade.

Services offered: Nursing, dietary in all settings. Depends on funding-behavior therapy, OT, PT, Speech, etc.

Activities: Recreation activities in the community-shopping, parks, community events, trips. Training of self care and daily living skills in home.

Amenities: Van transportation, some group homes have pools and are homelike atmospheres.

Description of residents: All ages-currently 8 years old to late 80's. All levels and types of ID/DD. Provide for medically involved and behaviorally involved

Security: Overnight awake staff. Administrators, Nursing, and Directors are on call 24 hours per day.

The Villages at Noah's Landing

Property Description: 56 acres community, 16 developed in Lakeland, FL with several locations and 148 residents.

Services offered: None. Services provided by third-party or families.

Activities: A very large and diverse selection.

Amenities: Public and private transportation, clubhouse with rich amount of activities, pool, dining.

Description of Residents: Mild to moderate ID/DD, variety of disabilities, ages from 18 to 65.

Security: Gated, security systems and sprinklers in apartments. Resident Advisors on-call during non-office hours.



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WELCOME REMARKS - AUDITORIUM

Sharon Alexander - CEO, Unicorn Children's Foundation

Sharon Alexander serves as the CEO of The Unicorn Children's Foundation, Inc. She is a child development specialist with over 20 years of experience working with children impacted by intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. Having been invited to join national academic honor societies, she graduated summa cum laude from Florida International University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology. She also received a Masters in Health Science degree from Nova Southeastern University, graduating with highest honors. She has acquired extensive graduate and clinical training in the field of child development, behavior analysis, developmental psychology, and various treatment approaches. She was recently recognized as a Nova Southeastern University Distinguished Alumni. She has presented at various national conferences and has provided direct training and guidance to therapists working with children with intellectual and developmental disabilities both locally and internationally.

In 2015, she initiated a comprehensive needs assessment on special needs and disability in Palm Beach County and founded the Special Needs Advisory Coalition of Palm Beach County which is working collectively to support, advocate, navigate and connect people with special needs and their families with community-based resources. This collective impact project has grown exponentially with over 300 individuals representing more than 160 organizations as they work collaboratively to address: supportive housing, employment, respite care, self-advocacy, future planning, transition, and assessment/diagnosis. She continues to work to ensure that the priorities of the community of individuals with special needs are included in county-wide planning as a member of the Steering Committee and Coordination Team for Birth to 22: United for a Better Future. She was recently asked to serve as a subject matter expert for Palm Beach County's Department of Community Services to provide guidance and recommendations for the allocation of \$1.5 million to support direct services for individuals with special needs. Sharon presently serves on the Board of Directors for the Center for Strategic Philanthropy and Civic Engagement which is building tactical alliances on societal issues to achieve impactful, sustainable results.



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WELCOME ADDRESS - AUDITORIUM

Mrs. Liezl Els - Co-Founder of the Els for Autism Foundation

Liezl Els is a mother and philanthropist. She is the co-Founder of the Els for Autism Foundation along with her husband, World of Golf Hall of Famer, Ernie Els and currently serves as Managing Director. Liezl and Ernie have two children, Samantha (19) and Ben (16). In 2008 after Els started to display an autism ribbon logo on his golf bag, it was announced that their then five-year-old son, Ben, was affected by autism. That same year the Els family moved from England to Jupiter, Florida and set up the Els for Autism Foundation, with a view to helping individuals on the spectrum fulfill their potential to lead positive, productive and rewarding lives. They immediately devoted their efforts to a catalytic philanthropic project - the establishment of The Els Center of Excellence; a world-class facility and a leading example of what can be available to people with autism spectrum disorder across the world.



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Saturday, November 3, 2018
9:00 AM – 10:15 AM

PLENARY SESSION - AUDITORIUM

Desiree Kameka, Director of Community Education & Advocacy, Madison House Autism Foundation

Desiree Kameka has been working with children and young adults on the spectrum for over ten years. Her undergraduate degree is from the University of Miami in psychology, emphasizing psychobiology, with a minor in psychological and educational studies. During her time at UM, she developed a program for the University of Miami Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (UM CARD), which brought together teens on the spectrum and undergraduate students to work on social and life skills through experiential learning and interaction with multidisciplinary university resources.

Desiree earned her master's degree in theological studies from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC. as well as a post-graduate certificate in Ecumenism from the Washington Theological Consortium. Her work analyzing autism through a theological lens has brought her international recognition as she worked with the World Council of Churches initiative of the Ecumenical Disability Advocates Network and the World Student Christian Association. Desiree's work for the Madison House Autism Foundation focuses on researching housing issues, advocating with organizations, families, and autistic adults on housing issues, and presenting her work at local and national gatherings. She visits many residential communities and social enterprises across the USA and abroad to highlight their unique victories and learning curves while sharing stories of residents with autism and other developmental disabilities. Desiree is also the project lead for Madison House's interactive Autism Housing Network. Her passion is empowering communities to create a future that is exciting and life-affirming for those of all abilities by offering small group consultations for forming projects.

<http://www.autismhousingnetwork.org/education/virtual-tour-housing-options/>



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9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

ADULT SELF-ADVOCACY WORKSHOP – CONFERENCE ROOM 3

This session is for adults with developmental disabilities that would like to gain more knowledge about self advocacy, setting dreams and goals and making healthy life choices.

Schedule for Self-Advocacy Workshop:

- 9:00am-10:30am
Opening Session in Auditorium
- 10:30am-12:15am
Workshop in Conference Room 3
- 12:15-1:15pm
Lunch in Pavilion or Garden
- 1:15pm-3:30pm
Workshop in Conference Room 3
- 3:45pm-4:30pm
Wrap-up Session in Auditorium

Facilitated By: The ARC of Palm Beach County



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SNAC of Palm Beach County

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Saturday, November 3, 2018
10:30 AM – 11:15 AM

EDUCATIONAL TRACKS

▪ **LIFE PLANNING: CONFERENCE ROOM 1**

Everything you need to know about the Spring 2018 updates to the Social Security, Special Needs Trust & ABLE Account Rules. This major update is one of historic significance over a decade in the making with Powerful benefits to individuals with special needs. Key areas highlighted will include housing, sole benefit rule, travel expenses, gift/cash cards & other hot topics.

Facilitated By: Mark Shalloway

G. Mark Shalloway is the past president of NAELA a National Organization of Attorneys who advocate in Special Needs & Public Benefits. (Medicaid & SSI, Etc.) A member of the Special Needs Alliance, & serves on the Board of Directors of the National Multiple Sclerosis Foundation. Attorney Shalloway is a member of the Stetson College of Law Elder Advisory Board which hosts the Annual National Conference of Special Needs Trusts & is a frequent presenter. Mark authors Medicaid & Special Needs Trusts Chapter of Planning for the Elderly & has received the Pro Bono Child Advocate Award from the Palm Beach County Legal Aid Society for his work with Special Needs Trusts & Foster Care children with disabilities.



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10:30 AM – 11:15 AM

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▪ DEVELOPING A SUPPORT NETWORK - CONFERENCE ROOM 2

Attendees will learn about support coordination and some highlights about services under the Home and Community Based Waiver Services for individuals with Developmental Disabilities, along with pointers on how to apply and access Supported Living and Residential services. These services can include assistance with locating appropriate housing; the acquisition, retention, or improvement of skills related to activities of daily living (e.g., personal hygiene and grooming); household chores; meal preparation; shopping; personal finances; and the social and adaptive skills necessary to enable recipients to reside on their own.

Facilitated By:

Blanca N. Deason, M.S., is a mother of 3 children-Shaun (who was diagnosed with autism at age 4 ½) now 22 and recently started living independently with supports, Nicole 20, a junior at FSU and Savannah 10, the princess of the household. Professionally, Ms. Deason was the PBC Victim Services Supervisor for the Crisis Unit for 13 years (1991-2003) providing counseling to severe victims of crime, she left that position when she got recruited to be a Special Agent with the FBI. She was forced to advocate fiercely for her child with autism, as she was going to be gone due to training in Quantico, VA. During those difficult times, she didn't know the system and was reading anything and everything she could get her hands on about services for children with developmental disabilities. Her son was approved for services due to the family crisis. When she left the FBI, she decided to help individuals and families that are facing the same challenges as she did back then and as she does now on a daily basis. She opened an agency for Support Coordination Services in 2005 and has been working under a contract with the Agency for People with Disabilities (APD) serving individuals and families providing support coordination and advocating on their behalf.

Milory Senat is the FCC Liaison and Community Affairs Representative for the Agency for Persons with Disabilities in the Southeast Region. Milory has been working with APD since 2010. She has also worked in the social services sector for Boys Town and Florida's Department of Children and Families.



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▪ **FAMILY PERSPECTIVES PANEL - AUDITORIUM**

Families will share their housing solution ideas, experiences, and recommendations.

PANELISTS:

Anne Bennett-Bready is a proud parent of a son with autism. Her son Nate was diagnosed with non-verbal low-functioning autism at the tender age of 3. He has since grown into an amazing young man who has overcome many obstacles that have taught us many valuable lessons. Nate's recent move into a group home has been a journey that Anne was not prepared to take, but fortunately it was successful, and so it is in that vein she wants to share the experience which will hopefully benefit other families with their transition.

Valerie Herskowitz is a professional in the autism world as well as being the mother of her 28-year-old son with autism, Blake. Valerie built a separate home that he lives in on his parents' property with 24-hour supervision. Valerie has an extensive background as a speech therapist, international presenter, community activist, author, motivational speaker, and presently she is the owner of the Chocolate Spectrum. The Chocolate Spectrum is a chocolate, pastry and coffee café as well as an academy that both trains and employs adults with autism.

Andrea Cohan and her husband always had a plan for her adult brother when their mother would no longer be able to care for him. Andrea had recently retired, their children are grown and self-sufficient and her husband is wonderfully supportive. When their mother was critically injured in a vehicle accident, her brother and the bus driver were the only ones who were not critically injured. The plan was always that Andrea, her husband and her brother would live together. The consequences were not expected. A devoted loving sibling is not necessarily the best resource for a person with disabilities.



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10:30 AM – 11:15 AM
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▪ **FAMILY PERSPECTIVES PANEL - AUDITORIUM**

Families will share their housing solution ideas, experiences, and recommendations.

PANELISTS: (CONTINUED)

Bonnie Schmidt started ScentsAbility Micro-Enterprise, Inc. for her daughter, Jessica, currently 35 years old with an intellectual disability. Jessica was misdiagnosed at 6 weeks old and was given medication for seizures that actually worsened an underlying metabolic disorder and caused brain damage. She spent the next 20 years advocating for Jessica between medical, therapy, and educational issues. Jessica needs to be supervised 24/7; but is extremely social and Bonnie wanted her to have a purposeful place to go everyday where she would feel engaged, confident, happy, safe and fulfilled. After two years of searching she and her husband realized they had to develop a business where Jessica could work with her. Her love of candles and art inspired us to start ScentsAbility. ScentsAbility is not only the solution for Jessica but is an incredible option for young adults with IDD. Bonnie has placed her home in Jessica's trust so we are now set up for the housing component of our plan. Bonnie is hopeful that they will accomplish that goal.

Doug Vogel is the proud father of a beautiful 27-year-old young woman who has special needs. Diagnosed with a severe neuro muscular disorder at birth that left her with an inability to swallow until the age 13 and paralysis on the right side of her body, Gretchen has overcome many physical and intellectual challenges to become an independent self-advocate. Doug is also the co-founder of SNAP, Special Needs Advocate for Parents, a national non-profit public benefit corporation dedicated to improving the quality of life for children of all ages who have special needs and their parents or caregivers, by serving as a resource that empowers them through information, education, advocacy and referrals.



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▪ OVERVIEW OF GROUP HOMES AND BEHAVIOR GROUP HOMES - CONFERENCE ROOM 1

Building a Group Home is the easy part. Representatives from MACTown and the Palm Beach Habilitation Center will share their experiences building and operating group homes. They will also share challenges and opportunities available in our community.

Facilitated By:

Clint Bower is the President and Chief Executive Officer at MACTown (Miami Achievement Center for the Developmentally Disabled) and has close to 40 years experience working with individuals with developmental disabilities in residential, employment, and day program services. Clint is presently the Board Chair for the Advocacy Network on Disabilities and Chairs the Advisory Committee on Disability Issues. He is also a member of the Florida Association of Rehab Facilities.

David Lin is the Chief Executive Officer at the Palm Beach Habilitation Center. The Center provides Employment, Job Placement, Residential, and Senior Services for individuals with mental, emotional, and physical disabilities. He has worked with individuals with disabilities since 1986. David is a Certified Vocational Evaluator and has an undergraduate degree in Social Science. He has worked with local colleges and universities in their social work and occupational therapy programs. Since 1997 he has served on the Board of Directors of the Lake Worth Towers which is a Senior Housing Project and is currently serving as its Board Vice-President.

Tesa Sansbury is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst who holds a B.S. degree in Special Education and a M.A. degree in Applied Behavior Analysis. Tesa currently serves as the Chief Program Officer for MACTown Inc. and provides ongoing administrative supervision and support to all residential and daytime programming provided to residents of MACTown. Prior to this, she served as the Senior Behavior Analyst for the Southeast Region for the Agency for Persons with Disabilities where she provided oversight of all behavior analysts, supervised and conducted assessment and approved behavioral programming for individuals who received funding for behavioral supports in the community through the MedWaiver. During this time, she also provided ongoing oversight of residential group homes that served individuals with intense behavioral needs across the Southeast Region. From 2013 to 2018 she served as the LRC Chairperson for the Agency for Persons with Disabilities for the Southeast Region. Tesa has provided clinical services in family homes, assessed individuals in crisis situations, and developed programming for residential homes and family based care.



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▪ FINANCIAL PLANNING - CONFERENCE ROOM 2

Attendees will learn how to plan for the future of a child or other dependent with special needs without jeopardizing eligibility for government benefits by understanding financial issues surrounding special needs planning including funding options and strategies available to help secure lifetime care and quality of life. In addition, attendees will learn why establishing a Letter of Intent (LOI) is so important to future caregiver(s) and their ability to provide care for a loved one with special needs and how to create one and learn the basics of the ABLE Accounts and understand when and how they may be appropriate an additional planning tool.

Facilitated By: Douglas A. Vogel, is a Financial Services Executive with MassMutual and a Registered Representative with MML Investors Services, LLC. He is also a SpecialCare Planner, with MassMutual's SpecialCare Program, a national network of planners dedicated to helping families plan for their children or other dependents with special needs. He was the co-founder of SNAP, Special Needs Advocate for Parents, a national non-profit public benefit corporation dedicated to improving the quality of life for children of all ages who have special needs and their parents or caregivers. SNAP was acquired by United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) on July 9, 2008. Vogel has authored numerous articles on advocacy and special needs estate planning and is nationally recognized as one of the leading professionals on estate planning for families with children or other dependents with special needs. He has been featured in many publications such as the New York Times, Bloomberg Wealth Manager, Forbes, The Special Parent, Reuters and CNN Money. Vogel has worked for over 28 years in the financial services industry. Vogel is a member of the National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD); Florida's Voice on Developmental Disabilities (FVDD); Boating & Beach Bash for People with Disabilities Planning Committee; and Autism New Jersey. He is also the Chair of the Self-Advocacy and Post-Secondary Education Steering Committee of The Palm Beach County Special Needs Advisory Coalition (SNAC); a Board member of the Kids Needs Foundation and an associate member of the Area 9 Family Care Council Florida-Palm Beach County.



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▪ **SEARCHING FOR AN APPROPRIATE HOUSING SOLUTION - AUDITORIUM**

Attendees will learn how they can engage with local communities to develop housing opportunities for individuals with special needs. The presentation will focus on developing living environments to encourage independent living.

Facilitated By: Andrea Cohan, Director of Admissions, Levine Jewish Residential & Family Service

Andrea has a M.A. in Education and was an executive in corporate America for over 20 years. She started as a volunteer at Alpert Jewish Family Services and later became Director of Admissions for Levine Jewish Residential & Family Service in 2010.



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12:15 PM – 1:15 PM

▪ **LUNCH BREAK – Pavilion**

This working lunch is a forum for parents and caregivers to help connect with others in order to identify solutions for issues they are facing. Issues may include finding respite help, locating physicians, or identifying behavior strategies used at home.

Facilitated By: Tony Beall, President, Center for Strategic Philanthropy & Civic Engagement

Tony Beall is the President of south Florida's Center for Strategic Philanthropy & Civic Engagement after joining the organization as an affiliate in 2013. Flashback to 1998, after a very successful twelve year career with American Express, Tony followed his passion and leapt into the independent sector with a strong desire to better the communities in which we live, work and play. Tony remains focused on social change through the global development of social enterprise, utilizing skills acquired from years of organizational leadership experience. The value Tony brings to the sector may be considered consulting from a traditional sense, but his approach is far from it. In fact, he would rather call himself a connector of dots or purveyor of possibilities.

During the course of his career, Tony has received numerous national and local awards; including a National Excellence Award from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, two time recipient of the American Express Chairman's Award for Quality and the 2012 New Small Business of the Year Award from the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce. Tony's stellar reputation is the result of an undeniable passion for social change, proven creative strategies and uncompromising commitment to excellence. Tony resides in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and is also the Founder and President of Mister Nonprofit Consultancy, Inc.



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EDUCATIONAL TRACKS

▪ **PANEL SESSION: HOUSING EXHIBITORS & SOLUTIONS - AUDITORIUM**

This session will focus on the planning process for housing solutions across the United States. Speakers will share a description of their housing property, a description of residents, security measures, property amenities, and highlight partnerships that helped them get their project off the ground.

PANELISTS:

Clint Bower is the President and Chief Executive Officer at MACTown (Miami Achievement Center for the Developmentally Disabled).

David Lin is the Chief Executive Officer at the Palm Beach Habilitation Center. The Center provides Employment, Job Placement, Residential, and Senior Services for individuals with mental, emotional, and physical disabilities and has worked with individuals with disabilities since 1986. David is a Certified Vocational Evaluator and has an undergraduate degree in Social Science. He has worked with local colleges and universities in their social work and occupational therapy programs. Since 1997 he has served on the Board of Directors of the Lake Worth Towers which is a Senior Housing Project and is currently serving as its Board Vice-President.

Debbie Johnson is a long-time board member of The Arc Jacksonville. During her tenure, she was involved in the initial discussions and all subsequent aspects of the design and operation of The Arc Jacksonville Village, a 97-apartment community providing a home to 121 residents with intellectual and developmental differences.

Andrea Cohan is the Admissions Director of Levine Jewish Residential and Family Service with is affiliated with Alpert Jewish Family Service. They have group homes and a very unique Supported Independent Living program for Persons with Disabilities ages 21 and older. They base our admissions on functionality not on diagnosis and their programs provide housing for individuals with various developmental, cognitive and mental health challenges. Our agency professional mental health team provides counseling services for the mental health needs of all populations.



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PANELISTS (continued):

John Poston created Daymark Living using his years of experience in real estate, education (Rise School) and raising three children, one of which has Down syndrome. John brings together his professional and non-profit work experience, along with his understanding of his son and his peer group, to create a community that provides adults with intellectual and developmental delays the opportunity to live among their peers, learn life and vocational skills, integrate into a community and pursue a life of independence and happiness.

Linda Angress has been in the field of ID/DD since 1973 when graduated with Bachelors Degree in Education and Special Education from Northern Illinois University. She has worked in this field since 1977 in South Florida in private non profit agencies and received her Masters in Social Work from Barry University in 1982. Linda has been the Social Work Coordinator at Sunrise Community Inc. for 27 years. Sunrise provides services to children and adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in Group Homes under Medicaid Waiver and Intermediate Care Facility funding; Supported Living; Host Homes; Supported Employment; and Adult Day Training Programs.

Margaret McNutt will explain how Noah's Ark went from a concept to reality. As a co-founder and parent, Margaret began the idea of Noah's Ark over 20 years ago when her children were very young. As parents, the group looked ahead to not only their future but also ours and their siblings.



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EDUCATIONAL TRACKS

▪ **PREPARING FOR THE INEVITABLE FUTURE - CONFERENCE ROOM 1**

Parents and family members of adolescent and adult with autism and other special needs often have a difficult time imagining the future for their loved one. The concept of the time when they themselves will grow old and eventually pass away is too daunting to consider in terms of their loved ones needs. This difficult subject often results in the inability for parents and family members to begin the planning process. This presentation deals with this subject matter straight on. In a no holds barred presentation, the presenter, both a parent and professional in the autism and special needs community, confronts the inevitable future and offers 10 important planning steps that all parents can be implementing. In addition, participants will all be given a manual of the information presented in the lecture to help them begin the process of planning for the inevitable future.

Facilitated By: Valerie Herskowitz, Parent

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Special Needs Housing Solutions Summit
SNAC of Palm Beach County

The Summit
HOSTED AT THE ELS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
Saturday, November 3, 2018
2:45 PM – 3:30 PM

EDUCATIONAL TRACKS

▪ **MANAGING AND OPERATING PROPERTY - CONFERENCE ROOM 2**

Attendees will learn about affordable independent living for qualifying individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Royal American was one of the chosen Management Companies by Florida Housing to oversee affordable living options for individuals with IDD. Introducing independent skill sets through partners with other agencies to provide educational skillsets while in compliance with Fair Housing.

Facilitated By: Rose Alcalá, is the Regional Manager for the portfolio of properties for individuals with intellectual and developmental disability (IDD) with Royal American Management for the last year and a half. Properties include: The Arc Jacksonville Village in Jacksonville, Quest Village in Orlando, and The Villages at Noah's Landing in Lakeland, FL. She helped successfully complete the lease ups of Promise in Brevard in Melbourne and Quest Village Orlando, FL. She has 13 year of property management experience and have been with Royal American for 5 years. Royal American Management, RAM, manages a very diverse portfolio which consistently averages 200 + apartment / rental communities located across the Southeast United States. RAM successfully manages numerous luxury market-rate communities; however, most assets under RAM management have a variety of complex multi-layered financing streams, which demand heavy regulatory requirements. As a result, the National Affordable Housing Management Association (NAHMA) has recognized RAM as one of the largest affordable multifamily property management companies in the nation.

Leah Aponte, Community Manager of The Villages of Noah's Landing, has been with Royal American and Noah's Landing for 3 years. She successfully completed the lease up of the property and has built a wonderful relationship with the residents and families.



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EDUCATIONAL TRACKS

▪ **PROGRAM AND FINANCING SOLUTIONS FOR INDEPENDENT AND SUPPORTED LIVING - AUDITORIUM**

Attendees will learn about program and funding solutions for independent supported living.

Facilitated By:

Gladys Cook, is a Technical Advisor with the Florida Housing Coalition. She has more than 25 years of experience in housing and community development in Florida. Gladys has developed demonstration pilots for affordable supported independent living for persons with disabilities. Gladys co-authored the Housing Resources Guide published by the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council and the Property Management Guide for Supportive Housing published by the Florida Housing Coalition. She provides training and technical assistance to newly formed nonprofit organizations and helps them discover the pathway to successful development and stewardship of housing that is affordable to persons with special needs.



Special Needs Housing Solutions Summit
SNAC of Palm Beach County

The Summit
HOSTED AT THE ELS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
Saturday, November 3, 2018
3:45 PM – 4:30 PM

EDUCATIONAL TRACKS

▪ SOLUTIONS AND NEXT STEPS - AUDITORIUM

With so much information about the future, it's sometimes hard to know what to do tomorrow. In this session we will offer next steps you can take now to prepare for the day your loved one moves into their own home. Sometimes just a shift in everyday life habits can make all the difference.

Facilitated By: Desiree Kameka, Director of Community Education & Advocacy, Madison House Autism Foundation

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